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TEXAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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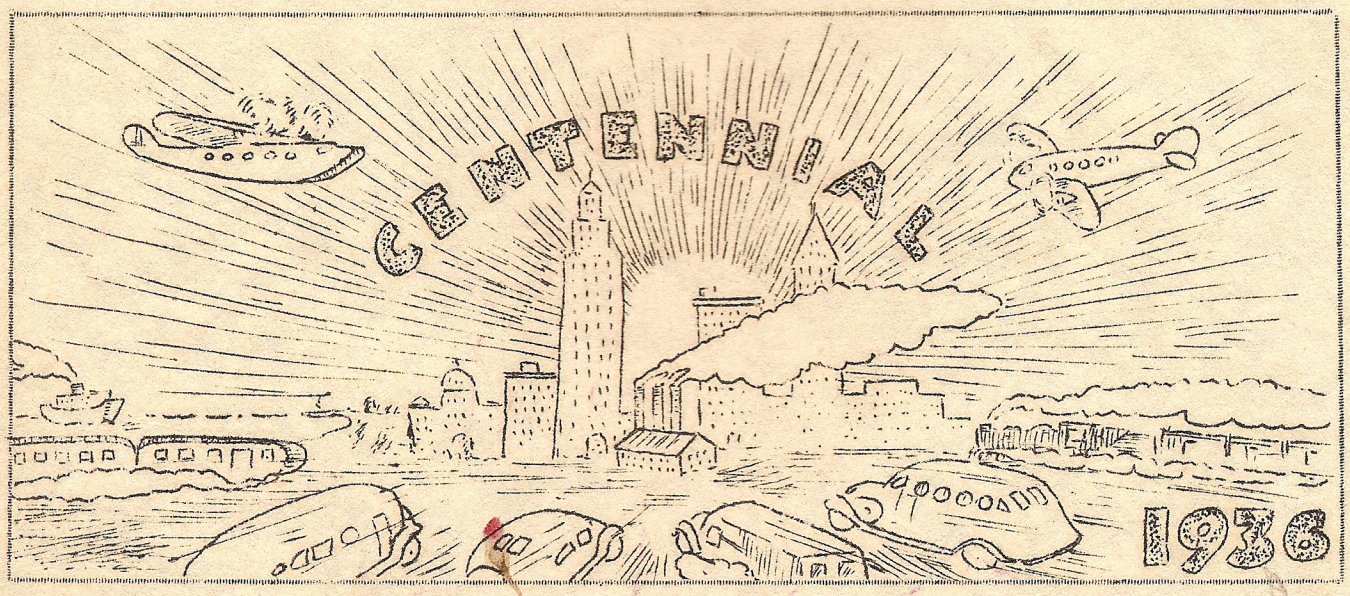
A GUIDE TO POINTS OF GENERAL AND HISTORIC INTEREST IN DIVISION NO.11

- - -

Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine
San Jacinto, Shelby, and Trinity Counties

- - -

LUFKIN, TEXAS, APRIL, 1936



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The Pioneer

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FOREWORD

Primarily, the purpose of this booklet is to enable each employee of Division No. 11 to so familiarize himself with the historic shrines and points of interest in this section of the State, that he may render any information requested by the general public, regarding these historic and interesting places.

During the preparation of this booklet the known location of every historical point herein referred to was visited, and every effort was made to check all historical data for accuracy. Although discrimination was used in compiling the data, we realize that there may be some inaccuracies in the information. We shall appreciate having our attention called to any errors that may be found herein, or to any historical information of importance that has been omitted.

We wish to acknowledge the very useful information that has been given us by many of the citizens of Division No. 11; and to the citizens of other parts of the State who contributed valuable information and helpful suggestions, we wish to express grateful appreciation.

Texas State Highway Department

Lufkin, Texas
April, 1936

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DIVISION NO. 11

To most of those who dwell in Texas, Division No. 11 means merely one district of the State Highway Department; but to the natives of East Texas and the employees of this division, it means the cradle of a commonwealth destined to shine above her sister States in this, the 100th year of her birth, reflecting a glamorous, adventurous, yet peaceful span of existence.



But in the story of the three centuries preceding the battle of San Jacinto, on April 21, 1836, a colorful tapestry is woven of events involving the primitive forests of East Texas. Through the area now known as Division No. 11 runs that portion of "El Camino Real", State Highway No. 21, over which adventurers of each of the periods of Texas' development have trod. De Soto, in all of his pomp and splendor, traversed this road in 1541, searching for the elusive gold. In 1685, the indefatigable explorer, La Salle, journeyed this road, penetrating as far as the villages of the Texas Indians between the Neches and the Angelina Rivers. Somewhere in this area of Texas, according to historians, La Salle lies buried, murdered by a renegade in his command. The Franciscan Fathers somberly marched over the King's Highway, or "El Camino Real", in 1690 to establish Mission San Francisco de los Tejas, the first East Texas mission, among the Nabedache Indians in the territory now known as Houston County. In 1716, Captain Ramon, Father Espinosa, and Father Margil plodded their ways over this road to establish the five missions in this new country, Los Adais near Natchitoches, which was included in this group, being the capital of the entire province of Texas for many years.

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III.

From the founding of the missions in 1716 until the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836, the progenitors of our present State continuously occupied this portion of Texas. Gil Y'Barbo, bringing in the first permanent American colony to Nacogdoches in 1779; Hayden Edwards, with the Fredonian Rebellion of 1825, awakening the settlers of Texas to the realization that they deserved freedom from Mexico; Sam Houston, quietly but cogently interceding between the Indians and the white people - all of these great men and many others knew the beauty of the pine-covered valleys, some of which remain untouched in Division No. 11.

There are now nine counties in Division No. 11; viz.: Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, and Trinity. When the State Highway Department was organized in 1917, the area now comprising this division was included in Division No. 4, which extended from the eastern State line as far west as Brazos and Madison Counties, and from the Gulf of Mexico at Galveston to the Sabine River. In 1923, there was a reorganization of the Highway Department, and the counties now in this division were included in Division No. 11, with headquarters in Houston. In 1924, there was another reorganization, and Division No. 11 headquarters were moved to Beaumont, remaining there until 1925, when they were transferred to Lufkin, where they have been since that time. Highway work had expanded to such an extent that more divisions were needed, and in 1932, the present organization of twenty-five divisions was effected. Some of the counties originally in Division No. 11 were given to other new divisions. All of the counties now in this division, with the exception of San Jacinto, which was added in 1932, have been in Division No. 11 since its creation.

Just as the annals of East Texas have been marked by significant achievements in culture and growth, so have the brief years of Division No. 11 been filled with steady progress in the building of roads - changing the trails that once knew only the pad of Indian moccasins to highways of the most modern design.

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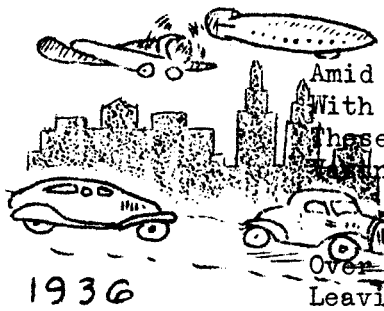
In an endeavor to make the location of the points described in this Guide as simple as possible, a number has been assigned to each descriptive heading. As an example: the number H-2 in the square on the map shows the location of this point and refers to descriptive item No. H-2 in the booklet. The initial letter "H" indicates the county (Houston) County in which the point is located, and the figure indicates the consecutive county number of the item.

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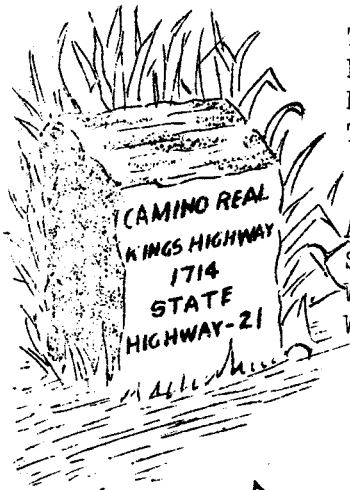
TRAILS

The old trails dimly outlined,
Where newer ones leave the old trodden ways,
Break out to reveal forgotten footsteps
Of courageous forefathers of long past days.



Amid dangers and perils unnumbered,
With slow, toilsome, arduous steps,
These trails were pushed through the timbered
wilderness, opening unheard of beauty and wealth.

Over these trails came civilization,
Leaving here and there sometimes but a trace
Of the day by day conditions;
Of problems encountered and faced.



These trails have left their impress,
Not alone upon the terrain;
But in our lives and in our thoughts
Their effects are deeply engrained.

And within these pages are pictured
Small remnants of the colorful days,
When these dimly outlined trails
Were then the main traveled ways.

Staley W. Mims
Resident Engineer, S.H.D.





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ANGELINA COUNTY

Angelina County has a romantic origin. The Franciscan Fathers, in their visits to the Hainai Indian Village east of Mission San Francisco de los Tejas, found a young Indian girl who was much attracted to their doctrine and expressed a wish to learn their language. She was invited to go to the mission to receive instructions. She did so, and soon became devoted to her work and new environment. Her studious habits, gentle and affable ways so charned all who knew her that they applied to her the pet name of "Little Angel", and called her native village "Angelina's Village". The stream that flowed by the village was called "Angelina's River".

In 1693, when the missions had to be abandoned, Angelina had not progressed in her work far enough to speak and write the Spanish language, and she either had to abandon the work she had set her heart upon, or leave her people and her home. She chose to accompany the priests and soldiers to Mission San Bautista on the Rio Grande, where she remained for over ten years, perfecting herself in her studies, and where she became an object of much attention from explorers and travelers. Father Espinosa, in his diary, tells of finding her in her village when the missionaries went to refound the mission in 1716. In 1719 the French again invaded Texas and drove the missionaries away, but Angelina remained at her post, for in that same year a lone Frenchman (Belisle) tells of finding her there when he was lost in the wilds of Texas. Pena's diary says she was still there in 1721, and one of a party of leading personages of the village, including eight Indian chiefs.

The site of "Angelina's Village" has recently been identified. It is located on Mill Creek, in what is now Nacogdoches County, about seven and one-half miles south of Douglass. (See Mission Concepcion in Nacogdoches County Section, Item No. N-3.)

The present county of Angelina, which was created and organized in 1846, was named for the river bearing Angelina's name. The first deed on record, in which land in Angelina County (then a part of Nacogdoches County) was conveyed, states that the following considerations were involved: one white shirt, eight brass bracelets, one handful vermillion, one fathom of ribbon, one gun,

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fifty charges of powder and ball. This deed was dated May 10, 1801, and conveyed five and one-half leagues of land to Vincente Michelli, the land having originally belonged to Surdo, Chief of the Bedias Indians.

A-1 EARLY COUNTY SEATS

The first Commissioners' Court of Angelina County was held at Marion, near the present location of Old Marion's Ferry. On August 22, 1854, the Court voted to move the county seat to Jonesville, four miles below Huntington on what is now State Highway No. 40. On May 19, 1858, the Commissioners' Court voted to move the county seat to Angelina, a little town nearer the center of the county. That same year the name of the town was changed from Angelina to Homer. Homer remained the county seat until the courthouse burned in 1890. It was then voted by the citizens of the county, in a county-wide election, to move the county seat to Lufkin, a new town situated on a railroad. The present courthouse was built in Lufkin in 1902.

A-2 LUFKIN

Lufkin was founded when the railroad was built through the county of Angelina in 1882. An amusing incident occurred which caused the railroad to run through Lufkin instead of Homer. It is related by old settlers that the railroad company's survey crew, who were staying in Homer, imbibed too freely one Saturday night, and were locked up in the calaboose. The chief engineer asked for the release of his party, and being refused, threatened to run the railroad in a direction that would miss Homer. The following Monday morning the survey party returned to the Neches River and relocated the railroad to pass through the present site of Lufkin, missing Homer by about five miles. The new town was named for Mr. Lufkin, a son-in-law of Mr. Paul Bremond, the projector of the railroad.

A-3 EARLY TRANSPORTATION

River steamboats and flat boats served as means of transportation in the early days of Angelina County. Between 1855 and 1882 boats came up the Neches River to its intersection with the Angelina River, and then went up the Angelina

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Angelina County

A-3 EARLY TRANSPORTATION (Continued)

River to Old Marion's Ferry Landing. Orton's Hole, about one mile above the landing, was the turning basin for the boats. The three principal steamers were the Mary Falvey, Tobie Hurst, and the Laura. These boats were capable of carrying fifteen hundred bales of cotton. The flat boats floated down the river with the current, and carried about five hundred bales of cotton. There were no roads at that time, and river transportation was the chief means of carrying on commerce with the United States.

A-4 FIRST SAWMILL AND GRISTMILL — Highway No. 35

The first sawmill and gristmill combined in Angelina County was built on Mill Creek, four miles north of Lufkin, about fifty feet west of the present bridge on Highway No. 35. The mill was run by water power. The gristmill had two large stones that ground the corn, while the water wheel provided motive power for the sash saw that was used to cut timber. The carriage was operated by hand power, and it usually required about twenty minutes to saw one log. The mill was owned and operated by Dickie White. Berry Roberts, a negro slave, was his helper. Berry Roberts still resides near the old mill site, and is reputed to be over ninety years old. This mill was built in 1853.

A-5 TUNG OIL ORCHARD — Highway No. 40

The only producing Tung Oil orchard in Texas is located two miles south of Zavala in Angelina County on Highway No. 40. This is a six-year-old orchard, having been planted in 1930. There are ten acres in the orchard.

A-6 LUFKIN FOUNDRY AND MACHINE COMPANY — Lufkin

The Lufkin Foundry and Machine Company, the largest plant of its kind in the South, is located in Lufkin. For many years this company has manufactured complete sawmills, and has patented quite a number of pieces of sawmill equipment. With the beginning of the oil industry in Texas, the Lufkin Foundry and Machine Company began manufacturing oil well equipment. This company invented the balanced-type

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Angelina County

A-6 LUFKIN FOUNDRY AND MACHINE COMPANY (Continued)

pump unit, and at present these units are being exported to all parts of the world.

A-7 LUFKIN GIN COMPANY — Lufkin

The Lufkin Gin Company adjoins the Lufkin Foundry and Machine Company. This company manufactures complete cotton gins, and holds a number of patents, the best known being the Lufkin Cleaner.

