

# WHITE OAK SCHOOL SYSTEM

Seventy years in the community of White Oak have seen many changes, among which is the beautiful, impressive White Oak Common School system, which has grown in that length of time from a 20x30 foot little red schoolhouse to a more than three million dollar plant.

Each year more improvements are required due to the growth of the enrollment and the modern way of education. Today there are 67 members on the staff at White Oak School, including 3 administrators, 37 teachers, 1 librarian, 1 nurse, 1 dietitian, 3 secretaries, 6 cafeteria employees, and 15 bus drivers and maintenance personnel. The school is attended by approximately 600 scholastics.

Also in the same school district is the Shiloh Negro Elementary School which is staffed by a principal and four teachers and has an enrollment of 60 scholastics.

R. C. Fagg serves as superintendent of the White Oak School District; and principals are C. C. Simmons, high school; E. B. Carrington, elementary; and D. M. Brown, Negro elementary. Members of the Board of Trustees are Floyd Bernard, president; C. T. McGinnis, secretary, and D. M. Miller.

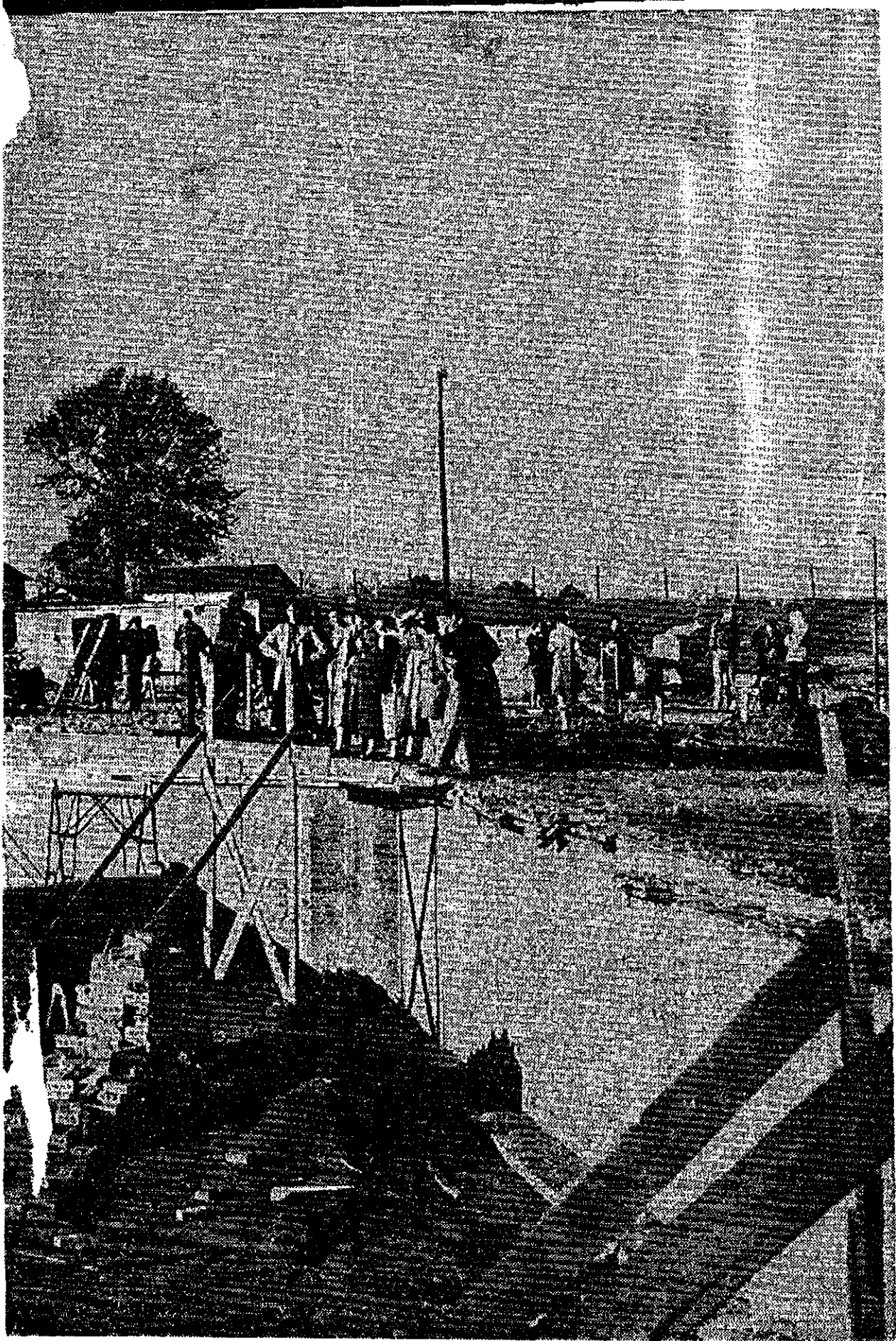
White Oak was a farming community until its first influx of new settlers moved in to work at three large

sawmills located on the then thickly-wooded terrain. Grace Creek School, a log cabin, was the first to pre-date White Oak School, followed by the Hawkins Creek School. In 1885, the latter building burned after which Plez Harris and Caleb Bumpus donated land for a new school. Work on the school, which was constructed near a spring between two sapling white oak trees, was donated by citizens of the community. Upon completion, John Bumpus suggested the name of White Oak because of the location of the trees.

Will M. Dunagan was the school's first teacher of from 20 to 30 students. As the enrollment grew, another teacher was hired and a room added to the original building, and in 1912 a larger and better building was constructed. Among those serving as trustees during this period were B. J. Adrian, W. J. Todd, T. W. Tuttle, Will Bumpus, and R. M. Johnson. This building was in use when the oil boom came to Gregg County and the population increased to such an extent that a larger and more adequate building became necessary. This was a fine brick building with 10 rooms and a large auditorium which was occupied in 1933. But it was not long until the fast-growing community needed even more room. So in 1934 an eight-room high school building containing a gymnasium was completed.

