

A HISTORY
OF
TEXAS and TEXANS

BY
FRANK W. JOHNSON
A LEADER IN THE TEXAS REVOLUTION

Edited and Brought to Date by
EUGENE C. BARKER, Ph. D.
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

With the Assistance of
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TEXAS STATE LIBRARIAN

To which are added Historical, Statistical and Descriptive Matter pertaining
to the important Local Divisions of the State, and biographical ac-
counts of the Leaders and Representative Men of the State
in Commerce, Industry and Modern Activities.

VOLUME V

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CHICAGO AND NEW YORK
1914

experience, and the success which he has won in the field of commerce he has at various times used for the benefit of his community, and is one of the civic leaders in Llano county.

Stephen D. Rainier was born in Camden, New Jersey, August 23, 1862. His early life was spent in his native state, during which time he attended the grammar and high schools, and between his school days and the age of twenty-one he remained at home and helped work the paternal acres in New Jersey. At the age of twenty-one he came to Texas, and the first year was spent in San Antonio in looking over the field and preparing for his permanent undertaking. He then moved to Burnet, where he was employed on a salary in the cotton, hide, and wool business. He became thoroughly familiar with all the details of that trade, and on January 1, 1896, established a business of his own at Llano. He is one of the most extensive dealers in cotton, wool, hides and pecans in southwest Texas and ships his merchandise all over the country.

In Llano on June 8, 1899, Mr. Rainier married Miss Eva May Reisman, who was formerly from Austin, Texas. They have one child, Annie. Mr. Rainier's church preference is the Episcopal. At the present time he is serving as chairman of the Republican County Central Committee of Llano county, but is hardly a practical politician in the usual sense of the word. He has served on the school board in Llano and is always ready to get in line on any movement for the betterment of his community. Mr. Rainier takes special pleasure in driving good horses and is a man of broad sympathies and takes pleasure in all the good things of life. Though not a native son of Texas, his own loyalty to the Lone Star state is not exceeded by that of any lifelong resident here, and in his opinion the state has a remarkable future fully in keeping with its remarkable past.

JERE C. TURNER, SR. Not only is Jere C. Turner fitly called the "dean of Longview citizens" because of his very early residence here; but he is further distinguished by having been one of the founders of the first business house ever located in Longview, the builder of its first good residence and a most active leader in the creation of Gregg county.

Mr. Turner is a descendant of fine Southern stock in both lines. His maternal ancestry was of the Clemens family, made famous by that gifted member of it who has become so well known by "Mark Twain," through the floods of sunshine which his numerous writings turned upon the world. A close kinsman of Samuel Clemens was James Clemens, who married a member of the Mills family of Kentucky, which has produced some of the notable citizenship of our period. James Clemens and his wife were the parents of Jere Clemens, who was a Mexican war patriot, a member of Congress, and a strong supporter of the Union during the Civil war; and of Ann Clemens, who became Mrs. William S. Turner and the mother of him who is the special subject of this biographical account. The Turner family were originally Virginian. In the old Dominion State William S. Turner had been born and had, as a child, accompanied his parents to Alabama. There they settled in the vicinity of Huntsville, where, on reaching maturity, William Turner married Miss Clemens and where their children were born. These included James Turner, who spent his life at Helena, Arkansas; Dr. Archie Turner, whose last days were spent at Hope, Arkansas; John Turner, who died unmarried; and Jere C. Turner, whose achievements are the special object of this sketch.

The date of Jere C. Turner's birth was May 27, 1848, and his earliest years were spent in his native home at Huntsville, Alabama. While he was yet a child his parents moved to near Helena, Arkansas, where his elementary education was pursued and where he enjoyed the serene advantages of an affluent home until the outbreak of the Civil war. On the questions involved in that

conflict the Turner family sided with the interests of the South and might have fared ill had it not been for the influence of Colonel Clemens, one of Mr. Lincoln's Southern advisers during the war. It was due to his foresight that Federal pickets were set about the Turner home and their property shielded instead of being ruthlessly destroyed. But even this friendly intervention of the government at Washington could not stay the activity of an enthusiastic young Southerner such as Jere Turner was. In the enthusiasm of his earlier youth—for he was barely fifteen years of age—he could not forbear aiding his soldier countrymen of the South. Engaging through the lines in traffic which was contraband of war, he continued at intervals to thus give vent to his sectional patriotism, until his attitude menaced not only his own safety, but probably that of his family as well. He therefore had the additional adventure of being a refugee to Texas, where until the close of the war he remained at Gilmer. When throughout the country peace again prevailed, he returned to Arkansas, resuming his studies at Russel's Normal Academy, a school conducted by Professor O. P. Russel, a noted educator who had previously been of New York, but who served as a Confederate soldier during the Civil war.