A-8 HIGHWAY DIVISION OFFICES — Highway No. 35

Division No. 11 offices of the State Highway Department are located in Lufkin, just outside the north city limits on Highway No. 35. Division No. 11 headquarters buildings were constructed in 1934, and consist of a two-story, brick office building, brick resident engineer's office, testing laboratory, carpentry and paint shop, blacksmith shop, and division garage. The grounds on which the buildings are located are beautifully landscaped. This is one of the scenic spots of Lufkin.

A-9 STATE FOREST SERVICE — Highway No. 35

The East Texas offices of the Texas State Forest Service are maintained in Lufkin. A new site for these offices, located on State Highway No. 35, two and one-half miles south of Lufkin, has recently been purchased. A new building, using the different native woods of East Texas, is being erected.

The Lufkin office of the Texas Forest Service has complete supervision of forest protection and fire prevention in the area extending from the Sabine River to the Red River, this area including 10,444,550 acres.

A-10 COUNTRY CLUB — County Road

Lake Myriad Country Club, located a short distance from Lufkin on a lateral road, affords golf, bathing, and

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Angelina County

A-10 COUNTRY CLUB (Continued)

fishing. Visitors are charged a nominal green fee.

A-11 SAWMILLS — Diboll, Keltys

Two of the South's largest lumber manufacturing plants are located in Angelina County. The Southern Pine Lumber Company plant is located at Diboll on Highway No. 35, and the Angelina County Lumber Company plant is located at Keltys on Highway No. 40.

A-12 FORT TERAN — Highway No. 40

The old Fort Teran is located in Tyler County at the point where Shawnee Creek flows into the Neches River. Three counties, Angelina, Tyler, and Jasper, meet at this point. The fort was built on the south bank of the Neches River in about 1828, and was used until 1832. Nothing remains of the fort except the rock foundation of one of the buildings and parts of a rock wall. Large cedar and sweet gum trees, which were planted by the Mexicans, are growing today at the site where the old fort stood. Just south of the fort there is an orchard of plum trees, identical to the trees found at the site of Mission San Francisco de los Tejas.

According to tradition, General Manuel Mier Y Teran built this fort to protect this section of the country against the invasion of immigrants from the United States. However, it is believed by some historians that the fort was built for the purpose of guarding a silver and lead mine and a salt mine which were just across the river in Angelina County. On the north bank of the Angelina River there is a huge rock cliff, and inside this cliff is a cave. About two thousand feet northeast of the cave the Mexicans operated the salt mine. This same salt mine was operated during the Civil War, for early settlers state that salt was transported as far west as Crockett and as far north as Nacogdoches and San Augustine.

A-13 OLD DE ZAVALA — Highway No. 63

Just across the county line in Jasper County, a few

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Angelina County

A-13 OLD DE ZAVALA (Continued)

miles above the Angelina River Bridge on State Highway No. 63, the ruins of an early settlement are still in evidence. Long before it was incorporated by an act of Congress of the Republic of Texas, on December 24, 1838, this settlement on the old Morris Ferry Road was in existence. It was an important seat of navigation, had considerable business, and was set down on the overland mail route as an important point. The old settlers, decades ago, stated that it was selected as headquarters for the Colony of Empresario Lorenzo de Zavala, and that the administration buildings, following the contour of the bluffs on the river, were crescent in shape and quite imposing in style of architecture. It is said that in later years, when the town was incorporated, a courthouse was built and the city laid out. Unfortunately a disastrous fire swept the town, destroying the courthouse and all the homes, wiping out all records, public and private. Not even a plat of the town, so far, has been found. A document here and there has come to light from other places. One quaint bond, unearthed during the summer of 1935, is an agreement to sell one thousand acres of land about the town of old De Zavala for certain considerations and four thousand boxes of salve and its recipe.

A visitor to the old ruins today will find the remains of an old well, myrtle and fig trees, where homes flourished in the long ago. (Information furnished by Miss Adina De Zavala of San Antonio.)

A-14 C. C. C. HEADQUARTERS — Lufkin

The offices for the East Texas District of the C. C. C. are located in Lufkin, on the first floor of the First Christian Church building on South First Street. In addition to the headquarters offices, there are three warehouses and one garage located in Lufkin.

This district is composed of Houston, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, Angelina, Trinity, Walker, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Polk, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Orange, Jefferson, Hardin, Liberty, Harris, Ft. Bend, and Brazoria Counties, and parts of Leon, Anderson, San Augustine, Madison, Grimes, and Matagorda Counties.

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Angelina County

A-14 C. C. C. HEADQUARTERS (Continued)

Seventeen C.C.C. camps are under the supervision of the Lufkin office. These camps are supplied with clothing, food, and ambulance service from the Lufkin headquarters. These camps work in connection with the Texas Forest Service and the U. S. Forest Service in the control of soil erosion, building lateral roads, lookout towers, telephone lines, and in fire fighting.

A-15 U. S. FOREST SERVICE — Lufkin

Offices of the Sam Houston Forest area of the U. S. Forest Service are located in Lufkin on the corner of South First Street and Denman Avenue. The warehouses and garage for the U. S. Forest Service are located near the north city limits of Lufkin at Keltys, on Highway No. 40. Plans for a forest rangers' home and office at this site are under way.

There are four purchase units in the Sam Houston Forest area: viz., Angelina, San Jacinto, Sabine, and Crockett Units. In these four units there are 590,000 acres under title at the present time, with 100,000 acres under option.

Boykin Springs

The U. S. Forest Service is planning a recreation area in the southern part of Angelina County and in the northern part of Jasper County, wherein a large lake will be built and Boykin Springs will be boxed in and beautified. It is proposed to make this recreation area a game preserve.

Blue Hole

Another recreation area, which embraces Blue Hole, one of the best swimming pools in this section of Texas, is being planned by the U. S. Forest Service. Blue Hole is located in the northern part of Jasper County, but the project will extend into the southern part of Angelina County.

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Angelina County

A-15 U. S. FOREST SERVICE (Continued)

Early inhabitants of this vicinity tell a unique story about the origin of Blue Hole. In 1900 this was a typical wooded section of East Texas, containing an abundance of rock. The rock was purchased and used for the construction of the Galveston seawall and Sabine Pass jetties. The machinery for excavating this rock was left in the pit one evening, and when the workmen returned the following morning to move their equipment, they found it buried in a lake of clear blue water, the source of which has never been discovered. This water is cold all of the time, and contains minerals which are deadly to fish, snakes, or animal life of any kind.

HUNTING AND FISHING

The best hunting and fishing grounds in Angelina County are owned by private clubs, although there are a number of places that are still open to the public. Deer, squirrels, quail, and ducks are the principal game. In addition to the Neches River and the Angelina River, there are several "river lakes" that afford good fishing. The rivers and lakes are stocked with bass, white perch, catfish, drum, and brim.

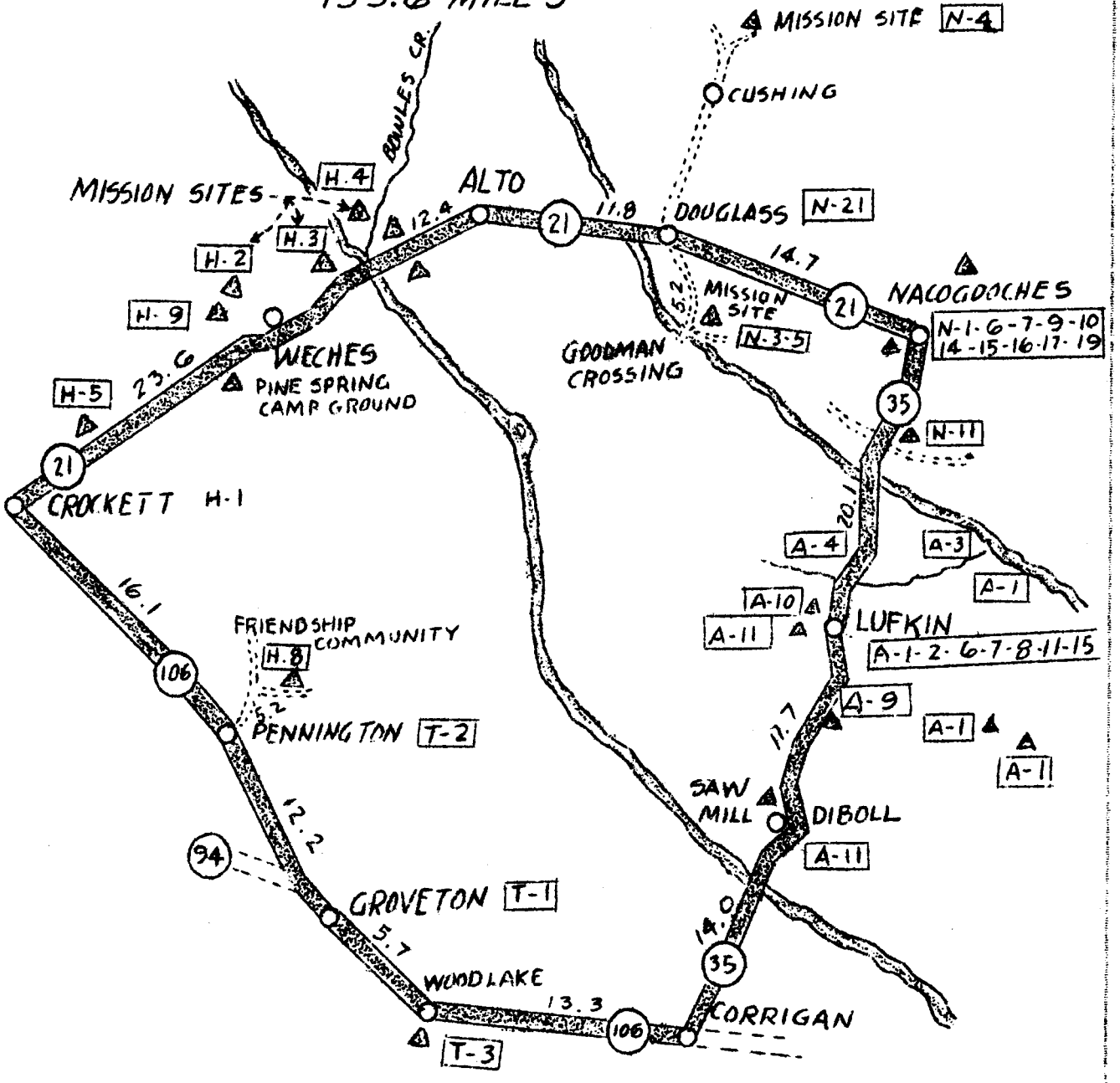
HOTELS AND TOURIST CAMPS

For information concerning hotels and tourist camps, call at the Lufkin Chamber of Commerce, located on South First Street on the first floor of the Angelina Hotel.

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ONE DAY TOUR FROM NACOGDOCHES

155.6 MILES



LEGEND:

STATE HIGHWAY NUMBERS — — — — — — — — (21)

POINTS OF GENERAL AND HISTORIC INTEREST — — — — H-2

NUMBER IN RECTANGLE REFERS TO NUMBER IN BOOKLET

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HOUSTON COUNTY

Houston County, originally part of Nacogdoches County, was created and organized in 1837, and was named for General Sam Houston.

H-1 CROCKETT

Crockett, the county seat of Houston County, is situated near the south slope of Cook Mountain. During the Mexican War it was nothing more than a small village. David Crockett stopped at this village on his way to the Alamo, and camped under a large oak tree near a spring about five hundred feet from the main square of the present town of Crockett. This oak is now called the Davy Crockett Oak, and the spring also carries the name of Crockett.

A few years after Crockett camped there, the inhabitants of the village decided to name their town. The names of both Crockett and Bowie were voted on, and the first vote was a tie. A second election was held in the fall of 1837, resulting in the name of Crockett receiving the majority of votes. Highways Numbers 19, 21, 103, and 106 pass through the town of Crockett.

H-2 FIRST EAST TEXAS MISSION — Highway No. 21

Mission San Francisco de los Tejas was founded in 1690. Many historians claim this to have been the first mission founded in Texas. The approximate sites of this mission and the second East Texas mission (Santissimo Nombre de Maria) were recently located by Dr. Albert Woldert of Tyler and Miss Adina De Zavala of San Antonio, assisted by Mr. J. M. Lovell of Augusta, Texas. On September 21, 1934, granite monuments were erected at the sites of the first and second East Texas missions. The monument on the site of the first mission has an inserted bronze tablet, bearing the following inscription:

MISSION SAN FRANCISCO
DE LOS TEJAS
WAS FOUNDED NEAR THIS MARKER
MAY 24, 1690
AT THE NABEDACHE (TEJAS) INDIAN VILLAGE

Erected A. D. 1934, by De Zavala Chapter
Texas Historical and Landmark Association

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Houston County

H-2 FIRST EAST TEXAS MISSION (Continued)

The mission was built among the Nabedache Indians, members of the Tejas Federation of Indian Tribes, who were camped near San Pedro Creek. It was for this Federation of Indian Tribes that Texas was named, the name "Tejas" meaning "friend". The mission was founded by Father Massanet and Captain Alonzo DeLeon, and was placed in charge of Father Miguel Fontcuberta, who died there during an epidemic. According to tradition, this epidemic which prevailed among the Tejas Indians was partly the cause of their turning against the missionaries. The medicine man, who was adviser to the Indian Chief, convinced the Indians that the holy water used by the missionaries was causing the existing malady. This malediction, together with the shortage of food, and the misconduct of the soldiers caused the Indians to become belligerent, and the Spaniards were forced to flee. Although the authenticity of this tradition has not been definitely established, it is a known fact that the missionaries fled from the mission on the 25th of October, 1693, and the mission was burned.

A new gravel road has recently been constructed from this mission site to a connection with State Highway No. 21, at a point 20.9 miles northeast from the Crockett Courthouse Square. A large metal sign, giving directions to and description of this historic site, has been erected at this intersection. In 1935 the C.C.C. Camp, located near Weches, erected a log building at the mission site, reproducing, as nearly as possible, a log mission typical of the early East Texas missions.