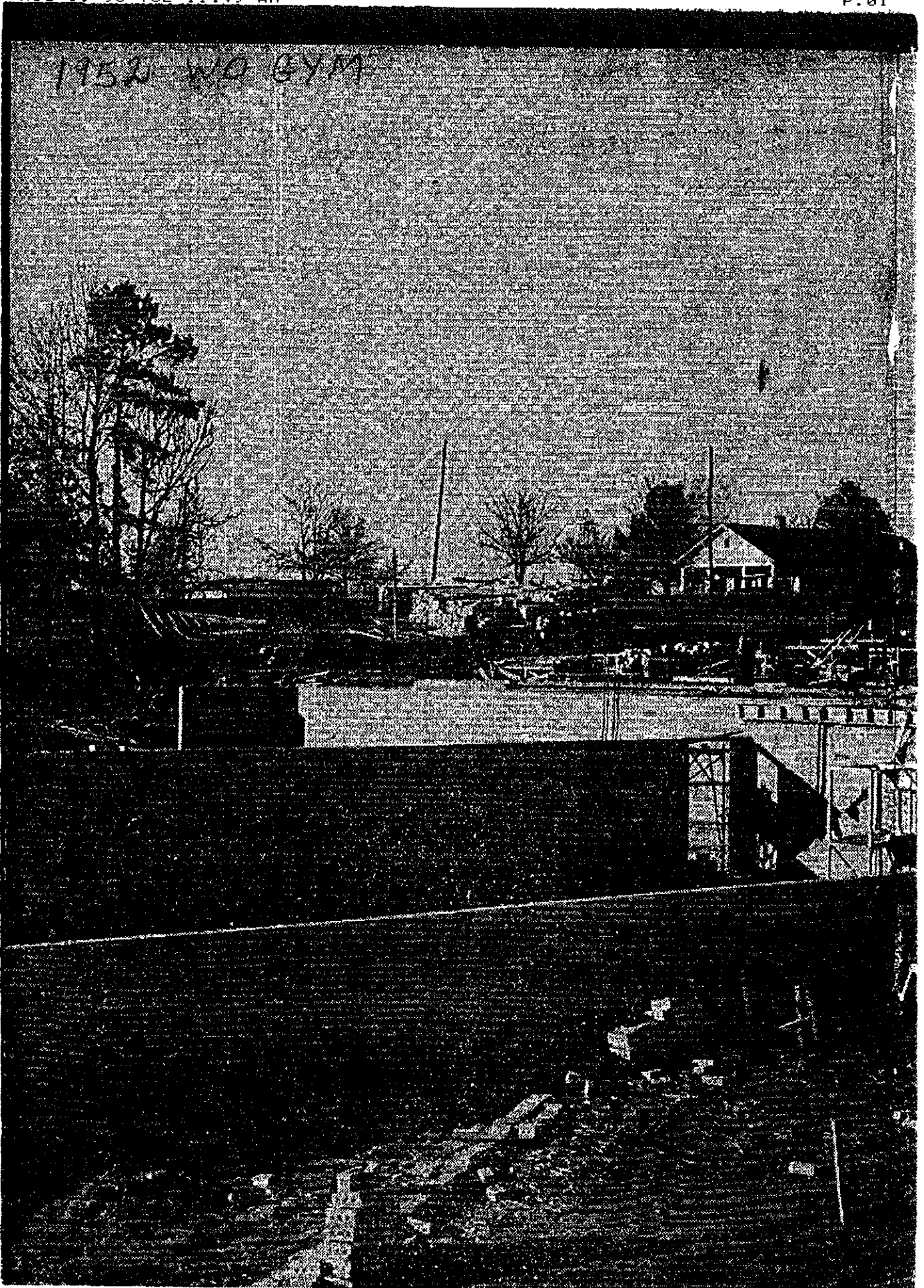
## WHITE OAK SCHOOL PLANT





1952 W.O. GYM

White Oak High School Gym 1952 (present MS gym)  
& Home Ec. Bldg.



I want this  
back

(1940) (1) - K11

THIS ISSUE IS  
DEDICATED TO THE  
ADMINISTRATION

# THE GAUGER

25th ANNIVERSARY  
WHITE OAK  
SCHOOL EDITION

PUBLICATION OF WHITE OAK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

VOL II

Monday March 26, 1940

No. 11

## J.M. Tuttle First W.O. Student, Relates History

### M. C. Satterwhite Reviews Past Events of W. O. History

#### Former Trustee Is Active in School and Church Affairs

By Herrie Hodges

One of W. O. community's prominent citizens, M. C. Satterwhite, has resided here for twenty-three years. He recalls that the W. O. we know now is not really the W. O. he knew. The area was so thickly wooded that passing was almost impossible and the "road" it could be called one, was impassable in inclement weather. Mr. Satterwhite was a trustee on the board seven and one half years, resigning of his own accord. Mr. W. M. Blackstone and Mr. Noble succeeded him on the board of the new building. So far there has been no loss of

property due to fire. He persuaded the county superintendent, Sam Houston, to donate the original building to the church. A committee was appointed to raise the old building and build a church. After the discovery of oil, a new building was erected in the present location on the new church property. He had been treasurer of the church nineteen years and a deacon for 25 years.

The first oil well was three miles northeast of W. O. The next well was discovered on the Blackstone place. These wells are still flowing.

White Oak was winner of the practice track meet held here last Wednesday with 48 points. Satterwhite won second with 18 and Pitts won last having 15.—Sports Editor



J. M. TUTTLE

### Oldest Ex-Student Devotes Time And Interest to School

By Herrie Hodges

Mr. Tuttle, Tuttle graduate of the W. O. community as one of its oldest and most prominent has carved his name indelibly in its history. Satterwhite is proud that he enrolled in the W. O. school the very first year in which it was established, 1887, and received all of his education here.

"At first there never was an Oak W. O. or three months school," he started his story, but went on to say that he had a part in the building of the first school. "Twenty students and one great fall but that was caused a large group, the building 20 ft. by 40 ft. This was the first school."

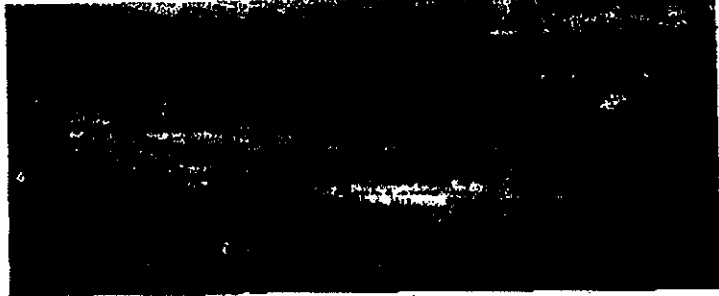
"Now if the school was built to the woods and you know for a better center of the old school," he said. "Mr. Will Douglas, Mr. White, they are the first to build it."

"Did you ever play tennis?" he asked during a pause in his story. "It was lots of fun and I also played baseball. I had looked forward to getting a tennis racket. This was about the only entertainment offered for the school."

"As long as I remember there was only one teacher, attended until I was about 10 years of age."

"The first teacher, about 1887, J. Henry Smith was called and the school began to grow. Our courses were the reading, arithmetic, writing, geography, and grammar. I think that these courses are taught today, though now we are proud of the new building which was added to our school and it was still in use when the oil boom came."

"I was trustee and one of the trustees since I finished my schooling. I always worked for the school since in an election I sought to make a law school tax for the money about 21—most of it contributed by the school."



The  
Slush  
Pit

BY SARAH JEAN MCGEE  
The staff realizes that without the cooperation of the faculty and our school, advertisers to our

paper, members of our staff, and trustees, this paper, which is the largest ever published by a Texas high school, would not have been successful.

It is very commendable that important personages in this, and other communities would stop their work and give us information and help without which it would have been impossible to publish this paper.—Sarah Jean McGee



M. C. SATTERWHITE

**MOBY COPY**

*To keep from being lost*  
*1981-82*

**Will help History Study**

FIRST TEACHER IN '85

# THE GAUGER

Volume 15 White Oak School, White Oak, Texas, January 26, 1964 Number 8



WILL DUNAGAN

## Panel Tells W. O. Past

One hundred years of public education in Texas and sixty-nine years in White Oak community were celebrated in an assembly program January 26 in the school auditorium.

E. B. Carrington opened the program with the invocation. E. H. Mullins lead the group in the singing of Texas songs; Lela Mae Robinson was the accompanist. Visitors from the community were welcomed to the program by C. C. Simmons. A history of Texas public schools was given by R. C. Fagg after which Jerry Wayne Bernard and Doris Ann Morrison sang "Little Red Schoolhouse". Representatives from each period of development in the White Oak School discussed the school as it was in their day. Assisting Mrs. Shippey, chairman of the panel, were Mrs. Maggie Bozman and Julius Tuttle, 1885; Miss Cora Mackey, 1912; Bill Bingham, 1920; John Sparrier, 1926; Mrs. Jewel Meredith and Mrs. Grace Biscockstone, 1932; Mrs. Clyde Tuttle, 1933; Audrey Adams Maberry, 1937; Mrs. W. W. Shippey, 1939; Mrs. J. E. Doby, Gene Kern, 1944; Leatrice Wood, 1951; and Joe Simmons, 1954.