The state of Texas, in spite of its then raw condition, appealed strongly to the young man's interests, for he saw in it much of the promise that has since been fulfilled. In 1867 he returned to the Lone Star state and began his self-supporting existence. At that time the end of the Texas and Pacific construction westward marked the only hint of the commercial center this region has become. The new line of railroad stretching its length westward had made mutually advantageous a series of supply camps which originated at Marshall. They were conducted by Miller, McKellar and Company, and for this concern Jere C. Turner became bookkeeper. Continuing with this firm he became its manager during the sojourn at Hallville and before the Longview locality was reached, he was one of the partners of the company.

This pioneer firm of Longview—composed of J. B. Miller, E. D. McKellar, J. A. McKellar and J. C. Turner, was thus, as stated above, the first commercial concern located in Longview. It is interesting to recall that their business card appeared in the initial issue of Longview's first paper—*The Longview News*, which was edited in part by no less a personage than James S. Hogg, later governor of Texas. One of its first news items in that earliest issue, dated November 28, 1871, was the following: "We often read and hear of wholesale and retail grocers and general commission merchants, but rarely ever see such a staunch firm as Miller, McKellar and Company. These gentlemen will do to tie to. It will be seen by the way they patronize home institutions that they are the right men in the right place. A sufficient acquaintance with this firm justifies us in commending them heartily to the public in general." The loyalty to local interests indicated in that comment is perhaps the keynote to both Mr. Turner's success and the unusual degree of appreciation accorded him by his townsmen. Although his locating in Longview was at the time supposedly temporary, he made a firm place for himself early in his career by such evidence of fairness and reciprocal obligation.

His business career of more than forty years has been one that has grown more and more closely into the civic entity of the town. That first step in grocery merchandise was so successfully taken that when in 1872 Miller, McKellar and Company closed out its business in Longview, he at once obtained a place in the clerical force of the bank of F. J. Harrison and Company. After a time he again entered merchandise, this time independently. Purchasing from Britton Buttrill the lot which the latter had used as the site of his hotel (but which is now occupied by the First National Bank building) Mr. Turner there erected the business house in which he sold goods as a grocer. He twice rebuilt as a

result of successive conflagrations in the heart of the town, and his is the distinction of having built the first permanent business edifice ever constructed in Longview. The steady growth of his retail grocery business was such that in 1897 he converted it into a wholesale business, the same being incorporated as the Turner Grocery Company, capitalized at \$50,000.00. The stock of this concern is owned and controlled entirely by members of the Turner family, Mr. Turner himself being its president and his sons the other official heads of the company.

Other commercial and financial interests of Mr. Turner include his connection with the Citizens' National Bank. When that institution was promoted he became a stockholder and was made the president of the bank. He is remembered with gratitude by many of the citizens of Longview because of the fact that when the financial situation was uncertain and rumors of "runs" were abroad, he came forward with the pledge of his own personal estate to depositors as a guaranty of the security of their funds.

Another important movement with which Jere C. Turner, Sr., has been connected with signal honor to himself and value to the community was the creation of the Gregg county. He was one of the early members of the town board and in that capacity his influence and activity proved vital to the success of the proposal. Associated with him in this work was a man whose prominence and usefulness as a citizen in those formative days have been singularly overlooked in the tributes usually paid to influential pioneers whose names should live at least in the memory of the town. No such honor has been given to Britton Buttrill, who was Longview's early tavern-keeper and one of her most public-spirited citizens. He it was who performed a service for Gregg county by sturdily and perseveringly riding his pony over the territory of Upshur and Rusk counties, embodied in the petition necessary for presentation to the legislature. He secured the needed signatures which made possible the creation of the county. The committee which had assigned him this duty also made Mr. Turner responsible for the raising of fifty dollars required for the representative who must go to Austin to coach the movement until it should be made a law. The money was slow in coming, only six dollars having been contributed before the day on which it was required. The balance of the amount came out of the pocket of Jere C. Turner, who thus, so to speak, stood godfather to the infant county. He was on the bond of the first sheriff of Gregg county.

The earliest dwelling-house of worthy quality in Longview, built—as stated above—by Mr. Turner, is still his home. In November of 1871 occurred his first marriage, Fannie C. Harrison at that time becoming Mrs. Jere C. Turner. She was a daughter of F. J. Harrison, of Keatchie, Louisiana, her father later becoming a banker of Longview. To her and Mr. Turner were born five daughters and four sons. The eldest is William Turner; Annie, Mrs. J. J. Stewart, is the wife of a leading Longview dentist; Fannie, Mrs. McClain, is a resident of Pine Bluff, Arkansas; J. C. Turner, Jr., is vice president of the Turner Grocery Company; Lillian, Mrs. Clarence King, is a resident of Bristol, Tennessee; and Harry S. Turner is shipping clerk for the Turner wholesale house. In 1892 Fannie Harrison Turner passed to another life. The present Mrs. Turner was formerly Mrs. Mattie Bowles, a daughter of Thomas M. Gatlin, of Keatchie, Louisiana.