H-3 SECOND EAST TEXAS MISSION Highway No. 21

Mission Santissimo Nombre de Maria was founded on the banks of the Neches River, about four miles northeast of Mission San Francisco de los Tejas. This mission was in charge of Father Jesus Maria. A monument, identical to the one erected for Mission San Francisco de los Tejas, was erected for the second mission, the inscription on the inserted bronze plate being as follows:

MISSION SANTISSIMO NOMBRE
DE MARIA
WAS FOUNDED IN THIS VICINITY
SUMMER 1690,"ON THE BANKS OF
ARCANGEL SAN MIGUEL"(NECHES) RIVER
Erected A. D. 1934, By DeZavala Chapter
Texas Historical and Landmark Association

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Houston County

H-3 SECOND EAST TEXAS MISSION (Continued)

The monument marking this mission site is located on the banks of the Neches River, about one-fourth of a mile up the river from the new Neches River Bridge on State Highway No. 21.

H-4 THIRD EAST TEXAS MISSION — Highway No. 21

Mission San Francisco de los Neches was established in 1716. The site of this mission has been partially identified as being located north of the Neches River on the west bank of Bowles Creek in Cherokee County. Three large Indian mounds are located on Highway No. 21 south of the mission site and a short distance north of the new Neches River Bridge. These mounds can easily be seen and identified by the traveler.

H-5 STAGE COACH INN — Highway No. 21

The old Stage Coach Inn, located on Highway No. 21 about five miles east of Crockett, was built by Joe Rice in 1830, and was used as an over-night stop on the stage line. This old building, in its original form, is still standing, and is now being used as a barn. It is related that General Sam Houston and other famous persons stopped at this inn.

H-6 LOCK AND DAM — Highway No. 103

In 1893 the Federal Government and private concerns built numerous concrete and steel locks and dams along the Trinity River, in an effort to make the river navigable to Dallas. The project failed, but the locks and dams may still be seen. A narrow gauge railroad was built from Crockett to Hurricane Shoals for the purpose of hauling materials to the lock and dam site. The old location of Highway No. 103 closely follows the abandoned railroad, and crosses the Trinity River at the Hurricane Shoals dam site.

H-7 COAL MINE — Highway No. 19

One of the few coal mines in this part of the State

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Houston County

H-7 COAL MINE (Continued)

is located on Highway No. 19 north of Lovelady. There seems to be an unlimited amount of lignite in this area.

H-8 FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITY — Highway No. 106

Friendship Community Work Center is the first rural work center of its kind to be established in the United States, under the Rehabilitation program. It is located twenty-three miles southeast of Crockett and four miles east of Pennington, the latter point being on Highway No. 106 just across the line in Trinity County. This community project, which will serve both Houston and Trinity County, embraces the rehabilitation of 150 farm houses on a 650 acre tract.

The work center, constructed of native materials, such as logs and rock, is built on a tract of cut-over timber land. To it the people of the community will take their native raw materials and convert them into finished products to improve their standards of living and increase their incomes from their farms. Among the articles made are hide bottom chairs, harness, and other leather goods made from leather tanned in the work center.

H-9 SAN FRANCISCO MISSION STATE FOREST — Highway No. 21

The citizens of Houston County, with some outside assistance, have purchased 115 acres of land, embracing the site of San Francisco de los Tejas. This forest is located on Highway No. 21, about 20.9 miles northeast of Crockett. A large metal sign, giving a brief history of Mission San Francisco de los Tejas, and also directions to the mission site, has been erected at the entrance to the forest by the State Highway Department.

This forest is conceded to be one of Texas' most beautiful park areas. From an observation tower, which has been constructed on the highest point of ground in the park, one can see from ten to twenty miles over the San Pedro Valley, into three counties: Houston, Anderson, and Cherokee. The citizens of Crockett have deeded this forest to the Texas Forest Service. In addition to preserving the

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Houston County

H-9 SAN FRANCISCO MISSION STATE FOREST (Continued)

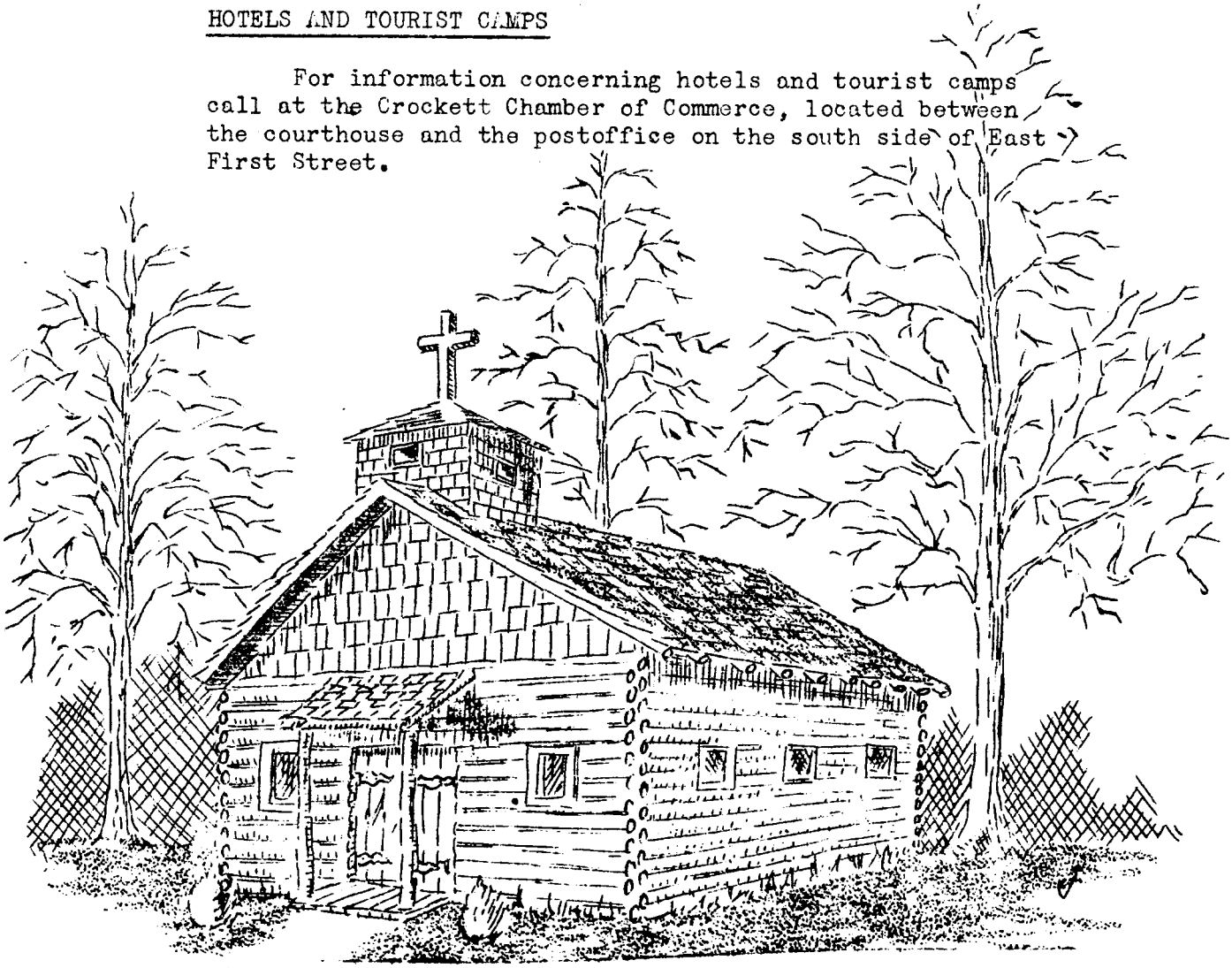
natural beauty and the scenic view across the valley, the Texas Forest Service has constructed a spring-fed lake, barbecue pits, picnic tables, scenic drives and bridle paths over the entire area.

H-10 RECREATION

The Crockett Country Club, the Crockett Golf Club, the Grapeland Country Club, and the El Caney Resort furnish the people of Houston County golf, fishing, and bathing. Green fees are charged for golf.

HOTELS AND TOURIST CAMPS

For information concerning hotels and tourist camps call at the Crockett Chamber of Commerce, located between the courthouse and the postoffice on the south side of East First Street.



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NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

N-1 NACOGDOCHES

Nacogdoches is one of the oldest towns in the State, its historical importance dating back to 1716. Many old landmarks, remindful of each of the six flags under which Texas served, are to be found here. Nacogdoches played an important part in the freeing of Texas. It was here that the smouldering flames of unrest were fanned into the rebellion that led to the independence of Texas.

North Street in Nacogdoches

"'The Royal Street from the North' was the road from Nacogdoches to the pueblo of the Nasonite Indians. The history of East Texas was traced in its dust. After the sandal prints of the missionaries and their barefoot neophytes came the boot-heels of ruthless Spanish soldiers, hoofprints of expeditions of French traders and American filibusters, confused patter in wheel-ruts of ox-carts and cannon carriages. And all of these in turn, have long since been worn away by the busy traffic of peaceful growth.

"The above description of North Street graphically describes the oldest street in Texas, unless it be its companion, Main Street, or as the Spaniards called it, 'La Calle Principal'. When the French and the Spanish explorers first came to Nacogdoches more than two hundred years ago, it was a street in a busy Indian pueblo."

North Street intersects Main Street in Nacogdoches at the Courthouse Square, and traverses present Highway No. 35 to the north city limits of Nacogdoches. This has always been the principal residence street of Nacogdoches; the homes of such great men of Texas as General Thomas J. Rusk, Judge Charles S. Taylor, and many others bordered on this street. Such notable people as Captain Gil Y'Barbo, Sam Houston, James Bowie, and David Crockett have left their footprints on this famous old street.

N-2 MISSION NUESTRA SENORA DE GUADALUPE DE NACOGDOCHES

Mission Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe de Nacogdoches, founded by the pioneer missionary, Father Margil, in 1716, was abandoned in 1773, and was again brought into use in

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Nacogdoches County

N-2 MISSION NUESTRA SENORA DE GUADALUPE DE NACOGDOCHES (Continued)

1779 when Gil Y'Barbo returned to Nacogdoches and built his settlement around it. This was the last of the four missions established in East Texas in 1716, and it was in this mission that Father Margil, president of all the missions, took up headquarters to guard the outposts of the Spanish dominion in the new Philippines. Romance and bloodshed trace the history of this old mission until 1802, when its use was discontinued, and a parish church was erected on Church Plaza, across the street from the present courthouse in Nacogdoches.

The church on Church Plaza was seized by Colonel Jose de los Piedras in 1827, and used for barracks for his soldiers. All the mission lands in Texas were taken over by the Republic of Mexico in 1831. From 1831 until 1847 the Catholics had no regular church building, and the old "Stone House" was frequently used for church meetings.

In January, 1840, the Reverend John Murray Odin was sent into Texas by the Church for the purpose of correcting certain abuses that had grown up, and to revive an interest in church affairs. He and the Right Rev. Father Timon held a series of meetings in the old "Stone House", and one of the results of these meetings was the building of Sacred Heart Church. It was not until the Fall of 1847, however, that Sacred Heart Church was erected at its present location on Pecan Street in Nacogdoches, about one block north of Postoffice Square. Father Chaurion was located there as priest in charge during this building campaign, and immediately following the dedication of the Church, Father Chambodut was sent there.

The original frame building, now eighty-eight years old, remains as it was constructed, and is in good condition. Part of the fine old furnishings in the church were donated by Father Chambodut soon after the church was built. These old furnishings were included as a part of the purchase price of the lot which Fidel Muller bought from Father Chambodut, and were named in the deed as "cabinet work".

The original Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe Mission site is located on the west side of North Street, 0.2 of a mile north of the present courthouse in Nacogdoches.

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Nacogdoches County

N-3 MISSION NUESTRA SENORA DE LA PURISIMA CONCEPCION (ANGELINA'S VILLAGE) AND PRESIDIO

Mission Nuestra Senora de la Purisima Concepcion was established in 1716, in probably the most picturesque section of Nacogdoches County - at the capital pueblo of the East Texas Indians, near the home of Angelina, the first Cenis Indian girl to be educated in a Spanish college. This mission was founded by Captain Domingo Ramon at the capital of the Hasinai Confederacy as a buffer settlement to French invasion from Louisiana.

This mission, together with the other three missions established that same year in East Texas, was the fulfillment of the dreams of Father Espinosa and Father Margil. For a while the mission prospered, but due to crop failures and the unfriendly attitude of the Indians, the missionaries retreated to San Antonio in 1731, where they reestablished the mission under the same name. When the French forces began their advance into Texas in 1718, it was to the Mission Concepcion that Father Margil retreated from his missions at Adeas, Ais, and Nacogdoches. Here, Father Margil and Father Espinosa resolved to stand by their post and face the invaders, despite the fact that Captain Ramon had retreated with the Spanish soldiers from the presidio to the Mission San Francisco on the Neches.

The presidio, or fort, was built by Captain Ramon two and one-half miles northeast of the mission, and twenty-five Spanish soldiers were quartered in the presidio to guard the four missions built that year, as the French were invading the land of the Tejas from Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Mr. R. B. Blake of Nacogdoches recently definitely located the sites of the mission and presidio.

There are two routes by which this mission site and the site of the old presidio may be reached from Nacogdoches. One route is by way of the lower Douglass or John Durst Road. The John Durst road leaves Highway No. 21 at the top of the hill 0.4 of a mile west of the courthouse in Nacogdoches. Follow this road for 12.4 miles, to the forks of the road. Take the left-hand fork of the road for a distance of 1.5 miles. On the left-hand side of the road, a few hundred feet north of this point, are the two "bubbling springs" spoken of in old records. Just above

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Nacogdoches County

N-3 MISSION SENORA DE LA PURISIMA CONCEPCION (Continued)

the "bubbling springs" are two piles of rocks thought to be from the chimney or chimneys of the old log mission. This site is now covered with large trees. The road leading by this old mission site was once known as the highway from Nacogdoches to Washington-on-the-Brazos.

The other route from Nacogdoches is by the present State Highway No. 21 to Douglass, turning to the left on the Legg's Store Road, and at the old Legg home, just north of the old John Durst Road, and overlooking Mill Creek, is the site of the old presidio. Continuing down the road to the Goodman bridge, turning up the hill to the left, passing through where Mount Sterling once stood, and going northeast on the old Washington-on-the-Brazos Road, the site of Mission Concepcion will be reached.