As a part of the celebration, the P-TA's annual Open House was held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Supt. R. C. Fagg prefaced the meeting with a brief resume of the development of education in Texas. Refreshments were served the visitors by the P-TA Social Committee.

Plans for the program were directed by Mrs. Clyde Tuttle,



White Oak School  
1885

## From Little Red Schoolhouse in Oak Grove To Modern Three Million Dollar Education Plant

Beginning with a 20 ft by 30 ft building and twenty students, Will Dunagan, White Oak's first teacher, set the pace that was to lead the present three million dollar plant operated by a staff of 14 maintenance personnel and bus drivers, 5 cooks, 2 secretaries, a dietitian, a nurse, 3 administrators, 38 teachers for the education of 606 students.

Before 1885 there was a small school building near the Hawkins Creek where the Adrian place now is. The children of the community attended that until it burned in 1885. Mrs. Maggie Bozman attended that school her first year. Pies Harris and Caleb Bumpus donated the ground for a new school to be built near the spring between two oak trees. In 1907 the heirs signed the deed stipulating that the land be used by the school or church. In event that it is used for any other purpose, the land reverts to the heirs' estate. Work was donated on this building by citizens of the community. When it was finished John Bumpus, grandfather of Chlois Bumpus, suggested the name White Oak because of the oak trees.

In 1885 the first school building was a one-room house 20 ft. by 30 ft., housing 20 students. As time went on the enrollment grew until another teacher had to be hired and a room added to

chairman: Mrs. W. W. Shippey, Mrs. J. W. Hutchings, E. B. Carrington, and C. C. Simmons.

the original building. At this time about thirty pupils made up the student body. Later in 1912 a larger and better building was built. This building was used until the oil boom came to Gregg County.

The next building was a fine brick building with ten rooms and a large auditorium. This building was first occupied in February of 1933. It was not long until the fast-growing community necessitated the building of another large building, so in 1934 an 8-room building containing a large gymnasium and many other conveniences was built. This was occupied in November of 1934. This arrangement proved adequate until 1927 when a second story was added to the grade school, which enlarged and beautified the school immensely.

On November 26, 1950, the White Oak Music Department building which cost approximately \$85,000 was completed. Jess Petty was then head of the music department.

The Music Department contains eight sound-proof practice rooms, an office, a rehearsal room, a group practice room, a storage room, and a studio which is used for recordings. The building has two basements and is equipped with a combination air conditioning and heating system.

A new gymnasium featuring the latest athletic equipment, was completed in October of 1952.

## White Oak's School To Celebrate Texas' Schools' Centennial

By R. C. FAGG

Here at White Oak we are operating with hundreds of other schools over the State in celebrating this Centennial Year of the establishment of the public school system in Texas.

The founding fathers of public education in Texas envisioned the time when Texas would "show the world that we will not only be the Empire State in point of territory, but also in the number and excellence of our institutions of learning." goal, expressed by a group of citizens in a mass meeting at the State Capitol one hundred years ago, is especially challenging today.

The Centennial Year of the establishment of our public school system provides an opportunity for us all, to re dedicate our thoughts and efforts to the task of developing the human resources of our State and particularly in this community.

The key to good schools, we believe, is the making known of all the facts about our school system including the great importance of education to our social and economic well-being. Public understanding is necessary to public support. Public support enables the schools to advance, constantly adjusting to keep in step with the times. This special observance of the Centennial Year gives us an opportunity to invite all parents and patrons in the community to visit our school. We are proud of the interest and support of the parents at White Oak. We hope that we shall receive the continued cooperation of all for the best possible school.

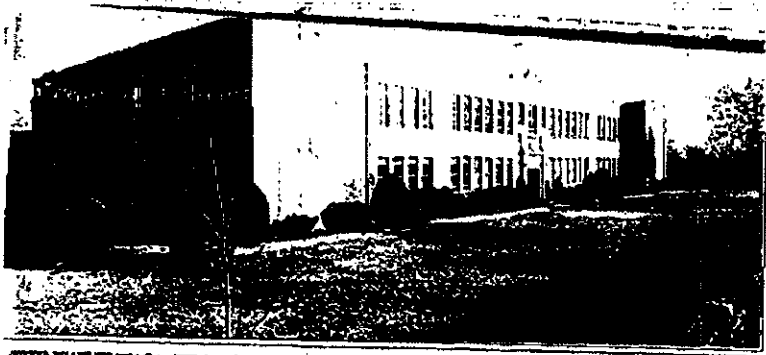
Much larger than the old gymnasium, the new gym is 118 feet long. Eight showers placed between individual dressing rooms replace the old group showers for both boys and girls.

The new gymnasium has an electrically operated partition so that both boys and girls can have gym classes at the same time.

The new gymnasium, seating 675, also has a larger seating capacity than the old one.

(Continued on Page 3)





**THE WAY IT WAS**—White Oak High School as it appeared in 1947. As the district grew the high school became the middle school campus and was eventually named the Judy C. Meredith Building.

## WO Homecoming Parade to host large number of floats

Saturday at 10 a.m. White Oak will be filled with lots of floats, bands and lots of entrants in the 1997 Homecoming Parade scheduled for 10:30 a.m.

Participants are reminded to show up about 9:30 on Lakespur and Reynolds Streets.

The theme for this year's parade is "Bring Home the Spirit." First place winners will be recognized in the following categories: Best Entry to Carry Out Parade, Most Original/Creative Design.

Grand Marshals Theo "Colton" and Emil Hanicak will lead the parade followed by White Oak Mayor Tim Vaughn.

County Commissioner David Brice will be driving his model Ford and Phil Fleming will be driving a model A.

Members of the classes of 1937 and '57 will be riding on a float. The White Oak High School Band and the White Oak Band will be leading the parade.

contestant Leslie Fife and the 1997 Homecoming Queen and her court will be riding in the parade.

Also added to the list is the Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops #207, Lil'Necks Cheerleaders, 5th & 6th Lil'Necks Cheerleaders, the White Oak Middle School Cheerleaders and members of the Flag Football Team and Off-Season Basketball Team have also signed up.

KEES Talk Radio will have their mobile unit in town. Also entered are White Oak Stables, Gregg County 4-H Club, The Gregg County Mounted Sheriff Patrol, White Oak Police Department, and Gregg County will be represented with a car of dignitaries. The United Lumber National Gouge Band, a native American Band who will be dressed in Indian attire.

Leonard and Mike Trump will drive their covered wagon and make their way in the parade. The White Oak Band will be leading the parade.

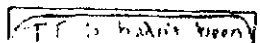
Bill McBride will be hauling his well-known "Little Train." The Pinkston Race Car has entered and an oil derrick float is on the list of entrants.

Jimmy Kirkland and his Mardi Gras Four-Wheelers will be taking down the road, members of the WO Flag Football team have entered and Seth Rogers (who is in need of a bone marrow transplant) will decorate his pick-up truck with the theme "Because I Care."

Sharon Johnson will be walking "The Spirit of '67" and Beth Sims will be riding her hike decorated in school colors.

Organizers of the parade are Tommy Graves and Jay Stokes.