The life of no man in Longview has been more closely knit with that of the growing town than has Jere C. Turner's, during his forty years of activity in this community. In the important and successful business which he has built up, in the creditable family he has given to the world and the community, and in the deep and hearty respect of his fellow citizens, he has built a monument

that many younger men may emulate and which many older men may envy Jere C. Turner, Sr.

JOHN R. STINSON, a retired merchant of Marshall, and a representative of one of the pioneer families of Texas, dates his birth in 1849, on his father's farm two miles southeast of the present courthouse at Marshall.

Mr. Stinson's father, Samuel Stinson, was born in Smith county, Tennessee. In 1844, with his brother, David Stinson, he came from Tennessee to Texas and settled in Harrison county, near Marshall, and a few years later he moved to the town. David Stinson was a lawyer, prominent and influential, and at one time served as County Judge of Harrison county. Samuel Stinson also figured in public service here. He was elected to the office of County Clerk, which he filled for several years and from which he resigned a year before his death, which occurred in 1854. The mother of John R. Stinson was Cynthia (Baker) Stinson. She was born in Mississippi, and in the early forties came with her parents to Harrison county, Texas. She died in 1868. In 1854, shortly after her husband's death, she bought a home place in Marshall, which comprised practically the block bounded by Austin, Fulton, Rusk and Franklin streets, and in this block John R. Stinson has ever since made his home.

In his youth Mr. Stinson had the advantage of being a pupil in one of the best schools in this part of Texas, at that time,—that in charge of Prof. Morgan H. Looney, at Gilmer, in which was educated a number of prominent Texan characters. His first business experience was as clerk in a store at Marshall. That was in 1869, and he continued thus employed until he engaged in business for himself. He conducted a mercantile business at Marshall up to 1902, when he retired from active life.

Mr. Stinson served one term as Mayor of Marshall, 1890-1891.

In 1908 he had the misfortune to lose his wife, who before marriage was Miss Sallie Callaway. She, too, was a native of Harrison county. Their only child is Robert Lee Stinson.

JUDGE FRANK B. GUINN. It is one of the old and prominent families of east Texas that is represented by Judge Frank B. Guinn, who has himself been prominently identified with the state as a lawyer, and a well-known public man, and during a long residence and citizenship at Rusk has rendered many important services to that locality.

Judge F. B. Guinn is a son of the pioneer Texas lawyer, Judge Robert H. Guinn, who died at Rusk in 1888, after forty years of active professional life, during which time he had won his way to eminence as a criminal lawyer.

Several generations back in the family genealogy is found Emanuel Guinn, who was a Revolutionary soldier on the American side. A son of Emanuel Guinn was James Guinn, and among the children of James was John Guinn, father of the late Robert H. Guinn. John Guinn married Rachel Shields, whose mother was a Miss Evans. They had eight children, and six of them went from Tennessee about 1856 and settled in Iowa. These were named John, Hyrcannus, William, Jackson, Alpha Greenlee, and Hester Bradford. Some of these people were known in the vicinity of Belle Plain and Glidden, and one of the Guinns in Iowa was a member of the legislature. Another son of John and Rachael Guinn was Judge John W. Guinn, who settled in Angelina county, Texas, where he was a leading lawyer, and served on the bench. Robert H. Guinn, whose name completes the family of John and Rachael, though he was not the youngest child, was born in Greene county, Tennessee, in 1822. In the same county Andy Johnson, the tailor president, cut out his first frock coat. Robert H. Guinn acquired a fair education and read law under his brother, James W. Guinn. Moving to Randolph county, Alabama,

Medallion plate 14" x 9"

TURNER HOME* BUILT IN
1874, TWO YEARS AFTER TOWN
WAS ESTABLISHED. A FIREPLACE
IN EACH ROOM, A STAIRWAY OF
CARVED WALNUT. BUILDER J. C.
TURNER, SR., WAS FIRST EAST
TEXAN TO IMPORT JERSEY CAT-
TEL. SKILLED HORSEMAN, THOR-
OUGHBREAD OWNER. OLD WELL AND
DAIRY HOUSE NEARBY.

(1964)**

* 1/2" lettering

** 1/4" lettering

3/8" lettering on all other copy

Jere Clemens Turner, Sr. was born in Helena, Arkansas in 1849. He came to Texas after the war between the States and first lived in Marshall which was as far as the Texas and Pacific Railway had been built. When it was extended to Hallsville, his firm moved on there and when the railroad was extended to Longview, he moved there. The township of Longview was established in 1872. He was married to Francis Charollete Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Harrison, November 18, 1871. Mr. Harrison organized the F. J. Harrison Banking Company which was the forerunner of the present First National Bank. Two children were born; Will in October, 1872; and Annie, in November, 1873. In March, 1874, Mr. Turner bought ten lots, Block #17, near the Junction of the Texas and Pacific and International Great Northern Railroads. Also in 1874, he built a two-story home on this property which faced what is now known as Methvin Street. This street was named for O. H. Methvin, one of the early settlers. The original walls of this house are exactly the same with the exception that the half front porch, both upstairs and downstairs, was taken in to enlarge the living room downstairs and a bedroom upstairs. New windows were put in as needed repairs. The repairs were made in 1923. The inside of this original house had walls of plaster on lath and then papered. There are six wood-burning fireplaces in this house, and there are now three of the original mantles in perfect condition. Steam heat was put in this house in 1910 to supplement the fireplaces. The stairway, which was bought in St. Louis, consisting of the newel post, steps, handrail, with its vertical supports, are all of walnut and carved. This stairway is in perfect condition today.