N-4 MISSION SAN JOSE DE LOS NAZONIS

This mission was founded in 1716 by Captain Domingo Ramon, as one of the four buffer settlements among the Indians, designed to stay French invasion from Louisiana. Very little has been recorded about the history of this mission; however, Mr. R. B. Blake, through old court records, has recently determined the site of the mission to be on Dill Creek, 2.4 miles northeast of Cushing.

About one mile east of this site is an old Indian cemetery; a few miles north is the site of the Indian village of Anadarko, while a few miles west on Indian Creek are the remains of the village of the Nasonitos, where La Harpe, the French trader, hade his headquarters, and from which town he hurled his defiance of the Spanish Governor, d'Alarcon. The Governor had ordered La Harpe to leave that territory, and La Harpe answered "come and put me out". The jealous rivalries of Spain and France made it impossible for either to occupy that section, and the old mission was soon abandoned.

The mission grounds may be reached by taking the road from Cushing to Laneville, turning to the right 1.7 miles from Cushing, and following a rambling farm road for 0.7 of a mile to a hill overlooking Dill Creek, a short distance east of the old Wallace residence.

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Nacogdoches County

N-5 MOUNT STERLING

Until recently, it was generally supposed that the site of old Mount Sterling, founded and laid out by John Durst in 1837 and 1838, was located west of the Angelina River in Cherokee County. During the past year Mr. R. B. Blake of Nacogdoches, using old field notes and deed records of Nacogdoches County, definitely located the site of old Mount Sterling. The following description of old Mount Sterling is quoted from Mr. Blake.

"Continuing westward toward the Angelina River, called Santa Barbara River by Aguayo, we entered the boundaries of the once important town of Mount Sterling, which John Durst hoped to make the metropolis of East Texas. Here he built his home overlooking the Angelina, where he could see the steamboats moored to the wharves, bringing merchandise from New Orleans, and carrying the cotton from Nacogdoches back to New Orleans. Near the site of the old mission, he built his sawmill and gristmill. In Mount Sterling he built a large storehouse, contracting to place therein during the Spring of 1838 some $30,000.00 worth of merchandise of various kinds.

"On the bluff overlooking the busy river port, he built what was then considered a palatial home. From solid rock he excavated his dining room, most of it being underground and facing the river. In this dining room he and his neighbors placed their women and children during raids of the hostile Cherokees. But the Cordova Rebellion in the summer of 1838 marked the end of John Durst's hopes, and he soon abandoned his project and moved to Leon County. One would never suspect at this time that less than one hundred years ago this town was laid out in regular lots, blocks and streets, with a square in the center."

See map accompanying this booklet for location of Mount Sterling.

N-6 THE OLD STONE FORT

The old Stone Fort has a history more intriguing, more romantic, than any building in Texas, not even excluding the Alamo. Over the walls of the "stone house", as it was called in the early records, have flown eight

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Nacogdoches County

N-6 THE OLD STONE FORT (Continued)

flags - the royal flag of Spain, the flag of the Magee-Guierrez expedition of 1813, that of Dr. James Long's Republic of 1819, the flag of the Republic of Fredonia of 1826, the Mexican flag, the Lone Star flag of the Texas Republic, the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy, and the Stars and Stripes.

The "stone house" was built as a private enterprise by Captain Gil Y'Barbo in 1779, and as a trading post, it became the most important building in the New Philippines. Cordero, Governor of the Province of Texas, and General Herrera, with 1300 Spanish troops had headquarters in the stone house when, on November 6, 1806, the treaty was signed which averted war between Spain and the United States. In 1801 Peter Ellis Bean and the remainder of Phillip Nolan's expedition to Nacogdoches were imprisoned in the old Stone Fort, where they remained for thirty days. For three months it was the seat of government of the Eastern Provinces of Spain, when Governor Manuel de Salcedo was in Nacogdoches during the summer of 1810.

The first two newspapers to be published in Texas were printed in the old Stone Fort. It again became the seat of government when it was seized by the Fredonians in 1826. Following the collapse of the Fredonian Republic, the building was occupied as a home by John Durst, who sold it to Juan Mora, the district judge, and Vincente Cordova, who was district attorney under the Mexican regime. The official records were again placed in the old building, where they remained until a courthouse was built in 1840. In 1840 the old Stone Fort was transferred from Vincente Cordova to Rebecca Fenley, a daughter of Mrs. John S. Roberts. The building remained in the Roberts family until it was purchased by Perkins Brothers in 1901 and demolished.

This old building originally stood on the corner of Main and Fredonia Streets, facing the northeast corner of the "Plaza Principal", where the two main branches of El Camino Real merged. It was rebuilt in 1902 on the northwest corner of the Nacogdoches High School campus, where it is now being used as a library and museum.

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Nacogdoches County

N-7 FREDONIAN REBELLION

In 1825 Hayden Edwards obtained a contract from the Mexican Government to settle 800 families in and around Nacogdoches. Edward's contract required that he respect and protect all good claims to land held by the Mexicans and Americans who already lived in the territory of his colony. To his dismay he found that nearly all the people were asserting rightful ownership of the lands they occupied. Edwards posted notices at the principal street corners, commanding all the settlers in his territory to present themselves before him and show their titles or documents of ownership, so that they could be received or rejected, according to law. In this blunt ultimatum Edwards overstepped the authority which the Mexican Government meant to give him, and the President of Mexico issued an order expelling him from Texas.

Instead of leaving, Edwards enlisted a few of his colonists and a few Indians, stormed the Stone Fort, and captured Nacogdoches. They declared Texas independent and called their conquest the Republic of Fredonia. The life of the Republic was only six weeks, and ended when Mexican troops calmly marched into Nacogdoches, and recaptured the Stone Fort without bloodshed. Edwards was forced to flee into Louisiana. In later years, after Texas became a republic, he returned with his family to Nacogdoches, and became a peaceful citizen.

This rebellion marked the real beginning of the long struggle for the independence of Texas, which was finally gained at San Jacinto.

N-8 PETER ELLIS BEAN

Although distrusted by both the American colonists and the Mexican Government, Peter Ellis Bean was one of the most remarkable characters figuring in the colonization of Nacogdoches, as well as all of Texas. During the war of 1812 Bean joined LaFitte and fought in the battle of New Orleans under General Jackson. Bean came to Texas in 1800 with Phillip Nolan's expedition for the purpose of capturing wild horses and carrying them back to Louisiana to sell. He was captured with the other men of Nolan's expedition who were not killed, carried to Mexico City, and incarcerated

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Nacogdoches County

N-8 PETER ELLIS BEAN (Continued)

in a Mexican dungeon for six years. While Mexico was struggling for her independence from Spain, Bean fought with the Mexican army, and later was made a colonel in the Mexican militia. In 1821 he was sent to Nacogdoches in charge of affairs pertaining to the Indians.

Bean lived among the Indians around Nacogdoches, having several homes along the old King's highway. The sites of the various homes of Bean are shown on the map accompanying this booklet. It will be noted that Bean's homes are located through San Augustine and Nacogdoches Counties about one day's journey apart. Another one of Peter Ellis Bean's homes was located near Natchitoches, Louisiana. The Indians trusted Bean, and it was he who really suppressed the Fredonian Rebellion by starting a counter intrigue with the Cherokees and other tribes among whom he lived. Bean was also a friend of Stephen F. Austin, and carried news of the colonists at Nacogdoches to Austin, who was in San Antonio. Bean remained neutral in the struggle between Texas and Mexico, and a few years later returned to Mexico City, where he died in 1846.

One of the homes of Peter Ellis Bean may be found about 4.5 miles east of Nacogdoches, on the south side of the old Melrose Road. This old house, built in 1820, stands in its original condition, and is still occupied as a dwelling.

N-9 GENERAL THOMAS J. RUSK

Nacogdoches was the home of General Thomas J. Rusk, one of the outstanding men of early Texas history. He was a statesman, jurist, soldier, and patriot. When Texas was a republic, he was Secretary of War. He was a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence, a general during the war, chairman of the committee that drafted the measure uniting Texas to the Union, and helped drive the Cherokee Indians out of Texas.

The cemetery in which General Rusk is buried may be reached by driving east from the courthouse six blocks on Main Street, Highway No. 21), turning north on Walker Street for one block, then turning right and travelling

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Nacogdoches County

N-9 GENERAL THOMAS J. RUSK (Continued)

one block east to the entrance of Nacogdoches cemetery. General Rusk's grave, marked with a tall granite monument, is located under the shade of a group of old cedar trees in the Nacogdoches cemetery.

N-10 GIL Y'BARBO

Gil Y'Barbo, the founder of Nacogdoches, and an important figure in the early history of this section, was a Spaniard, as were many of his followers who settled near Nacogdoches in 1779. Although the founding of Nacogdoches really dates back to the establishing of the missions in 1716, Gil Y'Barbo was the first man to bring in a group of permanent settlers. Y'Barbo's colony had been granted permission to settle on the Trinity River at a place called Bucareli, but because of undesirable conditions, they moved further into East Texas. In Y'Barbo's report of the change in location of the colony, he says:

"We came to the site of the Texas Indians three leagues beyond the old mission of Nacogdoches where there was a small chapel in which the reverend father may perform the holy sacraments. Here we will sow grain and support ourselves and await the decision of your Grace whom I humbly beg to approve my action."

After much debate among the Mexican authorities, "His Grace" approved and Nacogdoches was permitted to live. It became the Spanish center of the "Tejas Country". Many direct descendants of Gil Y'Barbo still reside in the vicinity of Nacogdoches.

N-11 THE SMUGGLER'S ROAD OR CONTRABAND TRAIL

For as long as the French claimed Louisiana, until 1762, this road was an important artery of contraband commerce; hence its title "Smuggler's Road". In 1714 Louis Jouchereau de Saint Denis obtained consent of Governor Cadillac to go from Natchitoches into Mexico for the purpose of opening up trade relations between the French and the Spanish colonies, as an agent of Anthony Crozat, although Cadillac characterized the journey as a "piece of insanity".

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Nacogdoches County

N-11 THE SMUGGLER'S ROAD OR CONTRABAND TRAIL (Continued)

Leaving Natchitoches with about twelve men he crossed the Sabine with Indian guides, and it is probable that after crossing the Attoyac, Saint Denis continued due west instead of turning northwest to the Indian village of Nacogdoches. This route was purposely taken so that he could carry his caravan of merchandise around Nacogdoches and the Spanish authorities located there, in order to avoid payment of duties. Throughout the eras when Texas was occupied by the Spanish, the French, the Mexicans, and the Republic of Texas, this road was in constant use for the purpose of smuggling.

The point where the old road crosses Highway No. 35 south of Fern Lake School has been definitely located through old deed records, by Mr. R. B. Blake of Nacogdoches.

N-12 EL CAMINO REAL OR KING'S HIGHWAY

As the Smuggler's Road was the first road to be laid out by white men in Texas, so the King's Highway, "El Camino Real", may well lay claim to being the oldest highway in Texas.

De Soto and his men traveled this road in 1541 searching for the elusive gold mines. Later came Mother Agreda, the humble "angel in blue", who blessed the Nacogdoches Indians. La Salle trod this road to Nacogdoches in 1685, only to be turned back to Fort St. Louis by illness. In 1690 over this road trod Bernadino and Angelina, the first Texas Indians to be educated in the colleges of Mexico. During the period of the Texas Revolution, one hundred years ago, this road, over which Texas soldiers marched against Santa Anna, was known as the road to Washington-on-the-Brazos.

This road is now designated as State Highway No. 21, and with a few exceptions, closely follows the old road through Houston, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, and Sabine Counties in Division No. 11.

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Nacogdoches County

N-13 OLD NORTH CHURCH

By traveling north 4.4 miles from the Nacogdoches Courthouse on Highway No. 35, turning right on the old Garrison Road and driving 0.2 of a mile, the visitor will find the old North Church, standing on the right-hand side of the road.

The original church building, built in 1838, was one of the oldest Protestant churches, and the first Baptist Church to be built in the State. The original building was replaced in 1852 with the present building, which is still in a fair state of preservation. The cemetery is located at the rear of the church, and is the resting place of many early settlers of East Texas.

N-14 INDIAN CEMETERY AND MOUNDS

An old Indian cemetery in Nacogdoches County may be reached by driving about 4 miles east of the Nacogdoches Courthouse on Highway No. 7, and taking the lateral road that turns to the right. This road leads to the top of a high hill, which is about 2000 feet from the highway. Due east from this hill, about 1500 feet, there is a cultivated field. The old Indian cemetery is located just across the fence of this field. Pottery and many old relics have been found in the old cemetery.

Nacogdoches originally had three Indian mounds. One is still in perfect condition, and has a large oak tree growing on top of it. It is located on Mound Street, just across the street from the school campus. One mound is located on the scutheast corner of the school campus, and another one just across the street to the south. The two latter mounds have been leveled down, and are now barely visible.

One large Indian mound is located on the Dunk Spradley farm, about four miles west of Nacogdoches on a lateral road. This mound is still in good condition.

Another mound, about two feet in height, is located 3.1 miles east of Nacogdoches on Highway No. 7. This mound is on the Robert Muckleroy farm, about 1500 feet north of the Muckleroy home, near the site of the old Nacao Indian village..

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N-15 FIRST OIL FIELD IN TEXAS — Highway No. 21

The first oil field in Texas was discovered near Chireno on Highway No. 21, about 19 miles from Nacogdoches. In 1877 oil was encountered at a depth of 100 feet, and the following year there were over 100 producing wells in this area. However, the expense of production and transportation was so great that the field was soon abandoned.

In later years oil was discovered flowing from a shallow well located a few miles southwest of the discovery field. Several wells were drilled, and today the field supplies a small refinery in Nacogdoches with crude oil of high gravity. This crude oil is used in the manufacture of lubricating oil.

N-16 UNIVERSITY OF NACOGDOCHES — Highway No. 21

The University of Nacogdoches was one of the earliest schools to be built in East Texas. It was established in 1845, and was located on the site now occupied by the high school campus. The main building is still standing, and is being used for the grammar school of Nacogdoches. This structure is of colonial type architecture, and has a tower and bell near the front of the building.