**WACKY MAN**  
From Tehuacana



### "Stand In the Gap" to be shown at Memorial Baptist

"Stand In the Gap" will be presented live from Washington, D.C. via satellite on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Memorial Baptist Church on a wide screen TV.

"Stand In The Gap" is a gathering of over 1 million people who will congregate around the state capitol and White House to worship and bring different denominations together in prayer.

Memorial Baptist Church is located on Money Street off of Highway 80 in Gladewater. For information call 845-7306.

'57

Continued from page 7

hike to Waco to play the Mart Panthers in Baylor Stadium.

Battered and bruised from the slugfest with Sundown, the odds did not favor the Roughnecks. Mart breezed through the southern bracket with topside wins to run its record to 14-0.

White Oak had to call on all its resources, including its great tradition, just to stay in the game. For more than three quarters, Mart hammered away with its single wing at the Roughnecks, who refused to fold.

Taking the second half kickoff, the Panthers stormed 73 yards to grab a 7-0 bulge. Moments later, Mart launched another threat that was halted by a fumble at the White Oak 2. Then, early in the fourth quarter, Wyatt picked off a pass in the end zone and barely got out to the one yard line on the return.

White Oak nudged out to its 2 where the Roughnecks faced a do-or-die four and two situation. That's when Mart made a fatal mistake. The Panthers lined up with a sure man front and two linebackers to fight Davis handed to Davis who mowed through a

A & A DESIGN  
116 ADAMS RD.  
LONGVIEW, TX 75604  
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**WAYNE L. SNODDY**  
ENGINEERING CONSULTANT  
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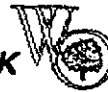
*Good Luck,  
Brooke!  
Love,  
Mom & Dad*



**WELCOME HOME,  
WHITE OAK  
ALUMNII!**

Hope you enjoy the game  
and all the Homecoming Festivities ...

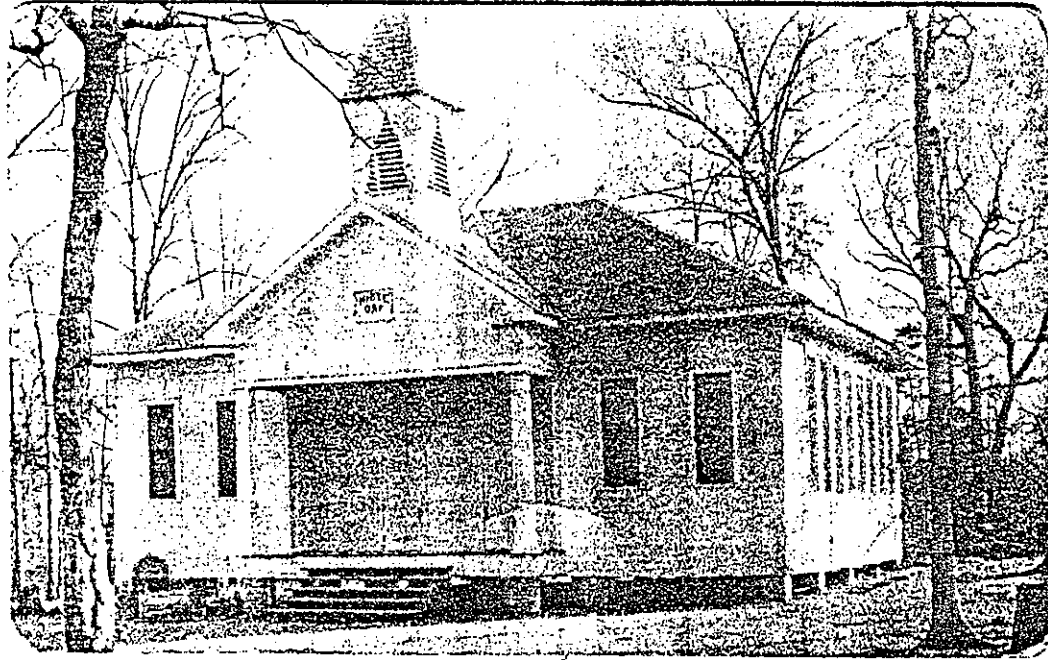
**CITY OF  
WHITE OAK**



**WELCOME  
EX-STUDENTS**  
We're Glad You Could  
"Wheel On In" for  
**HOME COMING  
1997**



**The Tire Barn**



White Oak early School and Church

Vol. V p. 569

April 6, 1907

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she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this 23 day of February A.D. 1903 (L.S.) W.D. Thompson J.P. and Exofficio Notary Public Gregg County Texas.

The state of Texas,) County of Gregg. ) I do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original deed and certificate of acknowledgment as filed for record in my office on the 7th day of May 1907 at 11 O'clock A.M. and recorded this 10th day of May 1907 at 1 O'clock P.M.

Dusk Shaw County Clerk of Gregg County, Texas.

oo0oo

Miss  
T. B.  
J. J.  
B. B.  
and of  
school dist.  
p. 8.  
752

The state of Texas,) County of Gregg. ) Know all men by these Presents: That of the County of Gregg state of Texas for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollars, to me paid by The Board of Trustees of Common School District No. 8 of the County of Gregg state of Texas and their successors in office Cash, have Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey, unto the said Board of Trustees of Common School Dist. No. 8 of the County of Gregg state of Texas, all that certain tract or parcel of land described as follows to wit: Being a part of the W.H. Castleberry Head Right Survey situated about eight miles West from the City of Longview, Texas and bounded as follows: Beginning 35 yards due West of the center of White Oak School building, Thence North 35 Yds. to a corner, thence East 140 yds to corner, Thence South 70 yds to corner, thence West 140 to South West corner which is 35 yds South of place of beginning Containing two acres of land more or less. Be it expressly agreed that the property herein conveyed shall be used exclusively for the purposes of public education, with the exception that any white denomination of the Christian faith may have free use of the property as a place of worship at such times as not to interfere with any session of School. To have and to hold the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said Board of Trustees of School Dist No. 8, County and state aforesaid and their successors in office forever. And I do hereby bind myself & my heirs, executors and administrators to Warrant and Forever Defend, all and singular the said premises unto the said Board of Trustees of School Dist No. 8 and their successors in office forever against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof. Witness hand at this day of A.D. 190

S. C. Harris  
T. B. Harriss  
S. F. Shelton  
G. R. Harriss  
Amanda Harper  
J. J. Harris  
K. A. Bumpus  
Mollie Fisher

The state of Texas,) County of ) Before me W.Y. Fisher J.P. & Exofficio Notary in and for County Texas, on this day personally appeared S.C. Harris, T.B. Harriss, S.F. Shelton, G.R. Harris, Amanda Harper, J.J. Harris, K.A. Bumpus & Mollie Fisher known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this day of 6 Apr. A.D. 1907 (L.S.) W.Y. Fisher, J.P. and Exofficio Notary Public in and for Gregg Co. Texas.

The state of Texas,) County of Gregg. ) I do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original deed and certificate of acknowledgment as filed for record in my office on the 7th day of May 1907 at 11 O'clock A.M. and recorded this 10th day of May 1907 at 2 O'clock P.M.