On the premises was a large one-room building that was used for a school room for their children. Mr. Turner believed in paying for the education of his own children and was fortunate that he could employ an excellent governess for his children until they reached college age. Five children were born in this

house on Methvin Street. Fannie, July, 1873; Lucy, September, 1876; Jere, November 6, 1878; Laurs, in October, 1880; and Mack, February 22, 1883. The house was then sold to Mrs. M. A. Terry October 23, 1883, who sold it to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Miller.

In 1895 during this interim, Mr. and Mrs. Turner and family lived in a house he built on Turners Hill in the outskirts of Longview now known as Nugget Hill Addition. Three children were born here: Lillian, December 29, 1885; and the twins Newlyn and Harry, July, 6, 1888. Mrs. Francis Charlotte Turner died in this house in 1892. Mr. Turner married a widow, Mrs. Martha Winifred Gattlin Boles, in 1894. This house on the hill burned 1897 and Mr. Turner bought his original home on Methvin Street which was the entire Block #17 from Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Miller in 1903 and lived there until his death March 18, 1923. Jere Clemens Turner, Jr. inherited this home he was born in and lived there until his death in January 10, 1962. The home was given to Mrs. Holloway Mitchell (Dorothea Turner Mitchell) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jere Clemens Turner, Jr., who now owns it.

Jere Clemens Turner, Sr. had two hobbies, fine horses and Jersey cows. He always owned and rode, with great skill, beautiful Kentucky-bred horses that were very carefully groomed and really looked the part of genuine thoroughbreds. Mr. Turner was the first person to import Jersey cows to East Texas from the Jersey Isles. For years he exhibited them at the Dallas Fair, where they attracted much attention and won many blue ribbons. He continued to own fine horses and Jersey cows as long as he lived. There were several big barns on this block and two small houses were built on the back of the block for the servants. These barns and houses have been moved off. However, very close to the house in the rear stands an attractive well house which is in its original state. The front of this well house, where the well is located, the sides and front are of lattice. The original well is 35 feet deep and now has an electric pump in to water the yard and flowers. The back part of this building is of brick with a cupola on top which was used for a dairy house.

PICTURE OF WELL HOUSE ENCLOSED

MRS. PAUL B. BELDING • 602 SYLVAN DRIVE • LONGVIEW, TEXAS

July 8, 1964.

Dear Mrs. Keese,

In reading "A History of Rusk County, Texas" by Winfrey I ran across the following on page 63:

in speaking of Governor Webster Flanagan it says:

"He has a small herd of pure Jersey cattle imported from the Juersey Island, on the coast of England.

----- Two of his cows were shipped from Jersey en route for Texas, on June 7th, 1873, and arrived at Overton on the 7th of August,-----"

There is much more about this type of cattle-----

If you will check the marker for the Turner House purchased by Dorothea Turner Mitchell you will see, I think, that she thought her grandfather imported the first Juersey Cattle to East Texas. I don't know whether she has bills of sale etc. to establish an earlier date than the one publicized by the Flanagans in the Rusk Co. CHisory, but I am leaving for a trip to the East and thought you might either check with her and ask or perhaps change the marker to read "one of the first" to import Jerseys to East Texas. I know that John Ben is most anxious not to make a permanent record of anything that might be challenged, and we certainly don't want to cause anyone else to do so.

As I said, Mrs. Mitchell may have some documented proof of this or it may just be family tradition. At any rate she certainly thinks he was the first and I know that he was very well to do and active in the development of this Longview area at an early date. However, I could not swear to the exact date.

Enjoyed our trip to Austin and meeting you. Thought I was writing to an "older lady".

Very truly,

Amelia S. Belding
Amelia S. Belding

East Texas Heritage

"Shannon Searchers" is a new genealogical surname newsletter, which will be published bi-monthly beginning in January with issue No. 1. The annual index will be in the November/December No. 6 issue. Editor Joyce Shannon Bridges, Rt. 2, Box 50-X, Keithville, La. 70147, writes that queries and lineages, Shannon-related, will be published free for subscribers. Stories and family traditions are also welcomed. Subscription fee is \$8.50 a year for the six issues.

