

KILGORE

JOHN WOOD PARK

MARKER LOCATION: Kilgore Street and U.S. 259 - Kilgore.

This granite marker was erected by Kilgore friends of  
John Wood, an early Texas Railroad Commissioner. (1936)

KILGORE

THE JOHN WOOD PARK SESQUICENTENNIAL PROJECT

MARKER LOCATION: Kilgore Street and U. S. 259 - Kilgore

Erected by the Kilgore Sesquicentennial Committee. the park contains a complete oil well derrick and pumping unit which functions and is built to scale in every detail. The derrick is 28 feet tall and all is enclosed in a chain link fence.

(1986)

# Civic Garden Club working with highway officials on project

By GREG A. COLLINS

The Civic Garden Club is working with the Highway Department in the beautification of Wood Park, it was announced at the Civic Affairs of the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday afternoon.

David Ivins, civic affairs member, said he received a call asking if something comparable to what was done in Longview on some islands could be done in Kilgore. Ivins said he contacted highway officials and, when they began asking him specific questions, he deferred to Nelda Lewis because he knew she would be able to put highway officials in contact with the proper organization.

Civic Garden Club member Geneva Smith said the club heard from officials and talked with them about the project, adding they had heard the work would be started in October.

But now the project is under way and is expected to be completed soon. The paving brick and shrubbery added to the park and two other islands in the area will make them especially attractive, Mrs. Smith said. Also, she added the officials are not tampering with anything which has been done before. She said they told her they would just enhance on what has already been done.

Club members were given a copy of the blueprint, and Mrs. Smith said it was shown at an earlier civic affairs meeting. The work was begun several weeks ago and will be completed in a short amount of time, she added. She also said the club is anxious to see the finished product and is thankful for the added beautification.

The state will maintain the area for a specific amount of time, and then the responsibility will be turned back over to local officials.

Wanda Bittick, civic affairs chairman, said it was reported KIBA was responsible for the work being done, but that the garden club was the one working with officials.

As far as the upcoming Arbor Day celebration, the group is excited because, as of 5 p.m. Tuesday, 101 trees have been sold for the event. Officials said they will take reservations for trees, which cost \$7 each, up until the beginning of the ceremony. The event, with Mrs. Jesse Brundrett scheduled to speak and Andy Elliot, minister of music at First Baptist Church set to sing, will be held Friday, Jan. 17 at 1 p.m. in the Lions Club Pavilion in City Park. The event will follow the annual Lioness Club Chili Luncheon, which will be held in the Community House from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets for that are \$3.50 and are on sale from any club member.

"We are excited about the response on tree sales," Mrs. Bittick said. "It has been wonderful. But we hope others will join in and buy a tree."

In other news, Ivins gave a short update on the Welcome to Kilgore sign project and said his goal is to have at least one sign erected in the next year.

Nona Gordon of the East Texas Treatment Center gave a short report on the head injury program and the things the patients are making as part of therapy, and Kilgoreites were reminded to shop locally.

The American Business Women's Association, ABWA, will hold a volleyball tournament on Jan. 11 at Leverett's Chapel Independent School District gym. All interested teams are invited to attend.

