Historical Markers of Gregg County

Official State of Texas Historical
Markers of Gregg County

Compiled by the Gregg County
Historical Commission

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Gladewater	Page 1
Kilgore	Page 6
Longview	Page 13
White Oak	Page 32
Other Sites in Gregg County	Page 33
Index by Name	Page 39
Index by Town	Page 43

GLADEWATER

BUMPUS HOUSE
201 East Upshur **GW1**

This house is believed to have been built about the turn of the century. Area sawmill owner and road builder, William E. Bumpus and his wife Catherine (Harris) purchased the property in 1927. The Bumpus House is a well-preserved example of a large dwelling with colonial revival details (dormers, gable ends) and craftsman influences (tapered box supports on brick piers). A local landmark, the house remained in the Bumpus family until 1987. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1994) Interactive Map

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GLADEWATER
217 West Quitman Street **GW2**

Developed as a railroad town in the 1870s, Gladewater grew slowly but steadily in the first decades of its existence. In 1922, twelve adults and two children led by the Rev. H.T. Perritte of Longview met in Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Godfrey's home to organize a congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. They soon built a simple one-room sanctuary. The church and the town experienced dramatic growth beginning in the 1930s, when a local oil boom brought more residents. Since that time, members have formed women's and men's groups to support the church and its many services and programs. (2005) Interactive Map

FOSHEE FAMILY HOMESTEAD
409 North Main Street **GW3**

Built 1890 on site purchased 1884 by William Emmett and Mary R. Foshee. He was a native of Alabama and she was a member of the pioneer Shepperd family of Upshur County. Eight children were born to this couple. Lumber for house was sawed at famous mill of John O'Byrne. Unusual and unique chimney was built of hand-hewn rock which came from banks of stream running through west edge of property. (Family enterprise, Ironrock Oil Company, was named for this special type rock.). Original hallway led from front porch through house to water well, which served family needs. In early 1930's one of first oil wells in the famous East Texas field was brought in here. Ironrock Oil Company is still operating. For many years, William Emmett Foshee served as postmaster. He

was also a lumber teaming contractor, farmer and justice of the peace. His wife, Mary, was mother and homemaker to six surviving children. These pioneer parents left rich heritage to succeeding generations who still contribute traditional service to their community. (1967)
Interactive Map

GLADEWATER
2 miles west of Gladewater on US 80 **GW4**

Founded 1827 as St. Clair, 3 miles east. Moved to present site on Glade Creek and T & P Railway in 1872. Population increased from 500 to 7000 after discovery of oil in 1931, when it became production and refining hub. Manufacturing, clothing, medical, farming and dairy center. Home of annual East Texas Quarter Horse Show and the richest self-supporting cemetery in the world. Round-up association sponsors June rodeo, nationally known, in unique arena in abandoned salt water disposal pit. Historic sites marked. (1965) Interactive Map

GLADEWATER LODGE NO. 852, A.F. & A.M.
215 N. Dean **GW5**

On November 15, 1900, twenty Master Masons, many from Longview Masonic Lodge No. 404, presented a petition to form a separate lodge. On April 19, 1901, GRAND MASTER NAT M. WASHER issues the dispensation, and Daniel Washington Wood served as First Worshipful Master of the new Lodge. It formally chartered in December 1901 with 29 members. From 1901 to 1931, members met in James A. Ponder's General Store, which also housed the post office, on the northwest corner of Main and Pacific. During the Lodge's formative years, members included prominent early businessmen, clergymen, professionals and civic leaders of Gladewater. Among them was Dr. Earl George McLaughlin, who opened the city's first hospital and invented a medication during the influenza epidemic of 1918 that earned him national acclaim. Sharing a common early history with the lodge is Chapter 831, Order of the Eastern Star. Chartered I 1932, the group has long been active in its support of Lodge projects and activities. The Lodge met for a time in a school house and in the Measles hotel before building its own hall at this site. It first met here on July 1, 1940, and members formally dedicated the building in

September of that year. They held meetings upstairs and leased first floor space to a number of enterprises, including the Gladewater Daily Times-Tribune. Lodge members have served the Grand Lodge of Texas as District Deputy Grand Masters and actively supported Masonic projects. Locally, they contribute to many worthwhile community and educational programs, including annual scholarships. Today, Gladewater Lodge No. 852 serves as an integral part of the city's future, as well as a reminder of the rich history. Interactive Map

MOTOR BUS LINE IN TEXAS, FIRST FRANCHISED
Corner of Dean and Pacific **GW6**

The W. E. Nunnelee Bus Lines began passenger service from Tyler to Gladewater and Mt. Pleasant in March 1925; later added buses from Tyler to Henderson and Nacogdoches. Twenty-six vehicles were operated over the 205 miles. These included 7-passenger automobiles and 12-, 15-, 16-, and 19-passenger buses. Fare from Tyler to Gladewater was $1. With stops in Winona, Starrville, Friendship, the 30-mile run took an hour, over roads paved in 1919 and 1923. On Aug. 1, 1927, buses were placed under regulation of the Railroad Commission. This line had franchise No. 1; it was one of 247 companies running 865 public passenger vehicles on 20,348 miles of Texas roads. Many of these "buses" were autos built for private use. Others had "stretched" auto chassis seating 10 or more passengers. Several models had doors that opened along the side. Uncomfortable and hard to drive, they constantly needed new tires and repairs to brakes and valves. Breakdowns were frequent. Overhauls (often made, of necessity, by the roadside) were handled by mechanics lacking suitable tools. Although far different from the air conditioned, safety-engineered bus of today, early buses showed the way to a new era in convenient transportation. (1966) Interactive Map

ROSEDALE CEMETERY
US 80 at Loop 485 **GW7**

When John Kettle Armstrong and his wife Sarah bought 160 acres here in 1844, they were among the first settlers. Sarah died in 1856 and Armstrong set aside this tract for a cemetery. Tradition says the Armstrong slaves were interred outside the grounds. After Armstrong's death in 1860, his second wife Margaret Fisher married a Mr.

Stewart. For years the Armstrongs and Stewarts allowed everyone to use the graveyard which was called "Stewart Cemetery." After the railroad started the town of Gladewater, a cemetery association organized in 1911 and changed the name of the graveyard to "Rosedale." An additional five acres were purchased from J. K. Armstrong and his wife. "Permits" for burial were sold instead of lots.. When the East Texas oil boom began, this policy allowed all surface and mineral rights to remain with the association. In 1932 two oil wells were drilled on the burial ground. The association used the profits to build a caretaker's cottage, roads, a rock fence and to landscape the grounds. In 1973, after 41 years, the wells were plugged. Still in use, the burial ground has about 265 unmarked and 750 marked graves. Many of the older plots are covered with large red rocks. (1978) Interactive Map

SHEPPERD, JOHN BEN
200 North Main at Quitman Street **GW8**

(October 19, 1915 - March 8, 1990) A native of Gladewater, John Ben Shepperd began a law practice in Longview soon after his graduation from the University of Texas Law School in 1941. After service in World War II, he gained prominence as national president of the Jaycees. His public service career began in 1946, when he was appointed to fill his father's unexpired term as county commissioner. Governor Allan Shivers appointed Shepperd secretary of state in 1950. He was elected attorney general in 1952 and was reelected in 1954. As attorney general, he attacked political corruption in Duval county and the misuse of state veterans land funds. After retiring from public office in 1957, Shepperd moved to Odessa where he practiced law and supported numerous civic and charitable endeavors. He was appointed to a number of state and national boards and commissions, including the Texas State Historical Survey Committee (now Texas Historical Commission). He was the driving force in the growth and development of the Historical Marker Program, which became nationally recognized during his term as chairman. He renovated his Gladewater boyhood home and farm after his retirement. He is buried in the family cemetery south of town. (1992) Interactive Map

WALKER , DR. E. L. AND NANNIE LEWIS HOUSE
214 East Commerce **GW9**

Edgar Lathgro Walker of Tennessee wed Nannie E. Lewis, a native of Kentucky, in 1891. The couple later brought their two young daughters, Lena and Alma, to Gladewater to visit E. L.'s brother, William, and they decided to stay. Their third daughter, Bessie, was born in Gladewater in 1898. E. L., a graduate of the Cincinnati School of Medicine, opened a medical practice and drugstore. He purchased this site from W.S. and Sara Austin on October 23, 1895, and he and Nannie completed their new home sometime before 1910. Their property eventually extended all the way to the Sabine River and included several barns, a cookhouse, oil wells and derricks, and oil storage tanks. The Walker House, with its main body constructed of concrete blocks, is Neoclassical in design, with a symmetrical façade, pronounced two-story portico, Ionic columns, five-bay front and pedimented dormer window. The three-story structure also has two concrete basements. Initially intended for use as an infirmary, the third floor space served as an attic with access to a rooftop widow's walk. Original features included ten fireplaces, a two-floor elevator and fifteen rooms. A concrete balustrade, too heavy for use on the second-floor porch, became a unique fence. Changes over the years included additional rooms and the removal of the elevator, donated to a World War II scrap metal drive. Following the deaths of her parents, Bessie (Walker) and husband Otto Staerker lived in the house, which stayed in the family until 1969. Subsequent owners have ensured the house remains a landmark, a link to the Walker family and early Gladewater. Recorded Texas Historic landmark. (2004) Interactive Map