"Searching Illinois Ancestors" is a bi-monthly periodical of Illinois source records, such as marriage records, newspaper abstracts, War of 1812 burials, maps of 1875 and court records. Present circulation is around 210 and on the increase. Subscription to "Searching Illinois Ancestors" is \$12 for six issues. The editor, Helen Cox Tregillis, Box 392, Shelbyville, Ill. 62565 is a certified genealogical record searcher. Queries will be published free by listing only the county and surname of the Illinois connections. A full publication of a query, maximum of 50 words, will be \$5 for a one-time inser-



Nancy Ruff

tion.

Frances Bringle, 6619 Pheasant Road, Baltimore, Md. 21220, is publishing the "Worthington Descendants", a family quarterly. A free query column is published with each issue.

"A History of Texas and Texans" was published in 1914 by the American Historical Society. This five-volume set contains biographical sketches of many Texans, and is indexed in "Morrison's Biographical Gazetteer of Texas". (Nicholson Memorial Library has these books.) Here is part of the article of Jere C. Turner Sr., which I have paraphrased because of space:

Jere C. Turner Sr. is fittingly called the "dean of Longview

citizens" because he is one of the founders of the first business house ever located in Longview, the builder of its first good residence and an active leader in the creation of Gregg County. He was born May 27, 1848, in Huntsville, Ala., the son of William S. Turner and Ann Clemens, close relative of Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). His early life was spent in Helena, Ark., and during the Civil War, he engaged in contra-band. This dangerous activity caused him to flee to Texas, where he lived near Gilmer until he returned to Arkansas at the end of the War. In 1867, Turner returned to Texas and became the bookkeeper for railway supply camps, which originated at Marshall and conducted by Miller, McKellar and Company. Continuing with this firm, he became its manager during the sojourn at Hallville (sic) and before the Longview locality was reached, he was one of the partners.

The pioneer firm of Longview, composed of J.B. Miller, E.D. McKellar, J.A. McKellar and J.C. Turner was thus the first commercial concern located in Long-

view. "

Jere C. Turner was involved in the creation of Gregg County and was an early member of the town board. Associated with him in this work was Britton Buttrill, who was Longview's early tavern-keeper and one of her most public-spirited citizens, who rode "his pony over the territory of Upshur and Rusk counties, circulating the petition necessary to presentation to the legislature. He secured the needed signatures which made possible the creation of Gregg County."

Fifty dollars was required by the representative to petition in Austin, and the day before his departure, only \$6 had been raised. The balance of the amount came out of Turner's pocket, "who thus, so to speak, stood godfather to the infant county."

The Longview, Texas, Centennial featured Jere Clemens Turner, giving his birthplace as Helena, Ark. He married Frances Charlotte Harrison, daughter of F.J. Harrison, president of the first bank in Longview. They reared ten children: W.S. Turner, Jere C. Turner Jr., M.M. Turner, Harry S. Turner, Annie Stewart,

Fanny Norton, Lucy Turner, Lillian King, Laura Turner and Nelwyn Turner.

Fannie Harrison Turner died in 1892 and Jere C. Turner married secondly to a widow,

C. 1923

DEES AT BILT SAVINGS, ARK. THURSDAY

Special to The News
 LONGVIEW, Tex., March 22.—Dees at Bilt Savings Bank of the town of Longview, Ark., today...
 Mr. Dees was born on May 27...
 While yet a child he moved to Jefferson, Ark., with his parents. During the Civil war, although only a boy, he aided the Confederate forces by supplying them with contraband goods. Mr. Dees came to Texas in 1847 and...
 Longview more than fifty years ago...
 In 1897 organized the Turner Grocery Company, one of the wholesale concerns of this city...
 one of the organizers and president of the Citizens National Bank of this city and was connected with various other local business interests.
 Mr. Turner was one of the pioneer citizens of this section, responsible for the creation of Gregg County and contributed largely to his own and his means in the movement.
 He is survived by seven children. The surviving children are Will Turner and Mrs. Fannie Norton, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Mrs. J. I. Stewart, San Angelo; Mrs. Clarence King, Bristol, Va.; Mack, Jere and Harry, Longview.
 Funeral will be held Thursday at 10 o'clock in Longview.

Hogg, later Governor of Texas. His early career in a business way was such a success he made a firm for himself.

His business career for more than fifty years was one that had grown more and more closely into the civic entity of the town, and his is the distinction of having built the first permanent business edifice ever constructed in Longview. The growth of his retail grocery business was such that in 1897 he converted it into a wholesale business, incorporated under the name of the Turner Grocery Co. The stock of this concern was owned and controlled entirely by the members of the Turner family. Mr. Turner was president and his sons other officers of the company.

In later years he retired from business and his sons Jerre C. Turner, Jr., Mack Turner and Harry Turner, took up the cotton business exclusively and today it is a successful firm, known as the Turner Cotton Co.

In November 1871 Mr. Turner's first marriage was to Miss Fannie C. Harrison. She was the daughter of F. J. Harrison of Keashie, La., her

value to the county was the creation of Gregg county. He was one of the early members of the town board, and in that capacity his influence and activity proved vital to the success of the proposal.