N-17 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN COLLEGE — Highway No. 35

The construction of Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College was started in 1921, and the first school semester began in 1923. The college is co-educational, and the attendance ranges from 800 to 1500 students. This college has maintained a steady growth since its beginning, and seems destined to become one of the leading educational centers of East Texas.

This institution, located on a tract of 209 acres of land, is within the city limits of Nacogdoches, on Highway No. 35. The entire campus is attractively landscaped, and is covered with beautiful forest, typical of the virgin forests of East Texas.

N-18 MIDWAY STAGECOACH INN — Highway No. 21

The old Midway Stagecoach Inn, located 19.6 miles

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N-18 MIDWAY STAGECOACH INN (Continued)

southeast of Nacogdoches on Highway No. 21, is now occupied as a dwelling, and retains its original design. This old inn was the stopping place of Sam Houston, Peter Ellis Bean, and other famous early Texans.

N-19 INDIAN TRIBES OF NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

Several different tribes of Indians were inhabiting what is now Nacogdoches County when the early settlers came to this part of the country. The Nacogdoches Indians lived near the present city of Nacogdoches. The Hainai Indian village was located near Douglass on Highway No. 21. The Nacao Indians resided near the Attoyac River, north of Highway No. 7, and the Nadaco and Nasoni Tribes lived along the present boundary line of Nacogdoches and Rusk Counties. In later years the Cherokee Indians came to East Texas, and settled in the territory now known as Nacogdoches, Rusk, Smith, and Cherokee Counties, but they were driven out of the State in 1839 by the Texas troops, under the gallant leadership of General Thomas J. Rusk.

N-20 GRAVEL RIDGE SPRINGS

Gravel Ridge Springs was the trysting place of Hayden Edwards and the plotters of the Fredonian Rebellion. It was at these springs that Hayden Edwards and his men met Richard Fields and John Dunn Hunter, representatives of the Cherokee Indians, on December 20, 1826, and made plans for seizing the Stone Fort and setting up the Fredonian Republic. It was decided at this meeting to divide Texas among the Indians and the colonists. A line extending from Sand Springs west to the Rio Grande was to be the boundary, all of the land to the north of the line to belong to the Indians, and all that south to belong to the colonists.

Gravel Ridge Church and cemetery are located on the hill above the springs. Three large springs still bubble continuously at this location, and are worth visiting, both for their own rugged beauty and their historic value. These springs may be reached by taking Highway No. 21 at the Courthouse Square in Nacogdoches, driving west 0.4 of a mile to the top of the hill above Nacogdoches,

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N-20 GRAVEL RIDGE SPRINGS (Continued)

turning to the left on what is known as the Douglass or John Durst Road, and following this road to a point 5.8 miles. Turn to the left on a lateral road, and a few hundred feet up this road the Gravel Hill church and cemetery will be found. The springs are located just over the hill beyond the church and cemetery.

N-21 DOUGLASS Highway No. 21

The town of Douglass, named for Kelsey H. Douglass, Secretary of the Treasury of the Republic of Texas, is one of the oldest towns in the State. This town holds an important position among the historical localities of Texas.

Johnson Inn

Johnson Inn, located on State Highway No. 21, in the town of Douglass, was one of the old stagecoach inns on the Camino Real, and was once a favorite over-night stopping-place for Sam Houston and other famous travellers.

The top story of this old house was removed several years ago, but, otherwise, the building remains as it was originally constructed. It is now being used for a grocery store.

N-22 MASONIC LODGE

The second Masonic Lodge in the State was founded at Nacogdoches in 1837, and was named Milam Lodge No. 2. Milam Lodge joined Holland Lodge No. 1 and McFarland Lodge No. 3 to form the first Grand Lodge of Texas. Nacogdoches has been the center of Masonic activities from its beginning until the present time.

Two chairs which were occupied by Sam Houston when he was a member of Milam Lodge are still in the possession of the Lodge in Nacogdoches.

N-23 AIRPORT

Nacogdoches has a large airport, located 5 miles

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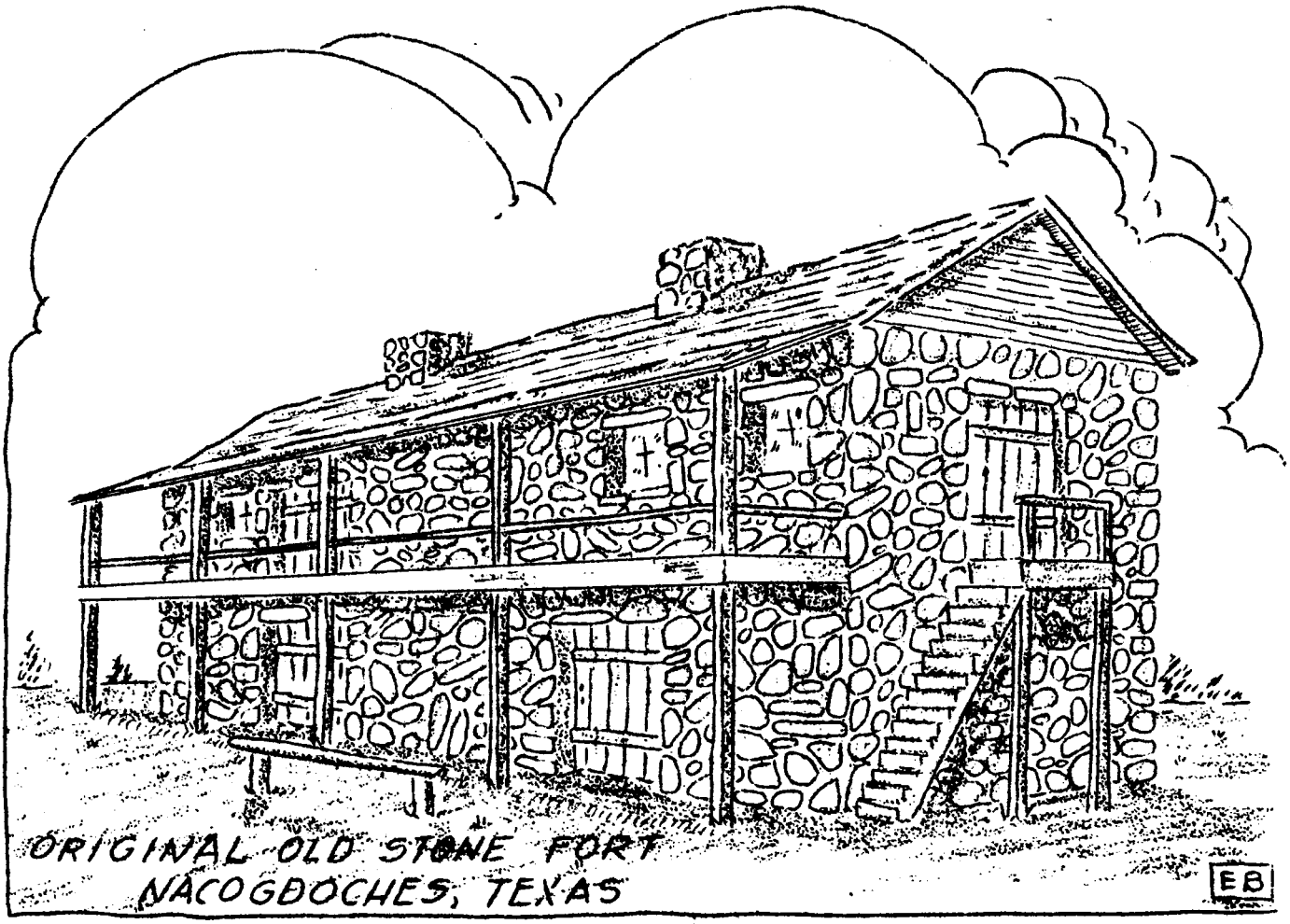
Nacogdoches County

N-23 AIRPORT (Continued)

southwest of Nacogdoches on the Spanish Bluff Road. The field has a 100-foot marker, and is an all weather field, At present it does not have a hanger. There is no charge for the use of the landing field.

HOTELS AND TOURIST CAMPS

For information in regard to hotels and tourist camps, call at the Nacogdoches Chamber of Commerce, located on Main Street next door to the Redland Hotel.



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POLK COUNTY

Polk County was created in 1846 from part of Liberty County, and was named for James K. Polk, who was President of the United States at that time.

P-1 LIVINGSTON — Highway No. 35

Livingston is the county seat of Polk County. It was founded in 1846 by Moses L. Choate on the creek now bearing his name. Mr. Choate donated one hundred acres of land for the town site, and as a reward for his generosity, he was asked to name the new town. He named the town Livingston for a town in Alabama, near the place where he was reared.

P-2 INDIAN VILLAGE — Highway No. 45

Indian Village is located 14 miles east of Livingston on Highway No. 45. The Alabama Indians settled near the present site of Indian Village in 1832, and the Coushatta Indians settled a few miles south of the Trinity River in the same year. Both tribes lost their land when Texas gained her independence from Mexico. In 1854, through the influence of General Sam Houston, the two tribes of Indians were given jointly a reservation of 1210 acres of land. In 1928 the Federal Government purchased 3071 acres adjoining the west side of the reservation for the Indians. The present Indian reservation is under the control of both the State and the Federal Governments, and is under the direct supervision of the State Board of Control.

Charlie Thompson (Chief Sunkee), who had been Chief since January 2, 1928, died in October, 1935, and in November, Bronson Cooper Sylestine (Chief Ti-ca-i-che)of the Alabamas, was elected Chief. Chief Ti-ca-i-che is a nephew of Chief Sunkee, and a grandson of Chief Co-la-he, who was the Alabama's chieftain in 1836. The new chief was installed at an impressive ceremony on the council grounds of the village on January 1, 1936, before a throng of 4,000 people gathered from all parts of Texas. One of the outstanding and pertinent features of the installation program was the induction of six-year-old Madge Thornall into the tribe. Madge is the great-granddaughter of Sam Houston, who was a member of the Cherokee tribe, and to whom, not only the Indians, but all Texans owe a debt of gratitude for their freedom from Mexico.

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Polk County

P-2 INDIAN VILLAGE (Continued)

There are, at present, 297 inhabitants in the village, the population having increased slowly in the past twenty years. Improvements in Indian Village consist of two school buildings, gymnasium, hospital, industrial shop, teachers' home, agent's home, and South Presbyterian Church building. Dr. and Mrs. C. W. Chambers have served as missionaries in the village since 1900.

Several years ago the Federal Government erected modern, four-room homes for each family, and allotted them a plot of land and a few head of cattle. Such Indian arts as weaving, dyeing, and leather work, for which the tribes were once noted, are practically lost, and at present only a few baskets and blankets are made by the older Indians. These baskets and blankets are made from Spanish moss, which grows around the village.

P-3 BIG THICKET Highway No. 45

The Big Thicket, covering parts of Polk, San Jacinto, Liberty, Hardin, and Tyler Counties, has, to some extent, retarded the progress of civilization in East Texas. This vast wilderness is so thick with underbrush that few people have traversed it. Deer, bears, panthers, wolves, wildcats, squirrels, and other animals are still to be found in this famous hunting ground of East Texas.

P-4 OIL FIELD Highway No. 146

Schwab City, one of the newest oil towns in East Texas, is located 9 miles southeast of Livingston.

HOTELS AND TOURIST CAMPS

Information regarding tourist accommodations may be obtained from the Livingston Chamber of Commerce.

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SABINE COUNTY

The original County of Sabine was created in 1836, and organized in 1837. The county derived its name from the municipality of Sabine which existed under the Mexican regime.

The Old San Antonio Road (State Highway No. 21) runs through the northern part of the county, and crosses the Sabine River into Louisiana at Pendleton. Sabine County is rich with tales of activities of the early settlers of Texas. This county, located on the border of Texas and Louisiana, served as a resting place for the pioneers traveling between San Antonio and Natchitoches. Quite often friends met on this territory and spent sociable hours while they were resting from their journey. Sabine County retains a conspicuous place in Texas history.

S-1 HEMPHILL — Hwys.Nos.87 and 184

Hemphill is the county seat of Sabine County, and is the largest town in the county, having a population of about 800. One of the large sawmills of East Texas is located at Hemphill. The manufacture of lumber, and farming are the principal industries on which the town is dependent. An airplane landing field has recently been constructed 3.5 miles west of Hemphill on Highway No. 184.

S-2 PENDLETON — Highway No. 21

In early days Pendleton was the gateway to Texas. Nothing remains to indicate the early importance of this place, except the ferry, which is still being operated at the old ferry site. Pendleton is located on Highway No. 21, at the point where this highway crosses the Sabine River. This old village was named for General Edward Pendleton Gaines, whose brother, James Gaines, operated the ferry during the war with Mexico. The ferry has been in continuous use since 1820. Many of the early immigrants into Texas crossed the Sabine River on this ferry, or used the old ford which is about one hundred yards north of the ferry. The Texas and the Louisiana State Highway Departments now maintain a day and night free ferry service at this point.

West of Pendleton are the Red Hills. These hills,

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Sabine County

S-2 PENDLETON (Continued)

assuming the proportions of mountains, cast a purple haze over the surrounding country in the early morning and late afternoon, presenting a scene that rivals the beauty of the famous Catskills of Upper New York.

S-3 MILAM Highway No. 21

Milam, once the leading city of Sabine County, is now little more than a rural community. It was here that Reverend James P. Stevenson, Methodist minister, preached his first sermon in Texas. The famous old McMahan Chapel is located near Milam.

S-4 MCMAHAN CHAPEL Highway No. 21

Reverend James P. Stevenson came to Texas in 1833, and held a series of meetings at the home of Colonel McMahan in Milam, which resulted in the organization of a religious society, there being a Mexican law against the formation of Protestant churches in Texas at that time. When Texas gained her independence in 1836, the news was received during the general church conference in Cincinnati, and Dr. Martin Ruter, with Robert Alexander and Littleton Fowler, came to Texas, reaching Sabine County in the Fall of 1837. That year the first Protestant Church in Texas was organized from the religious society formed in 1833, and McMahan Chapel was built. This and the church at San Augustine were the first church buildings to be erected in the State.

Littleton Fowler became the leader of the McMahan church, and a prominent figure in the development of Texas. He had the distinction of being the first chaplain in the Texas Senate. Fowler died in January, 1846, and was buried beneath the pulpit of McMahan Chapel. Behind the pulpit stands a tall marble slab with the following inscription carved upon it.