ALEXANDER INSTITUTE
315 East North Street **KG1**

Before the establishment of public schools, education was provided by small private academies such as the Alexander Institute. a successor to the New Danville Masonic Female Academy, founded in nearby Danville in 1854. The institute was named for pioneer educator Isaac Alexander (1832-1919). A native of Virginia, Dr. Alexander was president of the academy when it moved to Kilgore in 1873, soon after the city was founded. In 1875 operation of the school was transferred to the East Texas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Offering courses from primary through college level, the institute was highly regarded as a finishing school for girls and a preparatory school for boys. Students from all parts of east Texas received instruction here. The boys boarded in private homes and the girls with Mrs. Alexander, daughter of a well-known Methodist minister, the Rev. James Hall. Dr. Alexander served as president until 1894, when the school moved to Jacksonville in Rusk County and became Lon Morris College, one of the oldest junior colleges in Texas. The Kilgore public schools occupied the old Alexander Institute classroom building at this site until 1913. The structure was then dismantled and the lumber used to build a private residence. (1978) Interactive Map

ALLIS-CHALMERS PUMPS
City Park, 600 block of East North Street **KG2**

These two early pumping units serve as historic reminders of Kilgore's development as an oil boom town. The boom era began on Dec. 28, 1930, when the well known as the Lou Della Crim No. 1 blew in. With it, Kilgore became part of the great East Texas Oil Field. These reciprocal pumps, manufactured by Allis-Chalmers and first used in west Texas, were brought here in 1931 by the Shell Pipe Line Corp. to move crude oil to Houston area refineries. In service until 1985, it is estimated they pumped a combined total of over one billion barrels of oil. Texas Sesquicentennial 1836 - 1986. (1986) Interactive Map

CRIM, LOU DELLA (SEE ALSO DEAN-KEENER-CRIM HOUSE)
201 North Longview Street **KG3**

This bungalow style residence was constructed in 1920 for Lou Della (Thompson) Crim (b. 1868), on the former site of the Hearne Hotel. The farm she owned at Laird Hill (4 mi. S) was part of an oil exploration project headed by her son Malcolm, later the first Kilgore mayor, and local financier Ed Bateman. Her property gained national attention on Dec. 28, 1930, when the Bateman-Crim Wildcat Well No. 1, the discovery well for this area of the significant East Texas Oil Field, blew in there. Area Rangers, including the celebrated Capt. M. T. (Lone Wolf) Gonzaullas, were housed here. (1981) Interactive Map

DEAN-KEENER-CRIM HOUSE
101 East Lantrip Street **KG4**

The one-story east wing of this house, considered the oldest still standing in Kilgore, was built by S. G. Dean about 1876. After buying the structure in 1881, L. J. Keener (1840-88) attached the two-story west wing. Wiley N. Crim (1865-1937) a cotton ginner and grocer, added porches and enclosed the well when he purchased the house in 1902. His family still owns and occupies it. Oil was discovered on this and nearby Crim property during the boom of the 1930s. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1975) Interactive Map

DRILLER PARK
Commerce and Hunter Streets **KG5**

On April 24, 1947, more than 3,100 fans celebrated the postwar return of baseball as the Kilgore Drillers played the Henderson Oilers on Driller Park's opening day. Erected by the Kilgore Baseball Club for $100,000 on land deeded to the city of Kilgore by S. S. Laird, the park straddles the line between Gregg and Rusk counties. An excellent example of small stadium engineering, the ballpark was constructed of oil field pipe, tank steel, and concrete with an infield underground drainage system. Though the Drillers disbanded in 1950, Driller Park continues to be a haven for baseball in the city of Kilgore. (1998) Interactive Map

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF KILGORE
501 East North Street **KG6**

On October 11, 1902, the five charter members of this congregation met and formed the Missionary Baptist Church of Kilgore. They were Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Choice, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Choice, and Miss Lizzie Clinkscales. The Rev. P. J. Vermillion served as first pastor. The church's first sanctuary was constructed in 1906, during the pastorate of the Rev. J. A. Lee. It served the small village congregation for nearly 30 years, until the Kilgore oil boom of the 1930s increased tremendously both the population of the town and the membership of the First Baptist Church. The original church building, located at South Martin and Main Streets, was sold in 1931. The congregation met for worship services and Sunday School in the homes of its members and in various public buildings until a new brick structure was completed at this site in 1933. Throughout its history the First Baptist Church of Kilgore has actively supported home and foreign missions, assisting in the formation of several other local Baptist fellowships. As an integral part of this community, the congregation has grown and developed to provide service and leadership for the changing needs of the people of Kilgore. Texas Sesquicentennial 1836-1986 (1986) Interactive Map

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Corner of Main and Lawrence Streets **KG7**

Organized in 1850 as the Gum Springs Presbyterian Church in the rural Danville community, this congregation moved to Kilgore in 1874. The name of the church was later changed to the First Presbyterian Church. Built as a result of the 1930s Oil Boom, this sanctuary replaced an earlier structure located at the corner of South and Rusk Streets, where oil wells surrounded the church property. Reflecting the Gothic style of architecture, the building features large stained glass windows and a tri-partite Gothic-arched entry. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1989) Interactive Map

KILGORE "OIL CITY OF THE WORLD"
US 259 at Kilgore Street (in traffic triangle) **KG8**

Founded 1872 with coming of the I. G. N. Railroad. Named for site donor, a Confederate colonel, Constantine B. Kilgore, state senator and U. S. Congressman. Geographical center of huge East Texas Oil Field. World's greatest concentration of steel derricks. Petroleum production, service, supply, processing hub. Commercial, industrial, farm, education and medical center. Home of Kilgore College and its famous "Rangerettes", women's precision drill team; and of Van Cliburn, international concert pianist. (1965) Interactive Map

KILGORE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
US 259 at Ross Avenue **KG9**

In response to the East Texas oil field boom, yet in the midst of the Great Depression, Kilgore residents voted to support the establishment of a junior college in 1935. Classes were held in the high school until this building was completed in 1936 with financial aid from the Public Works Administration. Designed by the San Antonio firm of Phelps & Dewees, the Kilgore College administration building remains a good example of Art Moderne architecture. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1990)
Interactive Map

KILGORE HIGH SCHOOL
711 North Longview Street **KG10**

Public education in Kilgore traces its history to classes held in private homes and the establishment of private institutions, most notably the Alexander Institute. Operated by Isaac Alexander, the school moved to Kilgore in 1873. It continued to serve the children of the town until 1894, when it was relocated to Jacksonville. It was later renamed Lon Morris College. The building which housed the Alexander Institute was converted into a public school. The Kilgore Independent School district, established in 1906, continued to use the facility until 1913, when a new two-story red brick school building was erected at this site on Longview Street. Following the discovery of oil in Kilgore in 1930 and the resulting oil boom, the 1913 school was soon inadequate to house the student population of the

city. The red brick school was razed in 1932, and a new combination high school, junior high, and auditorium was erected on the site in 1933. An elementary school was later added to the property. This facility has continued to serve as an educational institution for the city of Kilgore, and stands as an integral part of the life of the city. Texas Sesquicentennial 1836-1986. (1986) Interactive Map

KILGORE I&GN-MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD STATION
201 North Commerce Street **KG11**

The town of Kilgore was platted by the International Railroad Company after it purchased land for a townsite from C. B. "Buck" Kilgore, who had donated a 200-foot railroad right-of-way in 1871. Kilgore, a resident of Danville (4 mi. E), recognizing the economic opportunities afforded by the railroad, soon built a new home near the station. Many other Danville citizens followed Kilgore's lead, and a community was established and named for him. This railroad station was completed in 1872 to provide passenger and freight service and to serve as a communications center for this agricultural and lumbering area. In 1931 oil was discovered in what became known as the East Texas Oil Field, and the volume of shipments from the Kilgore station increased dramatically. Later, World War II provided the depot with a steady stream of troop trains. The rail line became known as the Missouri Pacific in 1956. As automobile, bus, and air travel became more popular, rail traffic decreased, and in 1977 the Kilgore station was closed. The depot stands today as a reminder of the significant role rail transportation played in the growth and development of Kilgore and East Texas. (1984)
Interactive Map

KILGORE NATIONAL BANK
118 South Kilgore Street **KG12**

Led in the town's economic development following the 1930s Oil Boom. Prosperity in the midst of the Great Depression influenced the board of directors to build this structure in 1937. Designed by Henderson architect James L. Downing, who used Art Moderne and Art Deco styling to project progress, it housed the bank until the 1970s. It now serves as a reminder of Kilgore's early business history. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1990)
Interactive Map

KILGORE PUBLIC LIBRARY
US 259 at North Street **KG13**

Kilgore's first public library opened in 1933 under the direction of two local women's clubs. With funding from the Federal Public Works Administration, support from the city, and labor from the Works Progress Administration, this structure was completed in 1939. Designed in a style reminiscent of cottages in the French province of Normandy, it stands as a visible reminder of Kilgore's depression-era progressivism and continues to serve local citizens. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1990)
Interactive Map

NEW DEAL ERA IN KILGORE
300 block of North Street **KG14**

After the discovery of oil here in the 1930s, this site was transformed into a makeshift tent city by thousands of people displaced by a deepening national depression. In an effort to control growth, city officials chose this site as the focus of an ambitious public works program in 1934. The park project, which included extensive rock work, was influenced by the planning and foresight of other Federal "New Deal" projects underway in Kilgore at the time (Kilgore Public Library and Kilgore College Administration Building). The park project was finished about 1936. (1993) Interactive Map

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 East Main Street **KG15**

The Kilgore Methodist Society was organized in 1873 after many residents of New Danville (4 mi. NE) moved to Kilgore, founded in 1872 after the railroad arrived in 1871. They erected a school building in 1873 at Martin and North streets (1 blk. N) for the Rev. Isaac Alexander (1832-1919), who transferred his New Danville Masonic Female Academy to Kilgore, renaming it Alexander Institute. He also conducted Sunday services there until 1883.