J. C. Turner, Sr., was a descendant of noted Southern families. His father William Turner, was a native of Virginia and his maternal ancestry was the Clemens family, made famous by Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), whose stories are now regarded as classics.

In a resume of Mr. Turner's life one finds connected many interesting incidents. The date of his birth was May 29, 1848, and his earliest years were spent in his native home of Huntsville, Ala. When he was a child his parents moved to near Helena, Ar., where his elementary education was pursued, until the outbreak of the Civil War.

"In the enthusiasm of his earlier youth, for he was barely fifteen years of age, he could not forbear aiding his soldier countrymen of the South. After the war he resumed his studies at Russel's Normal Academy at Arkansas. The State of Texas appealed strongly to his interests for he saw in it much of the promise that has since been fulfilled. In 1867 he came to the Lone Star state and began his self-supporting career.

At that time the Texas & Pacific railroad westward marked the only limit to the commercial center this region had become. The new line of railroad, stretching its length westward had made mutually advantageous a series of supply camps which originated at Marshall. They were conducted by Miller, McKellar & Co., and for this concern J. C. Turner became bookkeeper. Continuing with this firm he became its manager and finally a co-partner of the company.

and C. D. McLain be from the residence morning at 10 o'clock are the pall bearers:

Active Pall Bear.

Dush Shaw, E. H. Busse
Melton, B. Feagle, R. E. 1
MrGrath, L. E. Jones F. 1
J. O. Browning, E. L. Kelly,
H. Acker, G. C. Finch, C. F.
F. H. Bivins, M. H. Bivins,
Friedlander, Alton Holloway,
Grande Kelly, J. J. Lucy, P. J. B
row, J. P. Rembert, J. J. Goodwin
W. B. Smith, Dr. J. E. Bussey, T. B.
Stinchcomb.

Funeral Services Thursday

T. E. Kennard, J. J. Flewellen, W.
F. Young, J. R. Castleberry, F. T.
Rembert, Alex Magrill, Dr. W. S.
Mayfield, C. B. Cunningham, Dr. C.
W. Lawrence, N. H. Smitherman, O.
H. Pegues, G. A. Miller, L. Whaley,
S. B. Hicks, L. Trice, J. M. Well-
borne, G. W. Kretch; Dr. D. B. Mc-
Pherson; Dr. W. D. Northcutt; Dr.
W. M. Cole, G. A. Bodenheim, Elr
Allison, Ike Killingsworth, D. V.
Killingsworth, Rogers Lacy, H. L.
Lawrence, R. M. Kelly, Will Fisher,
A. M. Perry, W. C. Dean, Edwin Lacy,
A. L. Mann, D. S. Meredith, S. E.
Moberly, E. A. Morgan, A. C. Num-
sen, W. A. Ash, J. G. Pegues, Zach
Evans, W. K. Eckman, E. B. Pro-
thro, James Rea, O. A. Reese, W. D.
Sessums, J. F. Stuckey, L. A. Ses-
sums, George Teague, S. R. Thrash-
er, George Utzman, Ras Young, E.
S. Wilson, L. L. Eddins, Dr. V. R.
Hurst, J. P. Koon, S. R. Hicks, J. A.
Boring and Abram Gans of Fort
Worth; L. A. Stancliffe and Frank
Crider.

PIONEER LONGVIEW CITIZEN IS DEAD

JERE CLEMENS TURNER SR. DIES AT HOT SPRINGS, ARK., TUESDAY.

Special to The News.

LONGVIEW, Texas, March 75
Jere Clemens Turner Sr., 75 y
old, one of the foremost pion
citizens of this section, died today
Hot Springs, Ark.

Mr. Turner was born on May 27
1848, at Huntsville, Ala. While yet
a child he moved to Helena, Ark.,
with his parents. During the Civil
War, although only a boy, he aided
the Confederate forces by supplying
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Turner came to Texas in 1867 and
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In 1897 organized the Turne
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was one of the organizers and presi-
dent of the Citizens' National Bank
of this city and was connected with
various other local business inter-
ests.

Mr. Turner was one of the pioneer
citizens of this section responsible
for the creation of Gregg County,
and contributed largely of his time
and his means in this movement.

He is survived by seven children.
The surviving children are Will
Turner and Mrs. Fannie Norton,
Pine Bluff, Ark.; Mrs. J. J. Stewart,
San Angelo; Mrs. Clarence King,
Bristol, Va.; Mack, Jere Jr. and
Harry, Longview.

Funeral will be held Thursday at
10 o'clock in Longview.