Dusk Shaw County Clerk of Gregg County, Texas.

oo0oo

V  
K. B. Behm  
inf  
B. B.  
B. B.  
Turner  
753

The state of Texas,) County of Gregg. ) Know all men by these Presents: That I, Katie Moore Boham and husband Frank Boham of the County of Gregg state of Texas for and in consideration of the sum of Five Dollars, to me in hand paid by G.B. Turner, cash, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and the further consideration of the cancellation and surrender of five certain Veredged, and the further consideration of the sum of \$250.00, and which said notes are fully described in deed from said Turner to said Katie Behm, to which said deed reference is hereby made for a full and complete description of said notes, and the remaining part of the 59 6/10 acres is to remain & be the property of the said Katie Behm, have Granted, Sold and Conveyed and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey unto the said G.B. Turner of the County of Gregg state of Texas all that certain tract or parcel of land situated in Gregg County, Texas, being a part of the John Fuddle H.R. Survey. Beginning on the S. line of the W.B. Taylor tract: Thence S. 230 varas to a stake on the E.B. line of Ben White's tract; thence E. 732 varas to a stake; thence N. 230 varas to a stake in the S. line of the Campbell tract; thence W. with said line and the S. line of Taylor's tract to the beginning, containing in all 29 8/10 acres of land, more or less, and being the same tract or parcel of land conveyed to me, the said Katie Behm, by the said G.B. Turner. The said Katie Behm retaining 29 8/10 acres as her part. To have and to hold the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said G.B. Turner, his heirs and assigns forever. And I do hereby bind myself, my heirs, executors and administrators to Warrant and Forever Defend all and singular the said premises unto the said G.B. Turner,



V131 p.192

WITNESS MY HAND, on this the 22th day of July, A. D. 1932.

REAGAN R. HUFFMAN

THE STATE OF TEXAS |

COUNTY OF GREGG |

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared REAGAN R. HUFFMAN, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 22th day of July, A. D. 1932.

(LS)

R. O. KENLEY, JR.  
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas.

FILED FOR RECORD July 23, 1932 at 9:45 o'clock A. M.  
RECORDED Sept. 6, 1932 at 9:20 o'clock A. M. (MRR)

*Dush Shaw*  
COUNTY CLERK GREGG COUNTY TEXAS

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#11900

QUIT CLAIM DEED:

THE STATE OF TEXAS |

COUNTY OF GREGG |

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT WE, L. E. Orms and wife, Essie of the County of Gregg and State of Texas, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollars to us in hand paid by Trustees of White Oak School District No. 8 of the County of Gregg and State of Texas, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents BARGAIN SELL RELEASE AND FOREVER QUIT CLAIM unto the said Trustees of White Oak School District No. 8 and to their successors in office, heirs and assigns, all of our right, title and interest in and to that certain tract or parcel of land lying in the County of Gregg, State of Texas, described as follows, to-wit:

All that certain tract or parcel of land, situated in Gregg County, Texas, being a part of the Wm. H. Castleberry Survey, and described as follows:

BEGINNING 35 yards due W. of the center of White Oak School Building;

THENCE - N. 35 yards to corner; THENCE - E. 140 yards to corner;

THENCE - S. 70 yards to corner; THENCE W. 140 yards to S. W. corner, which is 35 yards S. of the place of beginning;

THENCE - N. 35 yards to the place of beginning, containing 2 acres, more or less.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said premises, together with all and singular the rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto in any manner belonging unto the said Trustees of White Oak School District No. 8 and to their successors in office, heirs and assigns, forever, so that neither we the said L. E. Orms and wife, Essie nor our heirs, nor any person or persons claiming under us shall, at any time hereafter, have, claim, or demand any right or title to the aforesaid premises or appurtenances, or any part thereof.

WITNESS OUR HANDS, at Longview, Texas, this day of July A. D. 1932.

L. E. ORMS

ESSIE ORMS

THE STATE OF TEXAS |

COUNTY OF GREGG |

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared L. E. Orms known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 22nd day of July, A. D. 1932.

(LS)

R. R. BONDURANT  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS |

COUNTY OF GREGG |

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared Essie Orms, wife of L. E. Orms, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and having been examined by me privily and apart

from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she, the said Essie Orms acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed, and she declared that she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 22nd day of July, A. D. 1932.

(LS) R. R. BONDURANT  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas.

FILED FOR RECORD July 26, 1932 at 10:10 o'clock A. M.  
RECORDED Sept. 7, 1932 at 9:25 o'clock A. M. (MRR)

*Rush Shaw*  
COUNTY CLERK GREGG COUNTY TEXAS

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#11901

OIL AND GAS LEASE:

AGREEMENT, Made and entered into the 25th day of July, 1932, by and between MARY LEE BELL, Guardian of the Estate of Thelma May Bell and Edward Bell sometimes referred to as Egbert Bell, Minors, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter called lessor (whether one or more) and SAM ROWAN, hereinafter called lessee:

WITNESSETH: That the said lessor, for and in consideration of Fifty and no/100 (\$50.00) Dollars and the deferred consideration as hereinafter set out and of the covenants and agreements hereinafter contained on the part of lessee to be paid, kept and performed, has granted, demised, leased and let, and by these presents does grant, lease and let unto the said lessee for the sole and only purpose of exploring, drilling mining and operating for oil and gas and of laying pipe lines and of building tanks, power stations and structures thereon to produce, save and take care of said products all that certain tract of land situated in the County of Gregg, State of Texas, described as follows, to-wit:

Being the South two-thirds (2/3) of the following land:

BEING a part of the Dudley Moore Survey, and beginning at the most Easterly Southeast corner of the JEFFERSON MOSELEY SURVEY which is the most Westerly Southwest corner of the DUDLEY MOORE SURVEY, said corner being in the Northern Boundary line of the Charles H. Alexander Survey, from which a B. O. brs N. 20-1/2 E. 9-1.2 vrs. a Black Jack brs S. 46 E. 4 vrs. and a Red Oak brs S. 46 E. 3.4 vrs;

THENCE N. to the Southern Boundary line of the Texas & Pacific Railway right of way;

THENCE S. 80 deg. E. 68.2 vrs. to a stake in the Southern Boundary line of the Texas & Pacific Railway right of way;

THENCE S. to the stake in the Northern Boundary line of the Chas. H. Alexander Survey from which a P. O. brs N. 40 Degs. E. 13 vrs;

THENCE W. 75.3 vrs. to the place of beginning, containing 5.35 acres.

The deferred consideration hereinabove referred to is Fourteen and 85/100 (\$14.85) Dollars and is to be paid to the said LESSORS out of the first oil produced and saved if, as and when produced.

For the purpose of determining the amount of money payment hereunder, said land shall be considered to comprise 3.56 acres, even though it actually comprises more or less, but it is lessor's intention to lease, and he does lease hereby, in addition to the land above described, all of the land and interests in land owned by lessor in said sections, grants, leagues and/or surveys as shown by the records of said County and all other land and interests in land owned by lessor in said sections, grants, leagues and/or surveys and/or adjoining sections, grants, leagues and/or surveys and lessor expressly agrees to deliver to lessee any supplemental instrument seemed necessary or requested by lessee for more complete or accurate description of the land and interests thus intended to be leased.

It is agree that this lease shall remain in force for a term of ten (10) years from this date, said term being hereafter called "Primary Term", and as long thereafter as oil or gas or either of them is produced from said land by the lessee.

In consideration of the premises the said lessee covenants and agrees:

1st. To deliver to the credit of lessor, free of cost, in the pipe line to which lessee may connect its or his wells, the equal one-eighth part of all oil produced and saved from the leased premises.

2nd. To pay to lessor, as royalty for gas from each well where gas only is found, while the same is being sold or used off of the premises, one-eighth of the market price at the wells of the amount so sold or used, and where such gas is not so sold or used lessee shall pay to lessor \$50.00 per annum as royalty from each of such wells and while such royalty is

V 207 p. 109

8217.