In that year the neighboring Methodist congregations of Kilgore, Crossroads, Danville, and Pirtle formed the Kilgore Methodist Circuit, with the Rev. F. J. Browning as first pastor. In 1894 the Institute (later renamed Lon Morris College) moved to Jacksonville. Kilgore Methodists continued to meet in the Institute chapel. In 1904 the chapel was moved one block southwest (across Martin Street from this site). It was replaced there in 1915 with a frame sanctuary which was burned by arson in 1931 during the Kilgore oil boom. This fieldstone sanctuary and the annex were built in 1932, and the 109-member Kilgore congregation became St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with the Rev. Bob L. Pool as the first full-time pastor. The Tudor Gothic buildings were designed by Paris, Texas, architects Smith & Praeger. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1985) Interactive Map

WORLD'S RICHEST ACRE
Main and Commerce Streets **KG16**

Part of fabulous East Texas Oil Field discovered in 1930. This 1.195-acre tract had first production on June 17, 1937, when the Mrs. Bess Johnson-Adams & Hale No. 1 well was brought in. Developed before well-spacing rules, this block is the most densely drilled tract in the world, with 24 wells on 10 lots owned by six different operators. This acre has produced over two and a half million barrels of crude oil; selling at $1.10 to $3.25 a barrel, it has brought more than five and a half million dollars. A forest of steel derricks for many years stood over the more than 1,000 wells in downtown Kilgore, marking the greatest concentration of oil wells in the history of the world. Dozens of these derricks still dot city's internationally famous skyline. Since 1930, the East Texas Oil Field has produced nearly four billion barrels of oil. It now has more than 17,000 producing wells, and geologists predict a future of at least 45 years for this "granddaddy of oil fields." Its development has attracted to the area many diversified industries and a progressive citizenship with a high degree of civic pride. (1966) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW

ALPINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Intersection of CR 1466 (Tyron Road) and CR 1524 (Heitt Lane) **LV1**

(Affiliated with Presbyterian Church, U. S.) Founded Dec. 2, 1881, by the Rev. J. DeWitt Burkhead, evangelist. Elders: L. P. and S. F. Henderson and Curtis Mackey. Deacon: J. L. Henderson. Other organizers: C. N. and Mmes. T. C. and Mary Henderson; Miss Mattie and Mrs. R. J. Mackey; Mrs. R. J. Williams, all from Longview church. Also Miss Alice, W. M., R. T., and W. H. Henderson, H. G. Lampkin, R. O. Mackey, Miss L. J. Mattox, by professions of faith. Services were held in Tyron School. Members built church in 1885. The new church adjacent was dedicated in 1964. Reached largest membership (122) in 1967. (1973) Interactive Map

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
323 South Court Street **LV2**

The Rev. Richard Perry and nine deacons organized this church in 1874. Services were held under a brush arbor on land donated by the Rev. Perry and his wife Betty until a sanctuary was erected later that year. A Sunday school was formed in 1875. A new church building was erected in 1884 and in 1890 a women's missionary society and a youth association were formed. A new sanctuary, built in 1906, was replaced by a fourth sanctuary erected here in 1956. A junior missionary society was organized in 1958. The church continues to serve the area's African American community Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845-1995. (1995) Interactive Map

BIG INCH PIPELINE
3112 Martin Luther King Boulevard **LV3**

Before the United States entry into World War II following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941, ninety-five percent of the crude oil delivered to East Coast refineries was transported by tanker ships. Ninety percent of that oil originated from Texas oil fields. Beginning in February, 1942, many U.S. oil tankers en route from the Gulf of Mexico to the East Coast were sunk by German submarines. Recognizing the need to transport oil under safer circumstances, Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes developed a plan for massive overland oil pipeline. Under the auspices of the War Emergency Pipelines, Inc., construction began on the largest pipeline in history up to that

time. Measuring twenty-four inches in diameter, the Big Inch Pipeline extended from Longview to Norris City, Illinois, and eventually to refineries in the East. The Big Inch Pipeline's impact on the war effort was tremendous, enabling the safe and timely transport of oil products vital to the Allies. During the height of wartime service, over 300,000 barrels of oil were delivered each day over the 1,476-mile line. When the war ended, the Big Inch continued in service after conversion to a natural gas pipeline. (1990) Interactive Map

BROWN-BIRDSONG HOUSE
104 West Whaley Street **LV4**

Victorian home built 1879 by early settler, Rev. B. W. Brown, Methodist lay minister, who as a member of the Texas Legislature helped to create Gregg County in 1873. Only minor changes such as porch lattice. Residence of Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1965) Interactive Map

CAMPBELL HONEYMOON HOME
500 North Second Street at Magrill Street **LV5**

Thomas Mitchell Campbell (1856-1923), a native of Rusk, worked in the Gregg County Clerk's office in Longview before becoming a lawyer in 1878, the same year he married Fannie Bruner. This small frame cottage served as their first home. Campbell was later a railroad executive before serving two terms as Governor of Texas, 1907-1911. The Campbells' former home was moved here from its original location (across Second Street) in 1982. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1965)
Interactive Map

CAMPBELL, J. N.
433 South Center Street-marker missing **LV6**

Built 1872. Owned since 1885 by Judge J. N. Campbell and family. Kept open house for Texas judiciary, clergy and young people. Negro string band played for dances. The judge's brother, Governor Thomas M. Campbell, was a frequent visitor. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1965) Interactive Map

COURTHOUSES OF GREGG COUNTY, THE
101 East Methvin Street **LV7**

Gregg County was formed in 1873 and Longview was chosen as county seat. The first temporary courthouse was a small building at the corner of Fredonia and Tyler Streets. It soon proved inadequate, however, and another temporary courthouse was set up on the second floor of the 2-story W. G. Northcutt Hardware Store. The only brick building in town, the Northcutt Store was also the only structure to survive a devastating downtown fire in 1877. The county built a jail in 1874, and levied a special tax to finance construction of a permanent courthouse. Designed by F. E. Ruffini and completed in 1879, the French Second Empire style building featured a mansard roof and a central clock tower. Structural problems were soon evident, however, and by 1896 the building was condemned and demolished. A new red brick Romanesque Revival courthouse, designed by Fort Worth architect Marshall R. Sanguinet, was completed on the square in 1897. The East Texas Oil Boom of the 1930s resulted in overwhelming business at the courthouse, and by 1932 the county had replaced the red brick courthouse with a modern Art Deco building. Enlarged over the years with several additions, it still serves the county. (1997) Interactive Map

DALTON GANG'S LAST RAID
200 North Fredonia Street **LV8**

A bloody day (May 23, 1894) in early Longview. Bill Dalton, leader of armed gang presented a note for money at First National Bank. A gunfight erupted when Sheriff Jack Howard, City Marshall Mat Muckleroy and citizens resisted. Three local men-J. W. McQueen, Geo. Buckingham, Charles Learned-and one outlaw died of gunshot wounds. Bank president J. R. Clemmons and cashier Tom Clemmons were held as hostages for a short time as outlaws made getaway into Oklahoma. Forged $20 bank notes led to capture of survivors. (1967) Interactive Map

DELTA DRILLING COMPANY
200 block East Whaley Street (north side) **LV9**

In response to the East Texas Oil Boom, Delta Drilling Company was founded in 1931 by Bob Stacy, Sam Dorfman, and Joseph Zeppa. Originally housed in an apartment at this site, the firm moved to Tyler in 1937. Delta drilled many of the oil wells that brought wealth to this part of the state and soon expanded over much of the western hemisphere and into parts of Africa and Europe.