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Jere Clemens Turner, Sr. was born in Helena, Arkansas in 1849. He came to Texas after the war between the States and first lived in Marshall which was as far as the Texas and Pacific Railway had been built. When it was extended to Hallsville, his firm moved on there and when the railroad was extended to Longview, he moved there. The township of Longview was established in 1872. He was married to Francis Charollete Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Harrison, November 18, 1871. Mr. Harrison organized the F. J. Harrison Banking Company which was the forerunner of the present First National Bank. Two children were born; Will in October, 1872; and Annie, in November, 1873. In March, 1874, Mr. Turner bought ten lots, Block #17, near the Junction of the Texas and Pacific and International Great Northern Railroads. Also in 1874, he built a two-story home on this property which faced what is now known as Methvin Street. This street was named for O. H. Methvin, one of the early settlers. The original walls of this house are exactly the same with the exception that the half front porch, both upstairs and downstairs, was taken in to enlarge the living room downstairs and a bedroom upstairs. New windows were put in as needed repairs. The repairs were made in 1923. The inside of this original house had walls of plaster on lath and then papered. There are six wood-burning fireplaces in this house, and there are now three of the original mantles in perfect condition. Steam heat was put in this house in 1910 to supplement the fireplaces. The stairway, which was bought in St. Louis, consisting of the newel post, steps, handrail, with its vertical supports, are all of walnut and carved. This stairway is in perfect condition today.

On the premises was a large one-room building that was used for a school room for their children. Mr. Turner believed in paying for the education of his own children and was fortunate that he could employ an excellent governess for his children until they reached college age. Five children were born in this

house on Methvin Street. Fannie, July 1875; Lucy, September, 1876, Jere, November 6, 1878; Laura, in October, 1880; and Mack, February 22, 1883. The house was then sold to Mrs. M. A. Terry October 23, 1883, who sold it to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Miller.

In 1895^{probably 1883-84} during this intermin, Mr. and Mrs. Turner and family lived in a house he built on Turners Hill in the outskirts of Longview now known as Nugget Hill Addition. Three children were born here: Lillian, December 29, 1885; and twins Newlyn and Harry, July 6, 1888. Mrs. Francis Charlotte Turner died in this house in 1892. Mr. Turner married a widow, Mrs. Martha Winifred Gattlin Boles, in 1894. This house on the hill burned 1897 and Mr. Turner bought his original home on Methvin Street which was the entire Block #17 from Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Miller in 1903 and lived there until his death March 18, 1923. Jere Clemens Turner Jr. inherited this home he was born in and lived there until his death January 10, 1962. The home was given to Mrs. Holloway Mitchell (Dorothea Turner Mitchell) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jere Clemens Turner, Jr. who now owns it.

Jere Clemens Turner, Sr. had two hobbies, fine horses and Jersey cows. He always owned and rode, with great skill, beautiful Kentucky-bred horses that were very carefully groomed and really looked the part of genuine thoroughbreds. Mr. Turner was the first person to import Jersey cows to East Texas from the Jersey Isles. For years he exhibited them at the Dallas Fair, where they attracted much attention and won many blue ribbons. He continued to own fine horses and Jersey cows as long as he lived. There were several big barns on this block and two small houses were built on the back of the block for the servants. These barns and houses have been moved off. However, very close to the house in the rear stands an attractive well house which is in its original state. The front of this well house, where the well is located, the sides and front are of lattice. The original well is 35 feet deep and now has an electric pump in to water the yard and flowers. The back part of this building is of brick with a cupola on top which was used for a dairy house.

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names and actions

CLEMENS, JEREMIAH, politician, soldier and author: b. Huntsville, Ala., Dec.28,1814; d. there May 21,1865. He was well educated at LaGrange College, the University of Alabama, and Transylvania University. In 1834 he began to practise law in Huntsville, was soon appointed Federal district-attorney, served several terms in the legislature, was defeated twice for Congress, and in 1849 was appointed to fill a vacancy in the United States senate, in which he made a reputation. In politics he was first a Whig, and later a Democrat. Clemens in 1842 volunteered in the Texan army and served as lieutenant-colonel for a year. In 1847 he was appointed major in the regular army, and colonel a year later. He resigned in 1849. Elected to the Alabama convention of 1861, he opposed secession, but finally voted for it and was put in charge of the Alabama militia. A year later he went over to the Federals, and lived in the North until his death in 1864. Clemens was a gifted but erratic man, whose ambition was to excel in many fields. He wrote three rather good novels: Bernard Lile; Mustang Gray; and The Rivals.

(From The South in the Building of the Nation (1909), vol.11, pp.214-215)



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

FAX

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III
CHAIRMAN

F. LAWRENCE OAKS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*The Texas
Historical
Commission
is the state
agency for
historic
preservation.
The agency
administers
a variety of
programs to
preserve the
archeological,
historical and
cultural
resources of
Texas.*

Date: 1/2/01

Fax Number: 903/753-5337

Number of pages (including cover sheet): 3

To: Dr. Norman Black

From: Abby Haywood

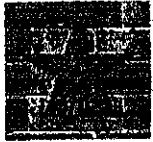
Comments:

If you have any questions about your project & how it scored, please call Lisa Harwell at 512/463-6047. The attached list is a list of funded projects for Fiscal Year 2002. Under the points section - "AB" stands for advisory board.