REV. LITTLETON FOWLER
Presiding Elder
of the
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Son of
Godfrey and Clara Fowler
Born 1803
Died January 29, 1846

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Sabine County

S-4 McMAHAN CHAPEL (Continued)

The old "burying grounds", in which many Texas pioneers now rest, are located within 100 feet of the chapel.

The road leading to McMahan Chapel leaves the south side of Highway No. 21 at a point 0.8 of a mile east of the San Augustine-Sabine County line. It is 2.2 miles from the intersection of this road with Highway No. 21 to McMahan Chapel. At the intersection of Highway No. 21 and McMahan Chapel Road, the State Highway Department has erected a large granite marker on which a brief historical sketch of the chapel and directions for reaching the site are given.

S-5 PINELAND — Highway No. 8

Pineland is the home of one of the many large sawmills of East Texas. The sawmill manufactures both long and short leaf pine lumber.

S-6 OLD SABINETOWN

In early days Sabinetown was an important settlement in Sabine County. Near the town was the principal river landing in the county. Only traditions remain to signify the early importance of this settlement. It was the home of Davis S. Kaufman, who was the first Texan to be seated in the U. S. Congress. His wife is buried in the cemetery of this old settlement.

Sabinetown may be reached by driving ten miles east from Hemphill on a lateral road.

S-7 BLUE MOUNTAINS — Highway No. 87

In the southern part of Sabine County, Highway No. 87 crosses the Blue Mountains, so named because of the bluish color they cast over the pine covered valleys. High bluffs run from the mountains to the banks of the Sabine River, and it was from these bluffs that the pioneers watched the river for the steamer that brought them merchandise and news from the outer world. These mountains and the surrounding scenery present one of the most imposing beauty spots in Texas.

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Sabine County

S-8 HIGHWAY PARK (Virgin Pine) Highway No. 184

The Highway Park, located 5.5 miles east of the intersection of Highway No. 184 with Highway No. 8, is one of the few remaining tracts of virgin long leaf yellow pines in Texas. This tract of land, comprised of ten acres of beautiful, stately pines, was given to Sabine County by Kirby Lumber Company, with the understanding that the trees were to be preserved, and that the tract of land should be perpetually maintained as a public park. Sabine County recently deeded the tract of land to the State Highway Department, with the same requirements, and this plot will be made into one of the outstanding parks of the State.

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SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY

SAN AUGUSTINE

"The history of San Augustine dates back to a time when it lay on the border land between the realms of two of the greatest kingdoms of Europe, and the question was debated whether the flag that waved above it would be the Lillies of France or the Castles of Spain. Along the pathway of its story lies the material for many tales of adventure and romance. Were all the passengers along this road to be assembled in one place, they would form a motley throng. The barbaric array of the aboriginal Indians, the bravery of the French seigneurs, the more somber pomp of the Spanish don, the tinseled splendor of the Mexican brave, the sober cowls of the gray Franciscan Friars, the buckskin and homespun of American pioneers, would mingle with the civilian costumes of every style and fashion, and the uniforms of many nations as they have varied during the past two hundred years." - From G. L. Crocket's "Two Centuries in East Texas".

SA-1 MISSION NUESTRA SENORA DE LOS DELORES

Mission Nuestra Senora de los Delores, "Our Lady of Sorrow", was built amid the tribe of Ais Indians on the banks of the Ayish Bayou, near Highway No. 147, in the present city of San Augustine. Very little is known about the history of this mission, except that it was one of the four missions established in East Texas by Father Margil and Captain Ramon during 1716 and 1717.

San Augustine shares honors with her sister city, Nacogdoches, in claiming the first European settlements in Texas, the first colonists having settled in the region between the Neches River and the Sabine River. This territory has been continuously occupied by the descendants of the first settlers, and the development of the entire State of Texas has logically generated from this area.

SA-2 AIS INDIANS

The Ais Tribe, members of the Federation of Tejas Indians, inhabited the region in and around the present town of San Augustine. These Indians were a very powerful tribe, and were outstanding in the development of that

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San Augustine County

SA-2 AIS INDIANS (Continued)

section of country. They were very friendly, and welcomed the establishment of the mission in their midst.

It was with this tribe of Indians that Peter Ellis Bean spent much of his time. The Ais Indians were staunch supporters of Bean in his effort to suppress the Fredonian Rebellion. Relics of this tribe, such as beads, pottery, and arrowheads, have been found near San Augustine.

SA-3 OLD SAN AUGUSTINE HOMES — Highway No. 21

Although many of the original homes have been torn down or remodeled, San Augustine probably has more home sites of famous early Texans than any other town in the State.

Elisha Roberts Home

Elisha Roberts was the fifth "Alcalde" of San Augustine, serving while Texas was still under the rule of Mexico. His original home, built in 1824, has been destroyed and another house was erected on the land once owned by Roberts. The site of this home is located 4.2 miles east of San Augustine on Highway No. 21.

James Pinckney Henderson Home

General James Pinckney Henderson, the first governor of Texas, built a fine, colonial type home in San Augustine. The original house was remodeled a few years ago into a modern bungalow, but the lawn is landscaped as it was one hundred years ago, with all the original trees still living. The site of this old home may be located by driving east 0.5 of a mile from the San Augustine County courthouse on Highway No. 21, and turning south on Chinquapin Road. The house is on the east side of the road, 0.4 of a mile from the intersection of Highway No. 21 with Chinquapin Road.

James Pinckney Henderson practiced law in San Augustine, and many interesting old documents, bearing his signature, are to be found in the archives of Mr. W. G. Sharp of San Augustine. A receipt from Henderson for

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SA-3 OLD SAN AUGUSTINE HOMES (Continued)

attorney's fees, dated April 6, 1848, has been preserved.

Matthew Cartwright Home

Three blocks east of the Courthouse Square in San Augustine, facing the first street south of Highway No. 21, is located the Matthew Cartwright home, a beautiful structure of colonial architecture. This home was built in 1839 across the street from the old University of San Augustine, and although the University was demolished many years ago, the Cartwright home is still one of the imposing structures to be found in San Augustine. It is still occupied by the Cartwright family, descendants of Matthew Cartwright. The house has two stories, is painted white, and has green shutters.

The Cartwrights were socially and politically prominent in the early days of Texas, and such famous people as Sam Houston and James Pinckney Henderson were frequent visitors to this old house.

S. W. Blount Home — Highway No. 21

On the corner of Ayish and Columbia Streets stands the home of Colonel Steve W. Blount, one of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence. This house has only one story, is finely proportioned, and beautifully ornamented. The descendants of Colonel Blount still own this old home, and the original structure, built in 1839, has not been changed.

Milton Garrett Home — Highway No. 21

The home of Milton Garrett still stands on the south side of Highway No. 21, 11 miles east of San Augustine. This house was built in 1820, and the original structure of logs and timber has not been changed.

Milton Garrett was a large slave owner, and an important figure during the Texas Revolution. Many of his descendants still reside in San Augustine.

P. W. Sublett Home — Highway No. 21

The present Sublett home is located 60 feet east of

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San Augustine County

SA-3 OLD SAN AUGUSTINE HOMES (Continued)

the original P. A. Sublett home, which was the social Mecca for all popular early East Texans. This home, owned and occupied by P. W. Sublett, a grandson of P. A. Sublett, was built in 1871, and retains its colonial style of architecture. It is located on Highway No. 21 about 3.5 miles west of San Augustine.

McFarland Home — Highway No. 21

On the south side of Highway No. 21, 6.6 miles west of the San Augustine County courthouse, the old Thomas S. McFarland home stands. This building, erected in 1824, is of log construction. The logs were hewn flat, and the corners dovetailed together, fastened with large wooden pins. Small portholes, for use of riflemen in case of Indian attacks, were cut in the logs near the top of the walls. During the aftermath of the Revolution, when there were rumors that the Mexicans were going to attack San Augustine, a company muster was held at this old residence, with Colonel Mabbett and Lieutenant Colonel T.S. McFarland in charge. This old home was to serve as a fort in case of attack.

T. S. McFarland and his father, William McFarland, surveyed and laid out an addition in the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, before moving to Texas. Esteem for these two gentlemen induced the City of Cincinnati to present the "Twin Sisters" cannons to the Texans during their struggle for independence.

T. S. McFarland planned and surveyed the town of San Augustine, and it is believed that this was the first town in Texas to be laid out according to American design.

SA-4 PROTESTANT CHURCH

San Augustine has the distinction of having one of the first Protestant churches in the State. Henry Stevenson, a Methodist preacher, founded a religious society at Milam in 1833, and went directly from there to San Augustine, where the second religious society was formed. In 1837 this group organized a church and erected a building, this being one of the first church buildings to be built west of the Sabine River. No signs of this old church are now in evidence.

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SA-5 CHAPEL HILL — Highway No. 21

The first Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterians on Texas soil met in 1837 at the home of Sumner Bacon, one of the earliest Protestant ministers to preach in Texas. The second Presbytery met in the Bethal meeting house of the old school Presbyterians, then occupying Goodlaw's schoolhouse, located about four miles west of San Augustine. It was not until 1840, when Rev. John M. Becton came to San Augustine and took charge of the Presbyterian Church that the meeting place was changed from Goodlaw's schoolhouse to Chapel Hill. The original building on Chapel Hill, which was erected in 1841, was replaced in 1850 by the present building. This building is still in good condition, and is located 6.6 miles east of San Augustine on Highway No. 21.

Sumner Bacon was born in 1796 and died in 1842. He is buried in the Chapel Hill cemetery.

SA-6 HAMILTON

The constitution of the town of Hamilton has been unearthed from the scrapbook of Mr. W. G. Sharp of San Augustine, and describes the town as being "located on the west side of the Sabine River on a tract of land granted to Wm. Kerr by the Republic of Texas, and said town has been divided into six shares which are held by Sam Houston, Wm. Kerr, P. A. Sublett, A. G. Kellog, Dexter Watson, and H. W. Sublett". This old document was written "at the town of San Augustine, 28th of April, 1839", and was signed by all of the above named men.

Although no traces of this old town remain, the site is located on the old Hamilton-San Augustine Road, a lateral road which turns off Highway No. 21 about 4.5 miles west of San Augustine.

SA-7 MASONRY

Masonry in San Augustine has a long and honorable record. San Augustine is the only town in Texas that participated in the formation of both the Grand Lodge and the

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San Augustine County

SA-7 MASONRY (Continued)

Grand Royal Arch Chapter. The Lodge in San Augustine, the third Lodge in Texas, united with Holland Lodge No. 1 and Milam Lodge No. 2 to form the Grand Lodge of Texas. San Augustine Chapter united with Cyrus Chapter at Matagorda and the Lone Star Chapter at Austin to form the Grand Chapter of the Republic.

The Lodge in San Augustine was organized on the 13th day of August, 1837, and was called the McFarland Lodge in honor of William McFarland, who was installed as Worshipful Master. The charter was given to McFarland Lodge No.3 by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, September 22, 1837. In later years, the name of the Lodge was changed to Redland Lodge No. 3. It still carries this name. The present Masonic Temple, the home of Redland Lodge No. 3, is located on Highway No. 21 in the town of San Augustine, two blocks east of the Courthouse.

SA-8 HENRY TEAL

Henry Teal, a native of San Augustine, was a spy during the Texas Revolution, and rendered valuable service in helping Texas gain her independence. The Teal family was one of the outstanding families in the early history of San Augustine, and descendants of the Teal family are still leading citizens of the town. The site of the Teal home is located about 7 miles east of San Augustine near Highway No. 21, and is still in the possession of the family, although the original house has been destroyed.

A letter from Henry Teal, written from Matamoras while he was in captivity as a Texas spy, and addressed to General Thomas J. Rusk, is among the old papers that have been preserved by Mr. W. G. Sharp of San Augustine, a direct descendant of the Teal family. The letter was dated January 19, 1836, and bears the following heroic ending:

"Now, soldiers, you must not spare any pains for the sake of saving us. We are willing to be lost to save Texas. (Signed) Henry Teal, in haste."

A letter written by General Rusk to the forces at Nacogdoches, authenticating the fact that Teal was

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San Augustine County

SA-8 HENRY TEAL (Continued)

captured as a spy in Matamoras, is also in the possession of Mr. Sharp of San Augustine. This letter was written from "Headquarters Victoria", June 17, 1837, and ends as follows: "the signatures of Captains Carnes and Teal are both known to me and for their veracity I will answer with my head. (Signed) Thos. J. Rusk, Brdg. Gen."

SA-9 CITY HOTEL

The old City Hotel formerly stood in the area now occupied by Lovell's Store, the theatre, and the barbershop on the Main Street of San Augustine. This hotel in San Augustine seems to have been the center of social activity in East Texas during the early days of the Republic of Texas. The following invitation to the ball celebrating the first anniversary of the independence of Texas, addressed to Mrs. P. A. Sublett of San Augustine, has been unearthed from Mr. Sharp's archives. It is quoted below:

"The pleasure of your company is respectfully invited to a BALL to be given at the City Hotel on the 2nd of March, 1837, in celebration of the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Managers

J. G. Littlefield	S. S. Davis
K. L. Anderson	F. G. Roberts
W. M. Kimbro	W. W. Frizzell
S. W. Blount	W. B. McShan
E. O. Legrand	J. B. Johnson"

Another invitation sent to Mrs. P. A. Sublett, was to a ball given at the City Hotel in honor of Sam Houston. This invitation reads as follows:

"'Hail to the Chief who in triumph rides.' The pleasure of your company is respectfully solicited to a ball to be given at the City Hotel in San Augustine in honor of General Sam Houston on Monday evening, the 28th inst.

Managers

Wm. Kimbro	W. W. Frizzell
A. Horton	R. I. Sims
K. L. Anderson	J. B. Johnson
P. A. Sublett	J. I. Greer

San Augustine, October 24,1839"

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San Augustine County

SA-10 "BELIEVE IT OR NOT" TREE — Highway No. 21

There is a tree on the north side of Highway No. 21, located 3.2 miles east of the San Augustine courthouse, which Ripley has featured in his "Believe it or not" column. The oddity is a Cedar tree growing from a limb of a China-berry tree.

SA-11 SAWMILLS AND GINS

The first sawmill in Texas, of which we have any record, was built near the Ayish Bayou about one-half mile above the present town of San Augustine. San Augustine County still has many thousand acres of virgin timber.