The enterprise now includes gas processing plants, exploration and production divisions, and has become a technological leader in land-based drilling operations. (1983) Interactive Map

DUNDEE ANGUS RANCH HOME, 1859
3401 Dundee Road **LV10**

Built by a pioneer physician, Dr. J. N. Allison, who brought some materials from Virginia. Bricks made by slave labor from clay on building site. Located nearby is Lathrop discovery Oil Well, extending famous East Texas Field. (1964) Interactive Map

EARPVILLE, SITE OF
1107 East Marshall Avenue **LV11**

This site was once within the boundary of the community of Earpville, settled in the late 1840s by James Earp (d. 1861) and many of his relatives from Alabama. Located on a stagecoach line, the settlement at its height boasted a post office, stage stop, Methodist church, and retail businesses and was the commercial and social center for farmers in the region. Part of James Earp's original homesite was sold to the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1870. It became the site of the new town of Longview and signaled the decline of Earpville. (1989) New marker with same text. (2000) Interactive Map

ELMIRA CHAPEL
Elmira Drive at 4200 Gilmer Road **LV12**

Pine Tree Cumberland Presbyterian Church began sponsoring Sunday school classes in the Spring Hill Schoolhouse after 1887. The Rev. W. M. Allen began to preach there on Sunday afternoons in 1891. The Rev. J. M. Robinson became the first resident pastor after the division of the two churches. The new congregation was named for Elmira Castleberry, matriarch of a prominent pioneer family. Her sons, James R. and Richard Castleberry, were founding elders of the church. James R. gave 35 acres of land and material for a school/church building in 1897-98. Always active with other denominations and in youth, community and missionary outreach programs, the church continues to serve the area. (1998) Interactive Map

ESTES, CARL L.
Foyer of the Longview News Building, 314 East Methvin Street **LV13**

(1896-1967) One of America's giants of journalism. Newsboy, reporter, advertising manager, foreign correspondent, editor-publisher. Born in New Market, Tenn.; came to Texas in youth. Founded Commerce "East Texan", 1919. Worked for Denison "Herald" and Tyler "Courier-Times" before his 1934 founding of "Texas Oil Journal" and purchase, Longview "Daily News" and "Morning Journal". Erected this building, 1935. Published annual special editions of 314 to 624 pages. Estes soon became the most powerful voice for East Texas. Dynamic, forceful, philanthropic-firm but fair-he devoted his keen abilities and showman's talents to conserving for human betterment the vast wealth of the East Texas Oil Field (largest in the world when it was discovered in the 1930's). He fought "hot oil" runners who risked future of entire great field for sake of immediate profits. He promoted highway and air travel facilities, expanded educational and medical resources, and land and water conservation. His work attracted into East Texas manufacturers whose payrolls and investments poured into economy of the area hundreds of millions of dollars. He was internationally known and respected. Fought in World Wars I and II. Married Margaret McLeod. Outstanding Texas Newspaper Publishers Series. (1967) Interactive Map

EVERETT BUILDING
214 North Freedonia Street **LV14**

Built in 1910 to house the Citizens National Bank, this structure is the only example of classical revival commercial architecture in Longview. Designed by noted architect and educator Samuel J. Blocker, the Everett Building was constructed by Gladewater and Longview businessman and civic leader Lafayette Johnson Everett. Outstanding features of the building include its rounded bay and recessed main entrance. Through the years, the Everett Building has housed numerous banks and professional offices and is part of the heritage of Longview's business community. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1983) Interactive Map

FINCH FAMILY HOME
2010 East Cotton Street **LV15**

Early Victorian cottage built 1898 by John Finch on site of family's log cabin. Descendents active in community life. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1967) Interactive Map

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LONGVIEW
200 block of South Fredonia (west side) **LV16**

This congregation has been in continuous existence since 1871, when fifteen people led by the Rev. D. S. Snodgrass gathered together to form a new church. In 1874 the Texas and Pacific Railway Company deeded two town lots to the Baptist church at the corner of Fredonia and South Streets. The first sanctuary, a small frame building, was erected late that year. Also in 1874, the congregation called its first full-time pastor, the Rev. Dr. A. Eagan Clemmons. Over the years, the church purchased additional property adjacent to its original two lots. As the congregation grew, more church buildings were erected and later replaced with larger structures. A red brick sanctuary which replaced the original frame structure in 1901 was in turn replaced by a larger building in 1914. Continued expansion led to further building programs over the years. In addition to serving its own members, the First Baptist Church has been instrumental in establishing new congregations in the community, including Northside Baptist Church, Valley View Baptist Church, Mobberly Avenue Baptist Church, and Oakland Heights Baptist Church. It continues to serve the community with a variety of religious and educational programs. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1989) Interactive Map

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LONGVIEW
720 North 6th Street **LV17**

This church was organized in 1875 by 12 charter members. The congregation met in a schoolhouse until a frame sanctuary was built later that year on land deeded to the church by the Texas & Pacific Railroad Company. James P. Holloway, a prominent area landowner, served as first pastor. A new church building, erected in 1906, was replaced with a brick sanctuary at this site in 1936. The church continues a long tradition of supporting numerous ministries by offering various worship and outreach programs and activities to the community. Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845-1995. (1995) Interactive Map

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF LONGVIEW
400 North Fredonia Street **LV18**

This congregation traces its history to 1845, when a one-room log meeting house was erected nearby for a church, school and town hall. The church was served by circuit-riding ministers until 1850. The congregation moved to Earpville on the Stagecoach Road in 1860 and moved

their church building to Longview in 1874 after the arrival of the railroad. The church has grown steadily over the years and has erected several new buildings to serve its members and expanding programs. The church continues to serve the area as it has for more than 150 years. (1997) Interactive Map

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LONGVIEW
301 North Center Street **LV19**

This church was established by nine resident members of the Old School Southern Presbyterian Church as a mission in the new town of Longview in 1872. The first church building was erected on land donated by the Texas and Pacific Railroad in 1874. The Rev. James H. Wiggins was installed as the first full-time pastor. The congregation helped establish two mission churches in the area by 1894. A new church building was constructed in 1900 and a third at this site in 1940. The congregation continues to sponsor outreach and missionary programs in Longview and in other parts of the world. (1994) Interactive Map

FLEWELLEN-EASON HOME
Located at 206 South Center Street before razed. Historical marker is housed at the Gregg County Historical Museum, 214 North Fredonia Street **LV20**

Built 1879 by Mayor T. A. Flewellen and his wife who was the daughter of a pioneer minister. Flewellen was a Civil War soldier, merchant. Has housed a school; was first house in Longview to be made into apartments. Bought 1920 by Eason Family. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1967) Interactive Map

GREENWOOD CEMETERY
700 block of East Magrill Street **LV21**

In 1877, J. M. Cornes purchased four acres on this site and, with county surveyor A. S. Taylor, established "the Longview Cemetery," dedicating its streets to public use. It lay barely outside the city limits and immediately north of the junction subdivision platted three years earlier by the International & Great Northern Railroad. In 1884, Cornes and Taylor extended their cemetery to Magrill Street by acquiring 155 feet of the subdivision. Plots provided space for an estimated 3,392 graves exclusive of a

Potter's Field. Most remains in the Pioneer Boring and Leake Cemetery (on what became the east end of College Street) were reinterred here. The earliest headstone from that graveyard is that of Louisa Stroud (1820-1856). The earliest marked grave original to this site apparently is that of Ida Denny (1874-1878). The cemetery was renamed "Greenwood" in 1905, the same year it was included within the city limits. Burials in Greenwood include a veteran of the War of 1812 and 37 known Confederate veterans. Also located here are the graves of three people killed during the 1894 robbery of the First National Bank of Longview by the infamous Dalton Gang, and those of a family that fell victim to the 1900 Galveston storm. Many pioneers and prominent citizens are interred here, including O. H. Methvin, who deeded 150 acres to the Southern Pacific Railroad for the townsite and is known as the father of Longview; Bluford W. Brown, who as state legislator secured the creation of Gregg County; and Britton Buttrill, the Earpville stagecoach stop operator who became a founding commissioner and first treasurer of Gregg County. Greenwood Cemetery is a chronicle of the history of this area. (2000) Interactive Map

GREGG COUNTY
Just east of North High Street on south side of US 80
LV22

Formed from Rusk and Upshur counties. Created April 12, 1873; organized June 28, 1873. Named in honor of General John Gregg (1828-1864), delegate to Secession Convention and to the Provisional Congress of the Southern Confederacy, a Confederate officer. Longview, the county seat. (1936) Interactive Map

GREGG, GENERAL JOHN
South lawn of Gregg County Courthouse, 301 East Methvin Street. **LV23**

(1828-1864) Born Alabama. Came to Texas 1854. Judge, Confederate congressman. Organized 7th Texas Infantry as colonel 1861. Captured at Fort Donelson, Tenn. 1862. Promoted brigadier general after exchange. Commanded brigade Vicksburg Campaign 1863. Severely wounded Battle of Chickamauga Oct. 1863. Returning to action 1864 led Hood's Texas Brigade in heavy fighting in Virginia. Killed in action near Richmond, Oct. 7, 1864. (1963) Interactive Map

GROVE, THE
600 North Green Street **LV24**

The Grove was a natural timber stand within what became Longview in 1870. Tradition holds that the area's freedmen gathered in the Grove for worship services as early as the 1860s. In 1871, John R. Magrill sold the one-acre grove tract to the town's African American population. Acting on their behalf were O. J. Taylor, Silas Billup and Alick Berry. Over the years, the Grove was an important gathering place for the local African American community. Efforts in the 1930s to acquire the land for oil production failed due to confusion over the title, and the city later adopted the land for use as a park, now known as Magrill Plaza. (2003) Interactive Map

HARMON GENERAL HOSPITAL
Main entrance to LeTourneau University, 2100 South Mobberly Avenue **LV25**