Warranty Deed.

The State of Texas )

County Of Gregg )

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That We, M C Satterwhite and wife Ada Satterwhite of the County of Gregg, State of Texas, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Ninety & No/100 (\$190.00) Dollars to us in hand paid by Trustees of White Oak Common School District No 8 of Gregg County, viz., W H Blackstone, J B Doby and J M Tuttle, as follows:

Receipt of which is hereby acknowledged

have, subject to the limitation hereinafter stated Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey unto the said Trustees of White Oak District and their successor in office, same being Common School District No 8 of Gregg County Texas, of the County of Gregg, State of Texas,

All that certain tract or parcel of land in the William Castleberry H R Survey, Gregg County, Texas and being that part of the M C Satterwhite 82 acre tract, and being that part of the said Satterwhite tract lying East of the New Highway and adjacent to the present 2 acre school tract more completely described as follows:

v Beginning at a stake set for a corner in the West line of the said 2 acre tract about one hundred and five feet West of the front entrance to the present Church Building located on said tract. Said stake is also 61 feet North about five deg West from the Northwest corner of the present school building and 105 feet South of the Northwest corner of the 2 acre tract;

Thence North 105 feet to the Northwest corner of the present 2 acre tract;

Thence North 14 deg West 783 feet with the West Boundary line of the L E Orms 16 acre tract, to the Northwest corner of this tract which is also the Northeast corner of the M C Satterwhite, and in the South Boundary line of the T W Tuttle tract;

Thence South 82 deg 30 minutes West 73 feet to a stake in the fence line which is the North Boundary line of the said M C Satterwhite 82 acre tract and the South boundary line of the T W Tuttle tract. Said stake is in the East line of the New Highway for the Northwest corner of this tract;

Thence South 8 deg East 262 feet with the East line of said Highway;

Thence South 2 deg 10 minutes E 876 feet to a stake in the old Highway from which a post oak bears Northwest 18 feet, said stake is set in the North line of the new Highway 19 feet North from the Southwest corner of this tract. This corner also in a South line of the said M C Satterwhite 82 acre tract;

Thence North 41 deg East with the said Satterwhite line to the place of beginning and containing 3.8 acres of land.

This conveyance being for the use of said school District and is intended to convey surface rights only and no mineral rights.

To have and to hold the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said Trustees of White Oak Common School District No 8 and their successors in office, heirs and assigns forever; and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, to Warrant and Forever Defend all and singular the said premises unto the said Trustees of White Oak Common School District No 8 viz. W H Blackstone, J B Doby and J M Tuttle and their successors in office, their heirs and assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

Witness our hands at Longview, Texas this 11th day of October, A D 1932.

50¢ revenue stamp

M C Satterwhite

affixed and cancelled.

Ada L Satterwhite

The State Of Texas )

County Of Gregg )

Before Me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared M C Satterwhite and Ada Satterwhite, his wife, both known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they each executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and the said Ada Satterwhite wife of the said M C Satterwhite having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she, the said Ada Satterwhite acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed, and she declared that she had willingly signed the same for

the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this 11th day of Oct A D 1936.

(L.S.)

Julia Bassett

Notary Public, Gregg Co. Tex.

Filed for record September 8, 1936 at 4:33 o'clock P M,

Recorded September 18, 1936 at 4:15 o'clock P M.

*W. H. Shaw*  
Clerk County Court, Gregg County, Texas (S.W.)

8218.

Mineral Deed.

The State Of Texas )

County Of Gregg )

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That James T Smith, of Tyler, Smith County, Texas, hereinafter called Grantor for and in consideration of the sum of Ten and no/100 (\$10.00) Dollars, cash in hand paid by Grantor by L M Jahn, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey, unto the said L M Jahn, hereinafter called Grantee, an undivided one/thirty second (1/32nd) interest in and to all of the oil, gas and other minerals in and under the following described tract of land, situated in Gregg County, Texas, to-wit:

Being a part of the Wm Robinson Survey, about 5 miles West of the Town of Longview, Texas; and

Beginning at Thad Snoddy's S E C a stone two post oaks are the witness tree;

Thence E 550 vrs to a stone a sweet gum brs N 57 1/2 W 10 vrs., a hickory S 26 E 4 vrs;

Thence N 855 vrs to a stake in road;

Thence S 68 W with sd road 575 vrs to Snoddy's E B L a post oak for corner;

Thence S 640 vrs to the place of beginning, containing 73 1/2 acres, more or less.

It being the intention herein to cover all land owned in the above mentioned tract or survey or adjoining surveys whether by deed, inheritance or limitation whether correctly described or not.

Together with the right of ingress and egress at all times for the purpose of taking said minerals.

It is distinctly understood and herein stipulated that said land is under an oil and gas lease providing for a royalty of one-eighth of the oil and certain royalties or rentals for gas and other minerals and that Grantee herein shall receive one/thirty-second (1/32nd) of the royalties and rentals provided for in said lease, and that he shall also receive one/ thirty-second (1/32nd) part of the annual rentals paid to keep said lease in force until drilling is begun.

It is further agreed that Grantee shall have one/thirty-second (1/32nd) interest in any bonus money received by the Grantor in any future lease or leases given on said land, and that it shall be necessary for the Grantee to join in any such lease or leases so made; that Grantee shall receive under such lease or leases one/thirty-second (1/32nd) part of all of the oil, gas and other minerals taken and saved under any such lease or leases, and he shall receive the same out of the royalty provided for in such lease or leases, but Grantee shall have one/thirty-second (1/32nd) part of the annual rentals paid to keep such lease or leases in force until drilling is begun.

To have and to hold the same unto the said Grantee, his heirs and assigns, forever.

This instrument is executed without recourse and without warranty, in law or in equity.

The interest conveyed and intended to be conveyed hereby is that certain interest conveyed to Grantor by the State National Bank, Corsicana, Texas, on the 6th day of January, 1934, by an instrument recorded in Volume 158, page 325-6, Deed Records Gregg County, Texas.

In Witness Whereof, the Grantor has hereunto signed his name, on this the 27th day of June, A D 1936.

\$1.50 revenue stamp  
affixed and cancelled.

James T Smith

V 185 p. 472

472

and each acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 8th day of August, A.D. 1934.

Mrs. Cleo Wheelless  
Notary Public in and for Gregg  
County, Texas.

(L.S.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF GREGG )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Rembert Stevens and Minnie Stevens, his wife, each known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and the said Minnie Stevens, wife of the said Rembert Stevens, having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she, the said Minnie Stevens, acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed and declared that she had signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 8th day of August, A.D. 1934.

Mrs. Cleo Wheelless  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County,  
Texas.

(L.S.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Robert Jones, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 11th day of August, A.D. 1934.

W.B. Mattison  
Notary Public in and for Jefferson  
County, Texas.

(L.S.)