Thanks!
Abby (Haywood)

P.O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN, TX 78711-2276
ARCHITECTURE
512/463-6094
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www.the.state.tx.us



TEXAS PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

PROJECT NAME/CITY	COUNTY	RESOURCE TYPE	TYPE OF GRANT REQUESTED	TOTAL POINTS	FUNDING RECOMMEND.
Texas Beyond History, 2002 Statewide		Archeology	Education	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$15,000.00
San Felipe State Archeological San Felipe	Austin	Archeology	Planning	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$7,000.00
Dr. I.B. Nofsinger House Elgin	Bastrop	Architecture	Development	THC: 85 AB: 85	\$21,000.00
Rialto Theater Beeville	Bee	Architecture	Planning	THC: 85 AB: 85	\$25,000.00
Center for Archaeol. Research San Antonio	Bexar	Archeology	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$10,000.00
Bryan Municipal Building Bryan	Brazos	Architecture	Development	THC: 85 AB: 85	\$25,000.00
R.F. Hardin High School Brownwood	Brown	Architecture	Planning	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$10,000.00
Fort Anahuac Anahuac	Chambers	Archeology	Planning	THC: 80 AB: 80	\$18,000.00
Old Collin County Courthouse McKinney	Collin	Architecture	Development	THC: 90 AB: 90	\$25,000.00
City Hall of Comanche Comanche	Comanche	Architecture	Planning	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$8,750.00
Bluff Dale Tabernacle Bluff Dale	Erath	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$2,450.00
Ladonia Presbyterian Church Ladonia	Fannin	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$15,100.00
The Four-Square Barn Round Top	Fayette	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$20,000.00
Reedy Chapel AME Church Galveston	Galveston	Architecture	Development	THC: 80 AB: 80	\$25,000.00
Van Alstyne City hall Van Alstyne	Grayson	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$10,188.00
Dean Keener Crim House Kilgore	Gregg	Architecture	Planning	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$1,750.00
Houston Municipal Air Terminal Houston	Harris	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$17,500.00

McGill Brothers Building Alice	Jim Wells	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$1,875.00
Robert A. Terrell Home Terrell	Kaufman	Architecture	Planning	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$1,750.00
George Bush Family Home Midland	Midland	Architecture	Planning	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$4,000.00
Chinati Hot Springs, Inc. Marfa	Presidio	Architecture	Planning	THC: 65 AB: 65	\$5,000.00
Smathers-DeMorse House Clarksville	Red River	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$5,171.00
West Texas Woolen Mills Eldorado	Schleicher	Architecture	Development	THC: 80 AB: 80	\$4,019.00
Lee House at Fort Ringgold Rio Grande City	Starr	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$5,000.00
Fort Worth Stockyards Historical Fort Worth	Tarrant	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$13,698.00
Van Zandt County Courthouse Canton	Van Zandt	Architecture	Development	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$5,000.00
McNamara-O'Conner House Victoria	Victoria	Architecture	Planning	THC: 75 AB: 75	\$12,499.00
Forrest Lodge No. 19 A. F. & A. M. Huntsville	Walker	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$5,250.00
Montemayor House Laredo	Webb	Architecture	Planning	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$17,500.00
Tom Loyd Burnett Home Iowa Park	Wichita	Architecture	Development	THC: 80 AB: 80	\$25,000.00
Old Taylor City Hall of 1935 Taylor	Williamson	Architecture	Development	THC: 70 AB: 70	\$17,500.00
				TOTALS	\$380,000.00



Gregg County Historical Commission

417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261
Fax # 903-753-5337

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.
Chairman

August 21, 2001

Texas Preservation Trust Fund

Re: Application for the 2002 Grant Program: *The Turner Home*, 503 E. Methvin St.,
Longview.

Dear Sirs:

This fine 1874 house is one of the very few remaining houses in Longview of this vintage. It occupies a prominent location near the downtown area. J. C. Turner, Sr., called the "dean of Longview citizens", was a prominent citizen of Longview and was instrumental in the formation of Gregg County. When only \$6.00 had been raised of the \$50.00 needed for the representative to go to Austin to appear before the Committee on County Names and Boundaries Mr. Turner personally paid the remaining amount.

This house has an RTHL designation. Over the years, all owners have maintained the house in excellent condition. Mr. Bethel Muntz purchased the house from the Turner estate before 1988.

This historic home is more than worthy of preservation. A grant from the Texas Preservation Trust Fund will certainly help in this direction.

Sincerely,

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.



Gregg County Historical Commission

417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261
Fax # 903-753-5337

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.
Chairman

April 16, 2003

Sharon Mitchell
501 East Methvin Street
Longview, Texas 75601

Re Recorded Texas Historic Landmark: *The Turner Home*

Dear Mrs. Mitchell

I understand to make the exterior entrance of this historic house compliant with the ADA requirements it will be necessary to install a ramp near the northwest, parking lot area entrance. This in no way jeopardizes the Official Texas historic designation the house now carries. Please contact me if further questions arise.

Sincerely,

Norman W. Black, D.D.S..