Established here by the United States Army in 1942, Harmon General Hospital was named for Colonel Daniel W. Harmon (1880-1940), a medical officer in the regular Army. 220 buildings were rapidly constructed on the 156-acre site, and the hospital was activated on Nov. 24, 1942, with Colonel G. V. Emerson as the first commanding officer. Harmon General had facilities for surgery, physical therapy, laboratory analysis, dental care, and medical treatment. Associated with the hospital were a post exchange, chapel, library, post office, bank, theater, gymnasium, laundry, mess halls, barracks, and living quarters for the nurses and physicians-all combined to make the facility a self-reliant community. Major M. K. Moulding succeeded Colonel Emerson as commanding officer. 200 inmates of the prisoner of war camp at Fannin were assigned in May 1945 to work at the hospital. The facility closed when the last of the 25,000 wartime patients left in Dec. 1945. The hospital attracted wide community support. The Garden Study Club of Longview landscaped much of the grounds. Their projects included an "allee of crepe myrtle" planted along the original main entrance. LeTourneau College now occupies the site. (1976)
Interactive Map

HARMON GENERAL HOSPITAL CHAPEL
East end of LeTourneau University, 2100 South Mobberly Avenue **LV26**

Authorized by the U. S. Army in 1942 and named for Col. Daniel Warrick Harmon, Harmon General Hospital was

in operation from November 1942 to December 1945. This ecumenical chapel opened in January 1943. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish clergy served here. The hospital property was acquired by the LeTourneau Foundation in 1946 for use as a college. Despite several years as a storage facility, the chapel retained enough of its original fabric for renovation in the late 1950s and again in 1983 when it was formally named Speer Chapel. The structure remains a well-preserved vernacular chapel. Its notable features include a front-facing gabled roof, center projecting entrance with the roof below a central steeple, and wood sash windows. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1997) Interactive Map

HAYS, MARTIN
Grace Hill Cemetery, US 80 at Tyler Street **LV27**

(1883-1958) Respected Longview citizen. Married Clara Harris, daughter of Gregg County pioneer family. Active in civic affairs, first elected to public office, 1910, as city marshal and district clerk. County sheriff 1924-1932. Seldom carried a gun-enforced law in a soft-spoken manner. Was among first Texas sheriffs to organize junior deputies. Member, First Baptist Church, a Royal Arch Mason, and Woodman of the World. (1967) Interactive Map

HOGG, JAMES S.
102 North Fredonia Street (just north of the railroad tracks) **LV28**

Texas' first native governor (1891-1895), James Stephen Hogg, founded here in 1871 his first newspaper, the Longview "News". He was then 20 years old. In his paper Hogg was a strong supporter of educational and governmental improvements for Longview. He campaigned against radical reconstruction policies, railroad subsidies, and lawlessness. This venture, following earlier apprentice news work, showed Hogg's alertness, self-confidence. He was a publisher for 3 years. This experience developed his qualities of leadership and led to later success as a statesman. (1967) Interactive Map

LATHROP A-1, ARKANSAS FUEL OIL CO.
On Brent Road, 0.2 miles north of FM 2605 (Tennerville Road), marker off road 200 yards east. **LV29**

After years of undaunted faith in discovery of oil in East Texas, B. A. Skipper, Sr., assembled an 8300-acre block under lease; made a deal with J. E. Farrell, W. A. Mon-

crief and E. A. Showers; had the well drilled to 3500 feet. At this point Arkansas Fuel Oil Co. (now Cities Service Oil Co.) bought a half interest and assumed operations. Drillers were W. A. Andrews, B. A. Ferrell and James H. Lowery. Crew members were C. R. Kaylor, R. T. Crisp, C. Spruill, A. W. Owens, C. O. Croley, D. V. Chidester, Geo. Jones, J. V. Huckaboy, R. E. Roe, E. E. Houchin and R. H. Summers. The F. K. Lathrop A-1 was spudded in on Dec. 3, 1930; hit caprock at 3569 feet; was completed on Jan. 26, 1931, at total depth of 3587 feet. With an initial potential of 18,000 barrels of oil daily, it has produced over 527,000 barrels in its first 35 years. Oil fever ran high with the completion of the Joiner No. 3-Daisy Bradford at Turnertown, Oct. 1930; the E. W. Bateman No. 1 - L. D. Crim at Kilgore, Dec. 1930; and climaxed here with the F. K. Lathrop A-1. However, few could imagine that soon these three would be linked and extended to form the great East Texas Field, which covers some 200 square miles and has made a world record as the largest of its time. (1996) Interactive Map

LETOURNEAU, ROBERT GILMOUR
Main entrance to LeTourneau University, 2100 South Mobberly Avenue **LV30**

(November 30, 1888 - June 1, 1969) A native of Richford, Vermont, Robert G. LeTourneau built his first industrial plant in Stockton, California, in 1921. A self-educated man, he invented and pioneered the use of components now standard in many types of construction equipment. The LeTourneau Company, manufacturers of equipment for heavy construction, mining, logging, land clearing, and offshore oil drilling, eventually operated plants in California, Illinois, Georgia, Mississippi, and Texas. Much of LeTourneau's personal time, energy, and fortune were spent in promoting the LeTourneau Foundation and Charitable Ministries, a worldwide Christian missionary effort he founded in 1935. During World War II, seventy percent of the earth-moving equipment used by U. S. Armed Forces was built by the LeTourneau Company. Following the war, R. G. LeTourneau moved to Longview, where he opened an industrial plant and founded LeTourneau Technical Institute, the forerunner of LeTourneau University. LeTourneau became an influential business and civic leader in Longview, and was instrumental in much of the city's economic development. He was the recipient of many high honors, and is remembered as a highly-regarded citizen of Longview. (1989) Interactive Map

LEWIS-BIVINS HOUSE
208 East College Street **LV31**

This house was constructed in 1885 or 1895 for local merchant B. F. Lewis and his wife, E. A. Lewis. In 1905 the Lewises sold their home to James Knox Bivins, a Confederate veteran and lumberman, who presented the deed to his wife Viola (Cobb) as a gift. The Bivins family moved to Longview to be close to his sawmill in the nearby Talley community. Viola Bivins restored the structure in 1941 with an inheritance from her father. The Lewis-Bivins house is among the last Victorian dwellings in Longview. The structure exhibits mixed folk Victorian elements with cornice returns, spindlework porch balusters and decorative porch post brackets. A simple folk form with Queen Anne accents, the design remains largely intact. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1999) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW
Corner of US 80 and southeast side of Fisher Road **LV32**

Named for "long view" from Rock Hill when surveyors laid off townsite in 1870. Incorporated June 24, 1871. Became county seat of Gregg County; also railroad, agricultural and lumber center. Its history includes an 1894 bank robbery-the last raid of the notorious "Dalton Gang". Early home of Governors Thomas M. Campbell and James S. Hogg. Since nearby 1931 Lathrop Well extended East Texas Oil Field into world's largest, it has been a petroleum, financial, industrial, medical, cultural, religious hub. Home of LeTourneau College. Historic sites marked. (1965) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER
500 East Whaley Street **LV33**

Soon after organizing in 1934, Longview's Federation of Women's Clubs began raising funds for a community center. The Federation produced matching funds for an appropriation of the Gregg County Commissioners' Court to build this structure in 1940. It houses an auditorium, foyer, kitchen, two dining rooms, and a drawing room. It is an excellent example of the Moderne style and features vertically banded windows with circular accents and a simplified cornice and entablature. The site of numerous activities, the center continues to provide space for important community functions. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1994) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW HIGH SCHOOL, FORMER SITE OF
410 South Green Street **LV34**

The first public school offering high school classes in Longview was built in 1880. A larger school building was erected in 1884 to accommodate an expanded student enrollment. The Longview Senior High School Complex, constructed at this location in 1929, was converted to a junior high school in 1932 after an area-wide oil boom contributed to a doubling of the student enrollment and the decision to build a new high school structure on East Whaley Street. Successful bond elections in 1972 and 1986 led to the construction of the Longview High School Complex at Airline Road and Loop 281. (1993)
Interactive Map

LONGVIEW JUNCTION
901 East Pacific Street **LV35**

This community originated in the 1870s with the junction of the Texas & Pacific and International & Great Northern Railroad tracks. Churches, residences, hotels, restaurants, businesses, boardinghouses, and school developed in the area to accommodate workers and travelers. A mule powered street railway system operated from 1883 to 1912 to facilitate transportation between downtown Longview and the junction. Annexed to the city of Longview in 1904, Longview Junction remained an identifiable community until automobiles provided greater mobility. (1991) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND CENTRAL FIRE STATION
100 East Cotton Street **LV36**

The city of Longview was incorporated in 1871, and there is evidence of a volunteer fire department as early as 1887. A new city hall complex with fire station was constructed in 1905, but the 1930s East Texas Oil Boom and subsequent population explosion in Longview made the offices too small. In 1935, voters approved the issuance of bonds for the construction of a new municipal building and central fire station. Contractor A. M. Campbell completed this building in 1936. Combining Neoclassical and Mediterranean architectural influences popular at the time, the structure features a red tile roof and fossilized limestone veneer. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (2001) Interactive Map

LONGVIEW, SITE OF NAMING OF LONGVIEW IN 1870
Just east of North High Street on south side of US 80, site is 450 feet south of marker. **LV37**

Where railway surveyors commented on the "Long view" seen from the crest of the hill, and chose this name. (1962) Interactive Map