The first cotton gin was built near San Augustine in 1825 by John Sprowl, who was once the "Alcalde" of San Augustine.



James Pinckney Henderson

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SAN JACINTO COUNTY

San Jacinto County was organized in 1870 and formed from parts of Walker, Liberty, and Polk Counties. Excepting the valleys of the Trinity River, the San Jacinto River, and Winter's Bayou, the entire county was covered with pine forests. This has been one of the principal lumbering counties in Texas since its beginning.

For many years the lumber from San Jacinto County was carried to Lynchburg by ox teams, the trip for each load consuming several weeks. Then it was found that the Trinity River was navigable and boats were used to transport the timber. Among the boats was the "Old Black Cloud", owned and operated by Captain James Patrick, a popular citizen of San Jacinto County.

An interesting story is told of Wm. J. B. Cochran, one of the old settlers near Cold Springs. It is said that he lived in Spain, Republic of Mexico, Republic of Texas, the Confederacy, the United States, and in the counties of Liberty, Polk, and San Jacinto, yet never moved.

SJ-1 COLD SPRINGS — Hwys. Nos. 150, 156

Early in the 1830 decade, Cold Springs was known as a trading center. J. W. Sanders and Isham T. Patrick established a trading post in Cold Springs. Sanders is said to have planted a spreading Live Oak Tree in the midst of the springs from which the town takes its name. This tree is still living, and is a beautifully shaped tree.

The town itself was not laid out until 1870, when the courthouse was built. This courthouse burned in 1915, and a new one was built on the hill above the old town site that same year. The town also moved to the hill around the new courthouse building.

One of the early newspapers published in the State was printed in Cold Springs. T. H. Snow edited the paper, and called it "The Rising Sun". The vicissitudes and trials accompanying the war between the States threw the paper into financial difficulties, and after a few years of publication, the editor published the last issue, which he named "The Setting Sun".

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San Jacinto County

SJ-2 RAVEN HILL

"Raven Hill" was the name given to the plantation to which Sam Houston planned to retire after a tempestuous political career. This plantation, located 14 miles north of Cold Springs, and about the same distance from Huntsville, was a very convenient location for Houston, as he was practicing law at that time in Cold Springs, Livingston, and Huntsville. The deed records of San Jacinto County show that Raven Hill was purchased by Sam Houston in 1852, but other records indicate that he lived there a few years earlier.

Mrs. Houston did not care for the isolation of Raven Hill, and the Houstons resided there for only about five years. Marquis James, in his book "The Raven" refers to Raven Hill several times.

Nothing remains of the house which stood on Raven Hill, and only two of the three large trees which stood in the front yard of the Houston home are standing. Both of these trees are dead, and will be gone within a few years. An oil well is being drilled a few feet to the right of the old home site.

Raven Hill may be reached by taking the left-hand road which leaves Highway No. 45 at a point 6.0 miles west of Point Blank. Continue for 4.3 miles on this road, which is known as the old Cold Springs-Huntsville Road, to Raven Hill, located on the right-hand side of the road.

SJ-3 COLONEL ROBERT RANKIN

The grave of Colonel Robert Rankin is in a small cemetery located in Cold Springs. This grave may be reached by turning left at the courthouse, driving one block, and turning right at the church, on a lateral road. Follow this lateral road for 1.3 miles to the cemetery where Colonel Rankin is buried. A monument has been erected at this grave by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The State Highway Department has erected a marker at the church where the lateral road turns to the grave of Colonel Rankin.

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San Jacinto County

SJ-3 COLONEL ROBERT RANKIN (Continued)

Colonel Robert Rankin, who served in the American Revolution, came to San Jacinto County in 1835, and was granted the league of land on which the town of Cold Springs is located. Colonel Rankin aided Texas in her struggle for independence. He died in Cold Springs in 1837.

SJ-4 GOVERNOR GEORGE T. WOOD

George T. Wood was the second governor of the State of Texas, serving from 1847 to 1849. He owned several thousand acres of land around Point Blank, much of it in cultivation.

Governor Wood died in Point Blank and was buried in a little cemetery located on the west side of present Highway No. 156, about one-half mile south of Point Blank. A large granite monument has been erected over his grave.

SJ-5 HUNTING AND FISHING

San Jacinto County is noted for excellent fishing in the Trinity and the San Jacinto Rivers. Game is abundant in this county, and hunting is very good in season.

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SHELBY COUNTY

Shelby County was created in 1837 from the old municipality of Tenaha, which embraced the territory now included in the present counties of Shelby, Panola, and Harrison. Tenaha Municipality was organized in 1827 by Nathan Davis, who was the first Alcalde of the municipality. Shelby County was named for Governor Isaac Shelby of Kentucky.

This county is located in extreme East Texas, and is a progressive farming section. It is especially noted for its live stock industry.

SH-1 CENTER — Hwys. No. 7 and 8

Center, the county seat of Shelby County, was so named because of its geographically central location in the county. The courthouse was moved from Shelbyville to Center in the spring of 1866. A majority of the citizens wanted to keep the county seat at Shelbyville, but Bob Parker, County Clerk at that time, with the aid of six negroes and a two-wheeled ox-cart, moved the records during the night from Shelbyville to Center. Ossie Cartwright, one of the negroes who helped move the records, is still living near Shelbyville.

Center is a modern little city, located on Highways Nos. 7 and 8. A lumber mill is located in this city, and the only aircraft factory in the State is located there. The factory is located on the airport grounds.

SH-2 SHELBYVILLE — Highway No. 8

Shelbyville, the first county seat of Shelby County, was settled about 1820, and was incorporated in 1836. A few years before Texas won her independence from Mexico, Shelbyville was reputed to have been the largest settlement in the State. The site of the old courthouse is now marked by a well on the east side of Highway No. 8 in the present town of Shelbyville.

Shelbyville was named for John Shelby, the first white child to be born in Shelby County.

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Shelby County

SH-3 EAST HAMILTON - FIRST POSTOFFICE IN TEXAS

From the time Texas won her independence from Mexico until the Civil War, Port Hamilton, later called Hamilton, was one of the principal shipping points in Shelby County. East Hamilton is located near the Sabine River, in the southeastern part of Shelby County.

The first postoffice to be opened in Texas was opened at East Hamilton on March 8, 1847. Charles H. Alexander was the first postmaster. John Latham was the first settler in East Hamilton.

SH-4 REGULATORS AND MODERATORS WAR (1840-1842)

Shelby County was the battlefield for the major skirmishes of the Regulators and Moderators War, although at times the fighting extended into San Augustine and Sabine Counties. This section of country, known as "neutral ground", was the gateway to Texas from Louisiana and the East. This was the refuge for criminals and debtors from both the United States and Texas. This war began over the murder of a Mr. Goodman, but in reality it was a tilt between two rival factions in the territory. The Regulators attempted to regulate justice in the country and the Moderators thought that the Regulators should be more moderate in their regulation of justice. One murder retaliated for another, and so the war waged.

The first real battle of the war was fought 2.7 miles northwest of Shelbyville, on the south side of present Highway No. 8. There are two small lakes near the highway and the battle was fought between these two lakes. The second and major battle of the war was fought at Hillyard Springs, 0.8 of a mile northwest of the present Flat Fork Creek Bridge on Highway No. 8. Shelbyville was the headquarters for the Regulators, while the Moderators maintained their camp a few miles away.

President Sam Houston, on a visit to San Augustine in 1842, heard of the Regulators and Moderators War, and issued a proclamation that all hostilities cease and the leaders were arrested. It is said that Sam Houston talked to the men at the trial as a father would talk to a bunch of bad boys who had been quarreling among themselves.

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Shelby County

SH-4 REGULATORS AND MODERATORS WAR (Continued)

Upon promise of good behavior from both factions, he permitted them to return to their homes. Thus ended the famous Regulators and Moderators War.

SH-5 COLONEL CHAS. WATT MOORMAN

The home of Colonel Chas. Watt Moorman, leader of the Regulators, was in Shelbyville. Colonel Moorman lead a very colorful life, and was an influential figure in the early days of Shelby County. He was killed in a saloon near Hillyard Springs.

SH-6 JOHN M. BRADLEY

John M. Bradley, a prominent figure in the early history of Shelby County, lived on the north banks of Patroon Creek near the present Highway No. 8. Bradley was killed as he was leaving a church meeting in San Augustine, by Col. Moorman, leader of the Regulators.

SH-7 EMZY C. SMITH HOME

Veiled in shadowy stories of the violent, early days of Shelby County, the Emzy C. Smith home stands on the old location of Highway No. 8, about 3.5 miles north of Center. This is a white house bordered in green, constructed with a long hall through the center of the entire house. At the end of the hall is an ell, in which there is an old well. In the yard are huge oak trees, which were small trees when the house was built.

The Smiths came to Texas in 1836, and in 1838 built a round log house on the exact site of the present building. In later years another hewn log house was built on this site, and in 1868 this log house was torn down and the present house was constructed. Miss Lucy Smith, now 85 years old, and her brother Emzy C. Smith,III,still reside in the Smith home, and remember distinctly when the log house was torn down.

Emzy Smith, Sr., was a Regulator, and,although he did no actual fighting, he took care of the wounded soldiers in the Regulators and Moderators War. Colonel Chas. Watt Moorman was a friend of the Smiths and often visited their home.

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Shelby County

SH-8 JONES HOME

The only particular historical significance attached to the old Jones home is its age. Although little is actually known of the history of this old home, it is a known fact that it is over one hundred years old, and stands today as a typical example of the architecture of that period. Logan Smith, one of the early occupants of the house, fought in the war with Mexico.

The house is located four miles north of Center on Highway No. 8, about 500 feet west of the highway, on a knoll overlooking Smith Creek. At the present time it is being used as a tenant house, and is not in very good repair, but most of the original hand-hewn timbers, joists, and studs are still in place, as are many of the original siding boards and some of the windows. It is a two-story house of four rooms, with an ell at the back for the kitchen. This house is still in possession of the Jones family.

SH-9 BOUNDARY MARKER

About four miles north of the new bridge across the Sabine River, on the boundary line between Texas and Louisiana, lies a granite marker 8 inches by 8 inches in size. The stump is still in place and the shaft lies on the Texas side, carrying on one side the inscription "Meridian Boundary Survey - 1840", and on the other two opposite sides the letters "R. T." (Republic of Texas) on one, and "U. S." (United States) on the other.

According to legend, this marker is one of a series which were to be set at one-mile intervals by a surveying party under Albert Sidney Johnston.

HOTELS AND TOURIST CAMPS

Information concerning hotels and tourist camps may be obtained from the Center Chamber of Commerce, located on the Courthouse Square.

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TRINITY COUNTY

Originally, Trinity County was part of Houston County. The county was organized in 1850, and named for the river which forms its southwestern boundary. Old Sumptor was the first county seat of Trinity County. In 1872 the courthouse burned, and all the records of Trinity County, accumulated up to that time, were destroyed. During the 1870 decade the county seat was moved to Pennington, from Pennington to Trinity, and from Trinity to Groveton.

T-1 GROVETON — Hwys. 94, and 106

Groveton, the present county seat of Trinity County, is located near the center of the county. For years Groveton was the center of a large lumber industry.

T-2 PENNINGTON — Highway No. 106

During the 1860 and the 1870 decades, Pennington was one of the educational centers of East Texas. A school, which was called Steel's Academy, was located at Pennington, and several prominent persons of Texas attended school there. Among those who attended Steel's Academy were Judge E. J. Mantooth, still a practicing attorney at Lufkin, and John Henry Kirby, one of the leading lumbermen of Houston.

T-3 WOODLAKE — Highway No. 106

The Woodlake Community Project, one of the largest attempts of the Federal Government to institute a colonization plan, under modern conditions, for East Texas farms, is located 7 miles east of Groveton on Highway No. 106. The project consists of 2100 acres of land, of which 875 acres are in cultivation.

One hundred homes, each being of a different design, have been built on this land. Each family has been given a three-acre tract of land on which to cultivate a garden for their personal use. Each home is furnished with fresh milk each day from the community dairy.

In the community is a "trading post", a modern store

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Trinity County

T-3 WOODLAKE (Continued)

carrying a complete stock of merchandise. Just south of the "trading post" is the Project Manager's office. To the west of the office is a large cabinet shop, equipped with all modern machinery, where furniture and useful articles are made for the families in the community. In an adjoining building there is a blacksmith shop, where all farm equipment is kept in repair. A modern school, consisting of twelve class rooms, reception hall, and domestic science and agricultural buildings, is located in the community. There are four hundred students enrolled in the school, and the faculty consists of twelve teachers.

The community is centered around a large lake, which has been converted into a resort for fishing and bathing. A large, rustic community hall, used for lectures, dances, and entertainments of all kinds, has been erected. Tennis courts and baseball diamonds have been constructed for use of the inhabitants of the community.