FILED FOR RECORD July 11, 1935 at 2:40 PM  
RECORDED July 23, 1935 at 2:30 PM (PB)

*W. B. Mattison*  
COUNTY CLERK, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

-7589-  
WARRANTY DEED

THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF GREGG )

) KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That L.E. Orms and Essie Orms of the County of Gregg State of Texas for and in consideration of the sum of TWO HUNDRED & FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00) DOLLARS to us in hand paid by Trustees of White Oak district No. 8, Namely, J. M. Tuttle, Joe Bander and J.C. Bumpus

have Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey, unto the said Trustees of White Oak District No. 8, namely, J. M. Tuttle, Joe Bander and J.C. Bumpus of the County of Gregg State of Texas all that certain tract or parcel of land

BEGINNING at a point 21 feet North and 21 feet East of the S.E. corner of the present Grade School building of White Oak School District No. 8;

THENCE East 156 feet to a stake;

THENCE North 750 feet to Yount-Lee road;

THENCE in a Northwest direction along Yount-Lee road 480 feet to where said road intersects new highway;

THENCE South along East Boundary lines of White Oak School to place of beginning, also, all land that L.E. Orms and Essie Orms own and claim between the old White Oak School ground and the tract of school ground purchased from M.C. Satterwhite running South approximately 12 feet beyond new building under construction,

THENCE due East to L.E. Orms's tract bought from W. A. Ray in 1918.

The School Board of trustees, namely, J. M. Tuttle, Joe Bander and J.C. Bumpus and County Superintendent, Cora Mackey, and their successors in office, understand



that all above described land so purchased from L.E. Orms and wife, Essie Orms is under an Oil & Gas Lease to Magnolia Petroleum Company. Therefore, they agree not to protest or interfere in any way with any development that said Company or other Companies may want to perform on the above described property.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said Trustees of White Oak District No. 8, namely, J. H. Tuttle, Joe Bander and J.C. Bumpus heirs and assigns forever and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, to Warrant and Forever Defend, all and singular the said premises unto the said Trustees of White Oak District No. 8 Namely, J. H. Tuttle, Joe Bander and J.C. Bumpus heirs and assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

WITNESS our hands at Longview, Texas this 31st day of August 1934.

L.E. Orms.  
Mrs. Essie Orms.

50¢ revenue stamp affixed and cancelled.

THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF GREGG )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared L.E. Orms known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 4th day of September A.D. 1934.

Julia Bassett  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County,  
Texas.

(L.S.)  
THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF GREGG )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared Essie Orms wife of L.E. Orms, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she, the said Essie Orms acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed, and she declared that she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 4th day of September A.D. 1934.

Julia Bassett  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas.

(L.S.)

FILED FOR RECORD July 11, 1935 at 2:41 PM  
RECORDED July 23, 1935 at 2:50 PM (PB)

*Beulah Shaw*  
COUNTY CLERK, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

-7710-

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
RIGHT-OF-WAY DEED

STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF GREGG )

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT I, W. M. Lindsay of the County of Gregg in the State of Texas, for and in consideration of the sum of One DOLLARS to cash in hand paid by the State of Texas, acting through the State Highway Commission, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have this day sold, and do by these presents grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the State of Texas all that certain tract or parcel of land situated in the County of Gregg, State of Texas, and being part of a survey originally granted to Hamilton McMutt, by Patent No..., Vol..., Abstract No..., and being a part of a tract of ... acres conveyed by ... to ... by deed dated the ... day of ... 19..., and recorded in Volume No..., page No..., of the Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas, said tract or parcel of land herein conveyed, being more particularly described as follows:

Being a strip of land varying from 17 feet to 21 feet in width off of the W. M. Lindsey Lot No. 6, Block No. 16, in the City of Longview, Gregg County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:-

BEGINNING at the S.W. corner of said lot, said corner being 24 feet, more

White Oak  
High School



This Certifies That

**Agness Hughleen Satterwhite**

*has satisfactorily completed the Course of Study prescribed by the Board of Education  
for the High School Department and is therefore entitled to this*

**DIPLOMA**

*Given under our hands at White Oak this 2nd day of June 1937*

*G. E. Smalley*  
SCHOOL COMMISSIONER

*W. C. Mathis*  
SUPERINTENDENT

*J. L. Stinger*  
SECRETARY

*P. E. Anderson*  
PRINCIPAL

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p. 59

SINGLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }  
COUNTY OF GREGG

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared

**ROBERT CARGILL**

known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 11th day of June A. D. 1965.

(L. S.) John Miller  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas

Filed for Record on the 16 day of June A.D. 1965, at 12:35 o'clock A.M.  
Duly Recorded this the 17 day of June A.D. 1965, at 3 o'clock P.M.  
Instrument No. 5765  
B.M. "BUCK" BIRDSONG, COUNTY CLERK  
Gregg County, Texas  
By Sam Clark Deputy.

128—WARRANTY DEED TEXAS STANDARD FORM

The State of Texas, } 5768  
County of Gregg Know All Men by These Presents:

That we, H. E. Bingham and wife, Aline Bingham

of the County of Gregg State of Texas for and in consideration

of the sum of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$3,700.00) ~~XXXXXXXX~~

to us in hand paid by White Oak Independent School District

as follows:

~~XXX~~ cash, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged and confessed.

have Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey unto the said White Oak Independent School District

of the County of Gregg State of Texas all that certain tract: Being a part of the H.E. Bingham tract in the Wm. Castleberry Survey, Gregg County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at iron pin for the South East corner Lot 3 Block 5 Suburban Lake Park Addition, White Oak, Texas, same being the West right of way line Janis Street for place of beginning;

THENCE S. 85° 36' W. along the South boundary line Block 5 Suburban Lake Park Addition a distance of 262 ft. to stake in the centerline creek for corner;

THENCE along the meanders of the creek in a Southwesterly direction a distance of 810 feet to iron pin for corner same being a corner for Boy Scout 1 acre tract and a corner for the White Oak Independent School district;

THENCE S. 58° 40' E. a distance of 687.8 feet to a stake for corner;

THENCE S. 37° 40' W. a distance of 380 feet to stake for corner;

THENCE S. 81° 35' E. a distance of 40 feet to stake for corner;

THENCE N. 37° 30' E. a distance of 359.2 feet to stake for corner;

THENCE N. 89° 49' E. a distance of 55.6 feet to stake for corner;

THENCE N. 7° 23' E. a distance of 1076.1 feet for corner;

THENCE S. 87° 30' W. a distance of 251 feet to stake for corner;

THENCE N. 9° 47' W. a distance of 30 feet to the place of beginning, containing 12.03 acres. Save and except 1 acre tract out of the South West corner, deeded to Boy Scouts by H. E. Bingham and wife Aline Bingham, leaving a net total of 11.03 acres.

It is further agreed that \$3,700.00 will be paid now and \$2,000.00 payable Jan. 15, 1966 and final payment of \$2,000.00 Jan. 15, 1967 without the interest on the unpaid balance.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said White Oak Independent School District and its

~~assigns~~ assigns forever and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, to Warrant and Forever Defend, all and singular the said premises unto the said White Oak Independent School District and its

~~assigns~~ assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

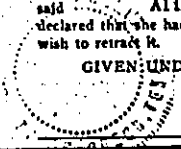
WITNESS our hands at Longview, Texas  
 this day of June 1965  
 Witnesses at Request of Grantor:

*H. E. Bingham*  
*Aline Bingham*

JOINT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
 COUNTY OF Gregg

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared H. E. Bingham and Aline Bingham, his wife, both known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they each executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and the said Aline Bingham, wife of the said H. E. Bingham having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she, the said Aline Bingham acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed, and she declared that she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 15 day of June A. D. 1965  
 (L. S.) *H. E. Bingham*  
 Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas

Filed for Record on the 16 day of June A.D. 1965, at 11:36 o'clock A.M.  
 Duly Recorded this the 17 day of June A.D. 1965, at 3:00 o'clock P.M.  
 Instrument No. 5768  
 B.M. "BUCK" BIRDSONG, COUNTY CLERK  
 Gregg County, Texas  
 By *Lynn Clark* Deputy.