METHVIN, O. H.
Greenwood Cemetery, 700 block of East Magrill Street **LV38**

(March 10, 1815 - February 9, 1882) Georgia native O. H. Methvin came to Texas about 1848 with his wife Margaret and his father, Richard R. Methvin. They settled on land in Upshur County which would later become a part of Gregg County. In 1870 Methvin gave 100 acres of land to the Southern Pacific Railroad to found the city of Longview. The town became the county seat when Gregg County was organized in 1873. O. H. and Margaret Methvin were the parents of three sons. (1988) Interactive Map

METHVIN, SR., O. H., FOUNDER OF LONGVIEW
South lawn of Gregg County Courthouse, 301 East Methvin Street. **LV39**

About 1848. O. H. Methvin (1815-1882) and his father, Richard, came to Texas from Georgia. O. H. Methvin bought about 1,200 acres in East Texas, including this site, which was his cornfield. He built a home on nearby Rock Hill for his wife, Margaret, and their children. In 1870, Methvin deeded 100 acres of his land to the Southern Pacific Railroad. The town that developed on the rail line was named "Longview" when railroad surveyors were impressed with the long-range view afforded them from Rock Hill. With the formation of Gregg County, Longview became the county seat in 1873. (1983)
Interactive Map

NEW PROVIDENCE CEMETERY
Corner of Judson Road and Hollybrook **LV40**

This cemetery was associated with the New Providence Missionary Baptist Church, which was founded in the 1880s. The first documented burial was of W. E. Newton in 1896. In 1903 the church was damaged by a windstorm, struck by lightning and later burned to the ground. Without a church building, the congregation disbanded. It was briefly reorganized in 1921 to maintain the cemetery, but broke up again in 1925. Five of the 58 graves are unmarked. Among those buried here are veterans of five wars, a former county judge and a former district judge. (1966) Interactive Map

NORTHCUTT HOUSE
313 South Fredonia Street **LV41**

This residence was constructed in 1902 by the Rev. W. B. Allen for Dr. William Davis Northcutt (1861-1931). A prominent Longview physician and mayor of the city for four terms, Dr. Northcutt played a vital role in the development of the area through his active civic leadership. The Queen Anne style of his home features an elaborate two-level wraparound veranda and fishscale shingling. After Dr. Northcutt's death, the residence remained in the family. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1982)
Interactive Map

PEGUES, OLIVER H.
Grace Hill Cemetery, US 80 at Tyler Street **LV42**

(November 27, 1847 - March 30, 1937) Descendant of a Huguenot family who migrated to America in 1736, Oliver H. Pegues came to Texas with his parents from his native Mississippi in 1850. He moved to Longview in 1871 and became the town's first postmaster, Jan. 27, 1871. Pegues served as Gregg County Treasurer, 1875-1900. A merchant and banker, he was an early leader of the First Baptist Church. He was married first to Henrie Dyer (d. 1887) and later to Emma Overton (1856-1929), and had 8 children. (1976) Interactive Map

PINE TREE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1850 Pine Tree Road **LV43**

Organized in 1847. First church in Gregg County; one of oldest in Texas in continuous service. Named for large pine tree (now removed) under which services were held and where Mrs. A. T. Castleberry taught the first Sunday School class. Charter members were Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Soloman Awalt; Messrs. and Mmes. A. T. Castleberry, J. T. Echols, Jesse Freeze, Benj. Fuller, John Rodden and Milton Starnes; J. W. Barnes and James R. White. First church was a log house; present structure built 1932; the educational building, 1950. (1968) Interactive Map

ROCKWALL FARM
US 80 West on east side of H. G. Moseley Parkway **LV44**

Large colonial home built 50 yards north, 1854. Overnight stop on Wm. T. Brooks' stagecoach line from Monroe, La., to Tyler. From here, mail went to Earpville, a site now in Longview. Slaves hewed lumber, made the chimney bricks on site. The first floor partitions folded away to make big ballroom. The black walnut coffin built for house owner John Harris was favored table for poker upstairs. Last owners, J. Roy Sparkman and Jack Castleberry families, restored, opened to visitors. House burned in 1952. (1965) Interactive Map

SMITH, JOHN TYSON
Greenwood Cemetery, 400 block of East Magrill Street **LV45**

(Oct. 29, 1846 - May 15, 1916) In 1855 Alabama-born John Tyson Smith moved with his parents to Upshur County, Texas. A Confederate veteran, he settled in Longview about 1872. He served as city tax assessor and was justice of the peace for two terms. He was elected to five terms as Gregg County judge, 1888-1898. Actively involved in downtown real estate development, he ran the Smith Upstairs Opera House, 1902-1915. Married twice, Smith had six children who lived to adulthood. (1978) Interactive Map

ST MARK C. M. E. CHURCH
1100 Sapphire Street **LV46**

First known as St. Mark Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, this congregation was organized by former slaves about 1867. Worship services were held in a brush arbor built at the present site of Magrill Park. The Rev. Robert A. Hagler served as first pastor, and under his leadership a two-story sanctuary was built in 1876-77. It was replaced by a new frame building in 1893. In 1954 the church name was changed to St. Mark Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. This site was acquired in 1972. Descendants of founding members still attend the church. (1988)
Interactive Map

TEAGUE, LATIMUS, HOME
322 Teague Street **LV47**

One of few remaining houses of Earpville (early Longview). North boundary of tract on Wm. T. Brooks' stagecoach line from Monroe, La. to Tyler, Texas. Built before 1882, when it was purchased by Latimus and Mary Teague, natives of Alabama. Two daughters, Misses Molly and Sarah Teague, held school sessions and taught music here beginning 1890. Classes moved to separate building where they continued until 1905. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1966) Interactive Map

TEXAS SECESSION CONVENTION
South lawn of Gregg County Courthouse, 301 East Methvin Street **LV48**

This meeting, which had John Gregg as a key member, was extra-legal governing body of delegates from over Texas, held January-March 1861. Drew up secession ordinances-ratified by 3 to 1 popular vote. Selected delegates to convention of southern states in Montgomery, Alabama. Declared office of anti-secessionist Governor Sam Houston vacant, putting in Lt. Governor Edward Clark. Ratified C.S.A. constitution. Raised troops to seize U.S. property, getting $3,000,000 worth by surrender. Placed troops at outposts to protect frontier. (1963)
Interactive Map

TURNER, J. C., HOME
503 East Methvin Street **LV49**

Built in 1874, two years after town was established. A fireplace in each room, a stairway of carved walnut. Builder J. C. Turner, Sr., was first East Texan to import Jersey cattle. Skilled horseman, thoroughbred owner. Old well and dairy house nearby. (1964) Interactive Map

WARTIME HOME INDUSTRY
2700 Gilmer Road **LV50**

At this site, 1861-65, settler Joseph M. Sparkman manufactured shoes for the Confederate Army. A victim of arthritis, he lay on his cot and ran the shop, while "Uncle Ben," a skilled slave shoemaker who had come with him from Georgia, supervised and taught young boys and old men who made the shoes. Both Joseph M. Sparkman and "Uncle Ben" are buried in the family plot on the estate, near here. Their work during the Civil War typifies the gallant spirit of volunteers who mined salt, made cloth and clothing, hunted the woods for medicinal herbs. (1965) Interactive Map

WHALEY, FRANKLIN L., HOUSE
101 East Whaley Street **LV51**

Constructed in 1871 for hardware merchant Franklin L. Whaley and his wife Mary Caroline Rogers, this was one of the earliest homes built in Longview. Five generations of the Whaley family have lived here. Built in a central hall configuration with lumber cut on the site, the structure features gabled pavilions, three dormers above the front porch, fine milled wood details, and elaborate jigsawn balustrade and piers. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1964) Interactive Map

WINTERFIELD CEMETERY
2615 Tryon Road **LV52**

This cemetery began on the farm purchased in 1879 by July G. and Martha Howard Garner. Land was set aside for a family cemetery upon the deaths of the Garners' nephew, Joel S. Bright, and niece, Jessie L. Webb, in November 1887. This family cemetery eventually became a community graveyard with more than 500 graves. Among those buried here were farmers, city and county officials, and church leaders. Site maintenance, completed in the early 1900s by family members, was succeeded in 1971 by the Winterfield Cemetery Association. The site continues to serve the community. (1996) Interactive Map

WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
2616 Tryon Road **LV53**

This church traces its origin to Methodist camp meetings held here in the farm community of Winterfield as early as the 1870s. The site of the camp meetings, which drew settlers from Gregg, Upshur, and Harrison counties, was set aside in the early 1880s for worship purposes. Two small 1880s church buildings, sanctuaries erected here in 1929 and 1957, and other facilities including an education building have served the church. The congregation sponsors a number of outreach programs and activities and continues to provide civic and religious leadership for the community. Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845-1995. (1995) Interactive Map

WOMACK-LACY HOUSE
Located at 411 South Center Street before razed. Historical marker is housed at the Gregg County Historical Museum, 214 North Fredonia Street. **LV54**

Had the first gingerbread trim in town. Built by Albert A. Womack, 1876. Womack had early general store. A daughter, Kate, married Judge Edwin Lacy. Builder's descendents still live here. (1967) Interactive Map

CHEROKEE TRACE
Corner of US 80 West and White Oak Road **WO1**

In 1821 near this site, Cherokee Indians blazed a trail from near Nacogdoches, Texas, to their home reservation at White River, Ark. They slashed trees, cleared path, planted "Cherokee" roses, and established camps at springs. Used by Sam Houston, friend of the Cherokees, on his move to Texas; by David Crockett, other soldiers of the Texas TTRevolution, and thousands of immigrants. After June 1839, when Texas settlers drove the Cherokees out of the state, the Indians departed over this trail; others traveled it for years thereafter. (1967) Interactive Map

WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
117 North White Oak Road **WO2**

Formally organized in 1910, White Oak Baptist Church traces its history to an earlier congregation founded in the sawmill town in 1889. Pastor Robert Marsh led the congregation in 1910. Three years later, M. C. and Ada (Dickinson) Satterwhite joined the church. Instrumental in White Oak Life for much of the 20th century, the Satterwhites donated two acres of land for a church building in 1935. The men's brotherhood was formed in the mid-1930s; the ladies' auxiliary began in 1940. Church facilities grew as needed. White Oak Baptist Church remains active in fellowship and community outreach programs. (1998) Interactive Map

WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
100 North White Oak Road **WO3**

The small community of White Oak grew up around a one-room school built in the 1880s. After the first school building burned in 1885, local families worked to erect a new one-room school, which also was used for religious services. By 1912 it was replaced with a two-room building. After oil was discovered in East Texas in the 1930s, the school became overcrowded with the children of families who came to the area in search of black gold. The community constructed a modern brick facility in 1933, and in 1937 the first senior class graduated from White Oak School. Facilities were added as needed over the years. New administration, elementary and middle school were erected in the 1980s. (1999) Interactive Map

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON
2038 FM 1844 north of Longview **OT1**

In the 1870s the people of this community met in the Lawrenceville School for Christian worship services. Thirteen local Baptists organized their own church in 1883, continuing to meet in the school building. Founding member Georgia Whatley suggested the name Judson Missionary Baptist Church for a church she had attended in Lawrenceville, Alabama which was named in honor of Adoniram Judson (1788-1850), America's first foreign missionary. In 1886, the Judson Missionary Baptist Church began to support mission work. Members began to plan for their own house of worship in 1891. Georgia and Hiram Whatley donated a plot of land, and the structure was erected in 1894. Baptismal services were conducted in the creek east of the church after the yearly summer revival had taken place. The baptisms later were held on a member's property and then at nearby Whitehurst Lake. In the late 1890s H. A. Whatley gave one acre for a cemetery. Sunday School began in 1901, a ladies' auxiliary was formed in 1902, and the Baptist Young People's Union was organized at the Judson Church in 1924. A new church building was erected in 1935, and the church was able to hire its first full-time pastor in 1941. By 1900 Public School District No. 2, Gregg County, was known as Judson. In 1952, a U. S. Post Office opened in the community, taking the name Judson. The membership, many of them descendants of the pioneers of this part of Gregg County, numbered more than 260 in 1998. The congregation continues to be active in mission work and in service to the community of Judson. (1998) Interactive Map

FREDONIA TOWNSITE, OLD
Northeast corner of FM 2087 at access road to IH 20
OT2

The community of Fredonia was founded by Haden Edwards, a land grantee who contracted in 1825 with the Mexican government to establish 800 families of settlers in East Texas. A later misunderstanding with Mexico caused him to organize the famous Fredonian Rebellion and flee to the U.S. in 1827 in failure. The town of Fredonia prospered, though, as an important ferry crossing and river port. The numerous structures built by residents included a brick kiln, homes and warehouses, mainly for cotton. After the Civil War, the population declined and the post office closed. Residents abandoned the town after it was bypassed by the railroad circa 1870. (1967, 2005) Interactive Map

GRABLE CEMETERY
2 miles south of IH 20 on FM 2011, near CR 349 **OT3**

M. H. Graybill acquired land here in 1888. He set aside a tract to be used as a burial ground for local African American sharecroppers and their families. In 1910, Graybill (the cemetery spelling changed over time) sold this tract of land to the people of the area's African American communities, many of whom were former slaves or descendants of slaves. Since that time, residents have maintained the burial ground, which is managed by a cemetery association. The earliest marked graves date to the early 1900s, and unique features include rows of white crosses denoting burial sites of former slaves. Historic Texas Cemetery. (2003) Interactive Map

GUM SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (NEW DANVILLE)
Off Danville Road (FM 2087), four miles from Kilgore in Danville community **OT4**

Named for nearby spring with gum log curb; organized Oct. 7, 1850, by the Rev. J. M. Becton. The 1850 roll: Mr. and Mrs. Meshack Barber, S. S. Barnett, Mrs. T. C. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Sloan, Nancy Sloan, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Templeton. Log church of 1849 burned on Dec. 31, 1857; present structure, built in 1858, housed Danville Masonic Lodge No. 101 and (1858-73) Danville Masonic Female Academy, the parent institution of Lon Morris College. Moving in 1874, congregation became the First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore. (1970, 1978) Interactive Map

LIBERTY CITY
One mile north of IH 20 on Old Gladewater Road (Old Highway 135) 4 miles north of Kilgore **OT5**

Historic rural community in oil-rich Gregg County. Settled before the Civil War. Has also been known as Sabine, Mount Moriah, McCary's Chapel, Goforth, and Hog Eye (for an early settler with an "eye" for hogs). Present name was adopted in the early days of famous East Texas Oil Boom. Area served by the Sabine School district, established in 1893; an example of excellent schools in county. Also crossed by great system of improved, all weather county roads-finest in state. Center of farming, livestock raising. Has fine churches, park and community meeting places. (1965) Interactive Map

MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY

Northwest of Kilgore, off SH 135 on Mt. Pleasant Road, 0.5 miles south of IH 20 **OT6**

At the close of the Civil War, local African Americans, newly freed from slavery, formed the Mt. Pleasant Colored Methodist Episcopal Church. The Rev. M. F. Jamison served as the first pastor for the group, which was part of the East Texas Annual Conference. Members built a brush arbor and peace camp in this area and were led by the Rev. Frank Rabb, Major Sanders and Parson Choice in the early years. They formally organized as a congregation in 1871. As more settlers moved into the area over the next two decades, the need arose for a community cemetery. In April 1891, trustees for the church purchased two acres at this site, adjacent to the sanctuary, from J. C. and S. S. Barnett. The earliest marked grave in the burial ground is that of a seven-year-old boy who died in July 1890. There are also several unmarked graves, believed to date to the early 1870s. Today, Mt. Pleasant Cemetery continues to be linked to the church, although it has moved. A church committee maintains the burial ground, the final resting place for generations of area pioneers and families, including military veterans, Freemasons and community leaders. Historic Texas Cemetery. (2004) Interactive Map

PEATOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Four miles south of IH 20 on FM 2011 **OT7**

This church traces its history to a Disciples of Christ congregation (Christian Union Church) organized near Camden in 1852. When that church disbanded during the early 1870s, its members formed new congregations in other places. The Peatown Christian Church was organized in 1871 with twelve charter members. It drew families from the ante bellum settlement of Edwardsville, commonly known as Peatown, and neighboring rural communities. Its members worshiped in the old Christian Union Church building for over 50 years and held baptisms in the nearby spring. (1985) Interactive Map

PLEASANT GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH
9270 FM 349 **OT8**

Following the Civil War, emancipated slaves established the Freedmen's community of Pleasant Green. On December 20, 1871, pastors Henry Moses and Charles Anderson led local residents in organizing a Baptist congregation. The Rev. Henry Mass served as the church's first pastor. Originally meeting on a small farm, the congregation moved to this site in 1884, constructing a frame sanctuary. Simon and Mealy Claiborn deeded the property to the church. In 1909, the congregation built a larger house of worship to which it made additions throughout the 20th century. Today, the church remains a central part of the historic African American community, fostering education and spirituality. (2004) Interactive Map

POINT PLEASANT
US 80 West in Clarksville City, between White Oak and Gladewater **OT9**

From about 1850 until 1871, a post office, which served the Point Pleasant community, operated near this site. The area was known as Gilead under the first postmaster, L. B. Camp, who earlier had established a ferry crossing the Sabine River (2 mi. W). When the name Point Pleasant was adopted in 1852, J. K. Armstrong (d. 1860) was named postmaster. Other postmasters who served Point Pleasant were William W. Walters (d. 1885), who operated the stage stop where the post office was located, Claiborn Halbert, and Joshua W. Monk. Elisha A. Mackey was Point Pleasant's last official postmaster. During its 21 years of existence the Point Pleasant Post Office served approximately 48 families including those of Jarret Dean, James Hendrick, Mason Moseley, Augustus Moseley, A. H. Abney, A. C. Williams, Jacob M. Lacy, A. G. Rogers, and A. T. Wright. The Point Pleasant School (called Possom Trot and still operating in 1908 with Trustees R. A. Hendrix, E. W. Clements, and Mr. Phillips) and Moseley Cemetery also served these pioneers. When the railroad came through in 1873, the new towns of Gladewater and Longview drew residents away from the Point Pleasant area. Clarksville City, created by the 1931 East Texas Oil Boom, later developed at the site of the Point Pleasant community. (1984) Interactive Map

ROBERTSON PLACE
Located on FM 349 before razed. Historical marker is housed at the Gregg County Historical Museum, 214 North Fredonia Street. **OT10**