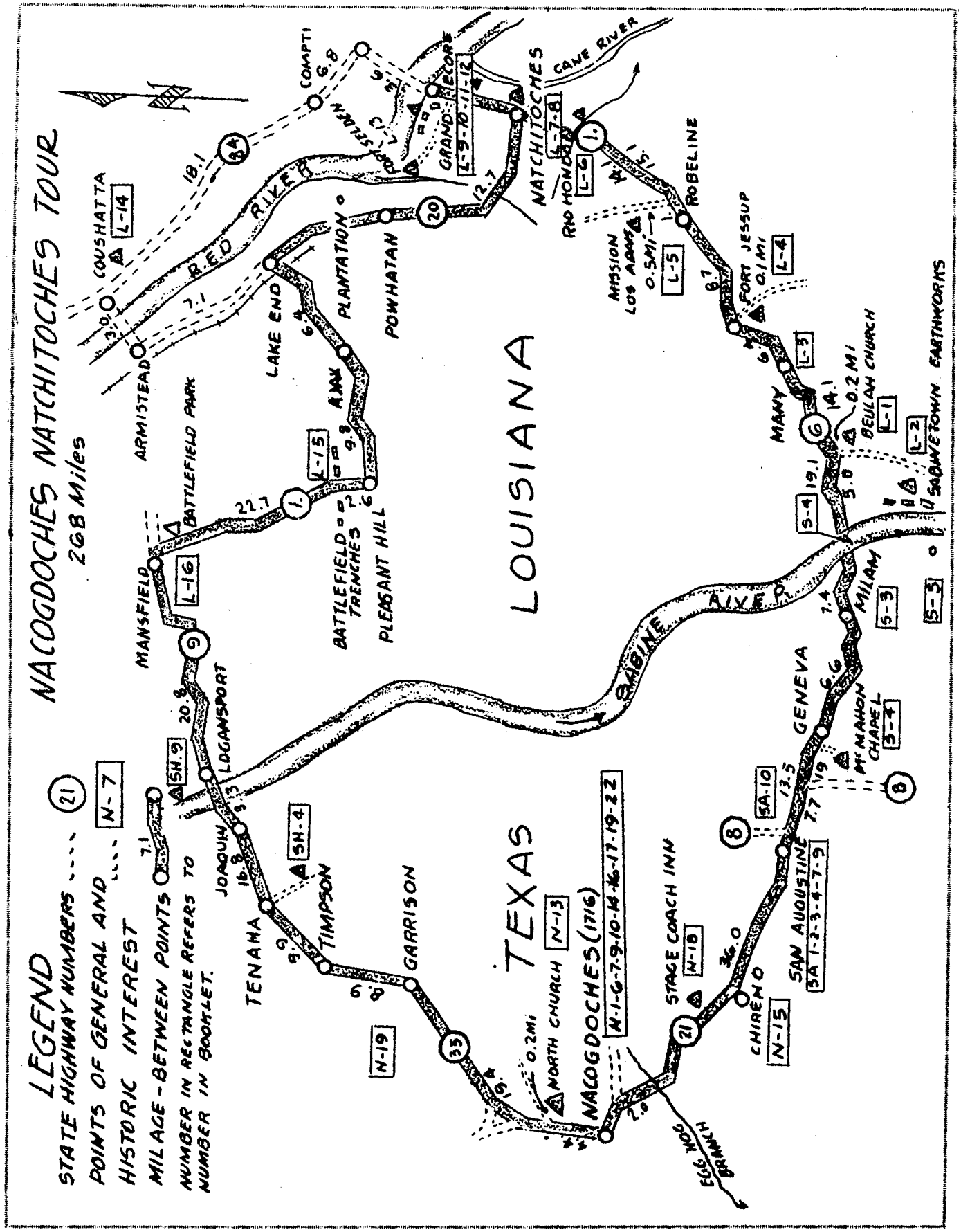
T-4 LOCK AND DAM — Trinity River

Located just south of Trinity on the Trinity River is an old lock and dam. This project was built in 1893 by private concerns in an effort to make the Trinity River navigable from Galveston Bay to Dallas. The project failed, but the lock and dam still stands as a reminder of a worthy engineering feat. The railroad bridge at Riverside, a mile above the lock and dam, is a swing bridge, and was built about the same time that the lock and dam was constructed.

HUNTING AND FISHING

Trinity County has numerous lakes that are well stocked with black bass, white perch, goggle eye, and catfish. A large number of "river lakes" are available to the traveler for fishing. The eastern part of Trinity County has several large, privately owned hunting clubs. Several thousand acres are still open to the public for hunting and fishing.

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NACOGDOCHES - NATCHITOCHES TOUR

The above tour, shown by sketch on adjoining page, is rich in points of historical interest and scenic beauty. This tour is approximately 268 miles in length and can be made in one day; however, two days should be allotted for this trip, staying over-night in the historic town of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Most of the early adventurers and American settlers passed through Natchitoches on their journeys into Texas. It was from this city that Moses and Stephen F. Austin set out to establish the first permanent American colony in Texas. Many expeditions into Texas were organized at Natchitoches.

The description of points of interest on this route through Louisiana are given below. These descriptions were taken, by permission, from the Louisiana Tourist Guide, issued by the Louisiana Highway Commission.

For information on the Texas side of this tour, refer to adjoining sketch and descriptive items in forepart of this booklet.

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L-1 BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH

Thirteen miles west of Many, the parish seat of Sabine, on State Route 6, the old Beulah Baptist Church is located. It is on a dirt road 0.2 of a mile south of the main highway, and is known through the country as the "Block House Church". It was here in 1835 that General Gaines built a block house and six warehouses, and from this point he cut "Gaines New Military Road" to the Sabine. This was one of the earliest American surveys of this area, and present State Route 6 traverses this route to Pendleton Ferry on the Sabine River. On the Texas side of the river stand the first series of markers erected across Texas to designate the route of the San Antonio Trace or El Camino Real.

L-2 SABINETOWN EARTHWORKS

The old trenches and earthworks on the Sabine River at Louis' Ferry, opposite Sabinetown, Texas, may be reached over a dirt road, about 4 miles southwest of Camp Sabine.

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Nacogdoches - Natchitoches Tour

L-2 SABINETOWN EARTHWORKS (Continued)

The trenches are 5 and 6 feet deep and the earthworks even higher, with a zig-zag opening to allow roads to enter. These trenches and earthworks were built by order of General Kirby Smith, Commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederate Army.

L-3 MANY

From Many, the parish seat of Sabine, it is only a short distance to several points of historic interest. Fort Jessup, and Los Adaés to the east, and the Block House to the west, are points that may be visited from Many.

L-4 FORT JESSUP

Eight miles west of Robeline, or 6 miles east of Many, on State Route 6, is the famous American frontier Army post of Fort Jessup, founded in 1822 by Zachery Taylor. Maps from the War Department show that the building area covered a square mile and that thirty or forty buildings were erected. This was the headquarters of the Western Department of the Army under General Gaines. It was here that General Taylor came in 1845 to concentrate his Army of Observation, and from here he set forth to the Mexican War that was to lead him to the presidency. Three acres have been acquired by Sabine Parish as an historical park, and one of the original log buildings has been restored.

L-5 MISSION SAN MIGUEL DE LOS ADAIS

One mile east of Robeline, and one-half mile north of State Route No. 1, on Route 428, the Spaniards, in 1717, founded the Mission San Miguel de los Adais, the only Spanish mission in Louisiana. In 1721, on another hill-top across a little valley, the Marquis de Aguayo establishes the palisaded Presidio, or fort, of Los Adais. The Presidio was built to guard the mission, and to proclaim Spain's sovereignty of Red River in opposition to France.

L-6 RIO HONDO

Following State Route 1 west out of Natchitoches

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Nacogdoches - Natchitoches Tour

L-6 RIO HONDO (Continued)

which was formerly known as the San Antonio Trace, one crosses the Rio Hondo, a small creek, which, in 1806, was an eastern boundary of the Neutral Strip. The Neutral Strip was established by Generals Wilkinson and Herrera, and continued in existence for 14 years.

L-7 NATCHITOCHES

Natchitoches, "The Oldest Town in the Louisiana Purchase", was founded by Louis Juchereau de St. Denis at least three years before New Orleans was established. St. Denis was one of the most romantic characters in the history of the South. He remained the commandant of Natchitoches until his death on July 11, 1744. His will and many other original documents bearing his signature may be seen in the court records at Natchitoches.

State Normal College

The Louisiana State Normal College at Natchitoches is one of the twenty-three A-1 teachers' colleges in the United States. The vine-clad columns on Normal Hill are the picturesque remains of the old Bullard residence, and recall many phases of local history.

The Good Darkey

The first statue to be erected in the South to the memory of the devoted negroes of ante-bellum days is located in Natchitoches. The bronze figure, the work of Hans Schuler, the Baltimore sculptor, is more than life size, and represents an old negro standing with his hat in his hand. The inscription on the base reads: "Erected by the City of Natchitoches in Grateful Recognition of the Arduous and Faithful Service of the Good Darkies of Louisiana. Donor, J. L. Bryan, 1927."

L-8 FORT ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

Fort St. Jean Baptiste, founded by St. Denis, was one of the interior garrisons taken over by the Americans at the Cession. At that time Fort St. Jean Baptiste became Fort Claiborne, named in honor of the first Territorial Governor. The old Fort is located at the highest point in what is known as the American Cemetery. In this cemetery is located the grave of Dr. John Sibley, Revolutionary

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Nacogdoches - Natchitoches Tour

L-8 FORT ST. JEAN BAPTISTE (Continued)

soldier, Indian agent, author, garrison physician, and friend of Thomas Jefferson.

L-9 CONFEDERATE TRENCHES

Between Grand Ecore and Natchitoches one passes the old Confederate trenches and earthworks, which were thrown up to protect Natchitoches from the Union forces in 1864. These may be followed through the woods for more than two miles. They are in practically the same condition today as when the war ended.

L-10 THE TOWN OF GRAND ECORE

On the lowland, across the paved highway from the bluff, is the site of the former thriving river-town of Grand Ecore, which rose and flourished in the thirties and forties and until long after the Civil War. The prosperity of this town was the result of the great change in the course of the Red River in the spring of 1834, when it left the old channel by Natchitoches, and followed a new channel which was cut through Rigolette de Bon Dieu. Extensive docks were built at Grand Ecore, and it supplanted Natchitoches as the terminus of the San Antonio Trace.

L-11 GRAND ECORE

On the high bluffs of Grand Ecore are located the earthworks of the opposing Confederate and Federal forces, which faced each other during General Banks' "Red River Campaign", in 1864. They are in a wonderful state of preservation, and goats peacefully graze near these earthworks, where men once fought and died.

L-12 GRAND ECORE BRIDGE

The highway bridge across the Red River at Grand Ecore is all that remains of an early railroad, the Louisiana and Northwest. The piers of this bridge were built from the stone battlements of Fort Selden.

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Nacogdoches - Natchitoches Tour

L-13 FORT SELDEN

Fort Selden, located about two miles up Red River from Grand Ecore, may be reached by following the winding woods-road along the river, across the mouth of Bayou Pierre and along Tauzin Island to a point above the Blue Hole. After climbing a cliff of several hundred feet to the crest overlooking Bayou Pierre, where, on top of one of the most beautiful bluffs in Louisiana, one stands on the site of Fort Selden, built in 1820. Here Zachery Taylor was stationed as a lieutenant colonel, and in 1822 was promoted to colonel.

L-14 COUSHATTA

It was just out of Coushatta, the parish seat of Red River during the reconstruction period, that the "Coushatta Riot" occurred. See "Wild Work, The Story of the Red River Tragedy", by Mary E. Bryan. The old courthouse, now abandoned, stands overlooking Red River. This old courthouse is located on the left of the new traffic bridge.

L-15 PLEASANT HILL

By turning south on U. S. Route 171, the visitor will reach old Pleasant Hill, located 2 miles north of the present town of Pleasand Hill. Here the highway passes directly through the site of one of the bloodiest battles fought west of the Mississippi during the Civil War. This battle followed, by one day, the more important battle of Mansfield.

L-16 MANSFIELD

Mansfield, made famous by the battle in which General Banks was defeated, is a prosperous city, and the trading center for a large area. Mansfield, the parish seat of De Soto Parish, is located 40 miles south of Shreveport on U. S. Route 171.

Battle of Mansfield

Four miles south of Mansfield is the old battlefield where, on April 8, 1864, General Banks was defeated, and his "Red River Campaign" turned into a retreat, saving Shreveport and Texas from invasion. It was here that General Mouton fell and General de Polignac, the "Lafayette of the South" distinguished himself. The scene of their sacrafice is appropriately marked.

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LOG OF POINTS OF GENERAL AND HISTORIC INTEREST ALONG STATE HIGHWAY NO. 21 (OLD SAN ANTONIO ROAD) BETWEEN THE TRINITY RIVER IN TEXAS AND NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA

Logged April 4, 1936

Read Down Miles	Points of General and Historic Interest	Read Up Miles	For Description Refer to Page No.	Item No.	REMARKS
0.0	Trinity River	194.3			
22.6	David Crockett Springs	171.7			
22.8	Crockett	171.5	10	H-1	
27.6	Stagecoach Inn	166.7	12	H-5	
38.0	Pine Spring	159.0			
43.0	C.C.C. Camp	151.3			
43.7	Mission Forest	150.6	10	H-9-2	
43.8	Weches	150.5			
47.7	Forks of new and old Hwy.21	146.6	11	H-3	
48.7	Neches River Bridge	145.6			
49.9	Indians Mounds	144.4			
56.1	Alto	138.2			
63.2	Angelina River Bridge	131.1			
67.7	Douglass	126.6	18	N-3-4-5	
81.0	Nacogdoches	113.6	15	N-1	
82.4	Junc.Hwys. 21 and 7	112.2			
93.5	Melrose	100.8			
102.0	Stagecoach Inn	92.2	27	N-17	
111.1	McFarland Home	83.2	39	SA-3	
117.7	San Augustine	76.4	36	SA-1	
118.0	Blount Home	75.7	38	SA-3	
118.3	Junc. Hwys. 21 and 8	76.0			
120.8	"Believe-It-or-Not" Tree	73.5	43	SA-10	
125.1	Junc. Hwys. 21 and 8	69.2			
126.5	McMahan Chapel Road	67.8	33	S-4	
130.0	Geneva	64.3			
137.1	Milam	57.2	33	S-3	
144.5	Pendleton Ferry	49.8	32	S-2	State Line
149.5	Beulah Church	44.8	54	L-1	
163.6	Many	30.7			
170.0	Fort Jessup (South)	24.3	55	L-4	
178.7	Robeline	15.6			
179.7	Mission Road (North)	14.6	55	L-5	
192.3	Rio Hondo	2.0	55	L-6	
194.3	Natchitoches	0.0	56	L-7	

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TEXAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

POINTS OF GENERAL AND HISTORICAL INTEREST IN

DIVISION NO. 11

Scale of Miles

0 1 2 3 4 5 10 15 20 25

Office of Division Engineer, Lufkin, Texas February, 1936

LEGEND

STATE HIGHWAYS ..... (35)
STATE HIGHWAY NO. 21, "CAMINO REAL" (King's Highway) ..... (21)
POINTS OF GENERAL AND HISTORICAL INTEREST, WITH NUMBERS CORRESPONDING TO THOSE IN BOOKLET SA-4
RAILROADS —— COUNTY SEATS ◉ AIRPORTS ✈
MISSIONS AND CHURCHES † BATTLEFIELDS ⚔

NOTE:-This map is made by the State Highway Department for public use and information, and the only restriction placed on its use is that no charge