On land originally owned by Hayden Edwards, who broke with Mexico, 1826, in the Fredonian Rebellion. Owned since 1903 by 3 generations of Robertson family. Has hand-hewn lumber and hand-cut rock chimney. Unusual stairway entries. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1964) Interactive Map

ROCK SPRINGS SCHOOLHOUSE
Old Hwy 135. From US 271 South, turn left on Hwy 135. Turn right on Country Club Road. Turn left on Old Hwy 135 **OT11**

Built 1849, with donated labor and lumber. One-teacher school was taught here until 1930's. First teacher was J. C. Vernon. First trustees: Thomas G. Chisum, James "Squire" Dillingham, Joel Smith. (Smith donated the site.) Building was also used for church, Grange, socials, fraternal meetings, and political rallies. Community named for nearby springs. Settled by pioneers from Tennessee. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. (1966) Interactive Map

SHEPPERD, JOHN BEN
Private family cemetery on Country Club Road **OT12**

(October 19, 1915 - March 8, 1990) Gladewater native John Ben Shepperd was appointed Texas secretary of state in 1950. Elected attorney general in 1952 and 1954, he retired from public office in 1957 and moved to Odessa. He became a prominent insurance, banking, and petroleum executive. At the request of governors and presidents, he served on 7 state and national boards, including those concerned with the arts and historic preservation. He was Texas and U.S. Jaycees president. (1992) Interactive Map

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
One mile west of FM 1845 (Pine Tree Road) on Shiloh Road **OT13**

According to local tradition former slave Butcher Christian, and noted post-Civil War church organizer the Rev. John Baptist established this church in 1871. Services began in a log sanctuary located on 3 acres donated by Butcher Christian. A school for African Americans operated there until about the 1890s. An adjacent cemetery, with marked graves dating to 1882, is still active. Revenues from oil discovered on church land were used to build a new sanctuary here in 1936. Shiloh Baptist serves the community with a variety of programs. (1993)
Interactive Map

SHILOH SCHOOL, SITE OF
One mile west of FM 1845 (Pine Tree Road) on Shiloh Road, west of Shiloh Baptist Church **OT14**

The newly freed African Americans of the Shiloh community established a school for their children shortly after the Civil War. The one-room building was demolished in the late 1800s and classes were held at the Shiloh Baptist Church. With financial assistance from the Julius Rosenwald fund, a new two-room school was erected in 1920. It was replaced by a large brick building in the 1930s. The high school was closed in 1949; the end of segregation closed the rest of the Shiloh School in 1966. Shiloh graduates became contributing citizens in Texas and the nation. Long vacant, the school building was later used to store chemicals for a plastics company and burned in 1993. (1998) Interactive Map

INDEX BY NAME

Alexander Institute	6
Allis-Chalmers Pumps	6
Alpine Presbyterian Church	13
Bethel Baptist Church	13
Big Inch Pipeline	13
Brown-Birdsong House	14
Bumpus House	1
Campbell Honeymoon Home	14
Campbell, J. N.	14
Cherokee Trace	32
Courthouses of Gregg County, The	15
Crim, Lou Della (see also Dean-Kenner Crim House)	7
Dalton Gang's Last Raid	15
Dean-Keener-Crim House	7
Delta Drilling Company	15
Dundee Angus Ranch, 1859	16
Driller Park	7
Earpville, Site of	16
Elmira Chapel	16
Estes, Carl L.	17
Everett Building	17
Finch Family Home	17
First Baptist Church of Judson	33

First Baptist Church of Kilgore	8
First Baptist Church of Longview	18
First Christian Church of Longview	18
First Methodist Church of Longview	18
First Presbyterian Church	8
First Presbyterian Church of Longview	19
First United Methodist Church of Gladewater	1
Flewellen-Eason Home	19
Foshee Family Homestead	1
Fredonia Townsite, Old	33
Gladewater	2
Gladewater Lodge NO. 852. A.F. and A.M..	2
Grable Cemetery	34
Greenwood Cemetery	19
Gregg County	20
Gregg, General John	20
Grove, The	21
Gum Spring Presbyterian Church	34
Harmon General Hospital	21
Harmon General Hospital Chapel	21
Hays, Martin	22
Hogg, James S.	22
Kilgore “Oil City of the World”	9
Kilgore College Administration Building	9

INDEX BY NAME

Kilgore High School 9

Kilgore I&GN-Missouri Pacific Railroad Station 10

Kilgore National Bank 10

Kilgore Public Library 11

Lathrop A-1 Arkansas Fuel Oil Co. 22

LeTourneau, Robert Gilmore 23

Lewis-Bivins House 24

Liberty City 34

Longview 24

Longview Community Center 24

Longview High School, Former Site of 25

Longview Junction 25

Longview Municipal Building and Central Fire Station 25

Longview, Site of Naming of Longview in 1870 26

Methvin, O. H. 26

Methvin, Sr., O. H., Founder of Longview 26

Motor Bus Line in Texas, First Franchised 3

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery 35

New Deal Era in Kilgore 11

New Providence Cemetery 27

Northcutt House 27

Peatown Christian Church 35

Pegues, Oliver H. 27

Pine Tree Cumberland Presbyterian Church 28

Pleasant Green Baptist Church	36
Point Pleasant	36
Robertson Place	37
Rock Springs Schoolhouse	37
Rockwall Farm	28
Rosedale Cemetery	3
Smith, John Tyson	28
Shepperd, John Ben	4, 37
Shiloh Baptist Church	38
Shiloh School, Site of	38
St. Luke's United Methodist Church	11
St. Mark C. M. E. Church	29
Teague, Latimus, Home	29
Texas Secession Convention	29
Turner, J. C., Home	30
Walker, Dr. E. L. and Nannie Lewis, House	5
Wartime Home Industry	30
Whaley, Franklin L., House	30
White Oak Baptist Church	32
White Oak Independent School District	32
Winterfield Cemetery	31
Winterfield Methodist Church	31
Womack-Lacy House	31
World's Richest Acre	12

INDEX BY TOWN

Gladewater

Bumpus House 1

First United Methodist Church of Gladewater 1

Foshee Family Homestead 1

Gladewater 2

Gladewater Lodge No. 852, A.F. and A.M. 2

Motor Bus Line in Texas, First Franchised 3

Rosedale Cemetery 3

Shepperd, John Ben 4

Walker, Dr. E. L. and Nannie Lewis, House 5

Kilgore

Alexander Institute 6

Allis-Chalmers Pumps 6

Crim, Lou Della (see also Dean-Keener -Crim House 7

Dean-Keener-Crim House 7

Driller Park 7

First Baptist Church of Kilgore 8

First Presbyterian Church 8

Kilgore "Oil City of the World" 9

Kilgore College Administration Building 9

Kilgore High School 9

Kilgore I&GN Missouri Pacific Railroad Station 10

Kilgore National Bank 10

Kilgore Public Library 11

New Deal Era in Kilgore 11

St. Luke's United Methodist Church 11

World's Richest Acre 12

Longview

Alpine Presbyterian Church 13

Bethel Baptist Church 13

Big Inch Pipeline 13

Brown-Birdsong House 14

Campbell Honeymoon Home 14

Campbell, J. N. 14

Courthouses of Gregg County, The 15

Dalton Gang's Last Raid 15

Delta Drilling Company 15

Dundee Angus Ranch, 1859 16

Earpville, Site of 16

Elmira Chapel 16

Estes, Carl L. 17

Everett Building 17

Finch Family Home 17

First Baptist Church of Longview 18

First Christian Church of Longview 18

First Methodist Church of Longview 18

First Presbyterian Church of Longview 19

INDEX BY TOWN

Flewellen-Eason Home 19

Greenwood Cemetery 19

Gregg County 20

Gregg, General John 20

Grove, The 21

Harmon General Hospital 21

Harmon General Hospital Chapel 21

Hays, Martin 22

Hogg, James S. 22

Lathrop A-1 Arkansas Fuel Oil Co. 22

LeTourneau, Robert Gilmour 23

Lewis-Bivins House 24

Longview 24

Longview Community Center 24

Longview High School, Former Site of 25

Longview Junction 25

Longview Municipal Building and Central Fire Station 25

Longview, Site of Naming of Longview in 1870 26

Methvin, O.H. 26

Methvin, Sr., O. H., Founder of Longview 26

New Providence Cemetery 27

Northcutt House 27

Pegues, Oliver H. 27

Pine Tree Cumberland Presbyterian Church 28

Rockwall Farm 28

Smith, John Tyson 28

St. Mark C. M. E. Church 29

Teague, Latimus, Home 29

Texas Secession Convention 29

Turner, J. C., Home 30

Wartime Home Industry 30

Whaley, Franklin L., House 30

Winterfield Cemetery 31

Winterfield Methodist Church 31

Womack-Lacy House 31

White Oak

Cherokee Trace 32

White Oak Baptist Church 32

White Oak Independent School District 32

Other Sites in Gregg County

First Baptist Church of Judson 33

Fredonia Townsite, Old 33

Grable Cemetery 34

Gum Spring Presbyterian Church 34

Liberty City 34

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery 35

INDEX BY TOWN

Peatown Christian Church	35
Pleasant Green Baptist Church	36
Point Pleasant	36
Robertson Place	37
Rock Springs Schoolhouse	37
Shepperd, John Ben	37
Shiloh Baptist Church	38
Shiloh School, Site of	38