5768

The State of Texas,  
 County of GREGG

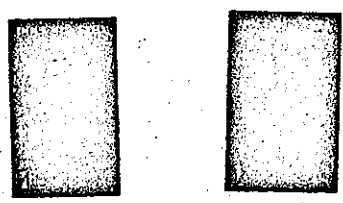
Know All Men by These Presents:

That I, Bernie Harrell  
 of the County of Gregg State of Texas for and in consideration  
 of the sum of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars  
 DOLLARS  
 to me in hand paid by Elizabeth Ann Ries, Mary Jane Ferguson and  
 Robert Bruce Harrell as follows:  
 The receipt of which is hereby acknowledged in full.

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p. 6

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have Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey unto the said  
**MANSFIELD HARDWOOD LUMBER COMPANY OF TEXAS**  
of the County of **Gregg** State of **Texas** all that certain  
**Lot Twelve (12), Block Five (5) in COUSHATTA HILLS ADDITION,**  
**in the John Jackson Survey, Gregg County, Texas, according to**  
**the plat of said Addition recorded in Volume 594 at Page 578**  
**of the Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas;**  
**SUBJECT TO all Reservations and Restrictions of Record.**



**TO HAVE AND TO HOLD** the above described premises, together with all and singular the  
rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said  
**MANSFIELD HARDWOOD LUMBER COMPANY OF TEXAS, its successors**  
~~them~~ and assigns forever and **we** do hereby bind **ourselves, our**  
heirs, executors and administrators, to Warrant and Forever Defend, all and singular the said premises  
unto the said **MANSFIELD HARDWOOD LUMBER COMPANY OF TEXAS, its successors**  
~~them~~ and assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any  
part thereof.

WITNESS our hand s at Longview, Gregg County, Texas  
this 25th day of June, 19 65.

Witnesses at Request of Grantor:  
C. M. Mills H. F. Martin  
W. T. Ware, III  
W. T. Ware, Jr.

**SINGLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
COUNTY OF **GREGG**  
I, **W. T. WARE, JR., W. T. WARE, III, C. M. MILLS AND H. F. MARTIN,**  
known to me to be the person s whose name s **etc** subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to  
me that **they** executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.  
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the **25** day of: **June,** A. D. 19 **65.**  
**Marian Houston**  
(L. S.) **GREGG** County, Texas  
Notary Public in and for

**FILED SEPARATE ACKNOWLEDGMENT**  
Filed for Record on the 28 day of June A.D. 19 65, at 4:40 o'clock P.M.  
Duly Recorded this the 1 day of June A.D. 19 65, at 10:45 o'clock A.M.  
Instrument No. 6222  
B.M. "BUCK" BIRDSONG, COUNTY CLERK  
Gregg County, Texas  
By Sammie Mott Deputy.

165 - QUIT-CLAIM DEED TEXAS STANDARD FORM  
The State of Texas, } 6227  
County of **GREGG** } Know All Men by These Presents:  
That **WE, H. E. BINGHAM and wife, ALINE BINGHAM**



of the County of Gregg and State of Texas, for and in consideration of the sum of TEN AND NO/100 (\$10.00)-----DOLLARS and other good and valuable considerations. to us in hand paid by TRUSTEES OF WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT of the County of Gregg and State of Texas, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do, by these presents BARGAIN, SELL, RELEASE, AND FOREVER QUIT CLAIM unto the said TRUSTEES OF WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, their SUCCESSORS heirs, and assigns, all our right, title and interest in and to that certain tract or parcel of land lying in the County of Gregg, State of Texas, described as follows, to-wit: That certain tract or parcel of land lying in the County of Gregg, State of Texas, being one acre of land out of the L. E. Orms 126 1/4 acre tract of land in the WM. H. CASTLEBERRY SURVEY, about 8 miles West of Longview, Texas. BEGINNING at a point in the center of spring branch and an ell corner in 21.51 acres of land conveyed by H. E. Bingham to the White Oak School District #8 in September, 1946, from which point the L. E. Orms Well #8 bears south 76 07' East East 87.1 feet; THENCE South 52 11' East, 272.3 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe for the Southeast corner of this tract; THENCE North 37 49' East, 160 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe for the Northeast corner of this tract; THENCE North 52 11' West, 287 feet to a point in Spring branch for the Northwest corner of this tract; THENCE up the Spring branch with its meanders to the place of beginning and containing one acre of land, more or less. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said premises, together with all and singular the rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto in any manner belonging unto the said TRUSTEES OF WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, their SUCCESSORS heirs, and assigns forever, so that neither we the said H. E. BINGHAM and wife, ALINE BINGHAM, nor our heirs, nor any person or persons claiming under us shall, at any time hereafter, have, claim, or demand any right or title to the aforesaid premises or appurtenances, or any part thereof. WITNESS our hands at Longview, Texas, this 16th day of June, A. D. 19 65. Witness at request of Grantor: *H. E. Bingham*  
*Aline Bingham*  
Aline Bingham

JOINT ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
THE STATE OF TEXAS, }  
COUNTY OF GREGG }  
BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared H. E. BINGHAM and ALINE BINGHAM, his wife, both known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they each executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and the said ALINE BINGHAM, wife of the said H. E. BINGHAM, being sworn, declared that she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 18 day of June, A. D. 19 65. *Malvina Howard*  
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas

Filed for Record on the 28 day of June A.D. 19 65, at 4:48'clock P.M.  
Duly Recorded this the 1 day of July A.D. 19 65, at 10:00'clock A.M.  
Instrument No. 6227 B.M. "BUCK" BIRDSONG, COUNTY CLERK  
Gregg County, Texas  
By *Simon's Notary* Deputy.

## WO exes return home for 100th anniversary

First in a series

By **ROY LINSON**  
Business Editor

**WHITE OAK** — This weekend former White Oak students, teachers, administrators and employees will be returning to the campus to mark the school district's 100th anniversary.

The exes, along with today's students and school personnel, will be celebrating a spirit of tradition that has remained an integral part of White Oak from its 1880s beginning as a farming and saw mill community, through the East Texas Oil Boom era when wells dotted the landscape. The tradition continues today as White Oak takes its place as one of East Texas' fastest growing cities.

Tradition is hard to define, according to White Oak Ex Joe Lee Smith, the author of a recently published book, "Beneath The Towering Oil Wells — A History of The White Oak Roughnecks."

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This postcard shows the second school built in White Oak in 1912.

Although it may be difficult to explain the tradition, it's not difficult to trace the history that led to many of the White Oak ISD traditions.

Over the years, school officials, including Superintendent Robert Proctor and journalism instructor Vera Porter who compiled a pamphlet "The White Oak Story," have carefully preserved many old records, photographs and other mementos that detail the school's growth from a one-room school near Hawkins Creek in the 1880s. Many of these are on display at various locations in the White

The White Oak story begins back in the early 1880s when T.J. Tuttle and J.E. (Uncle Bee) Shelton built a small frame building for the area children. When that structure burned in 1885, the two set to work with the aid of volunteers, to build another school.

Pleas Harris and Kaleb Bumpus donated a plot of land near a spring between two White Oak sapling trees. When the work was done, Bumpus, who had served as foreman of the job, suggested that the school be named White Oak because of the two

When the doors of the 20-by-30-foot school opened, Will M. Dunagan became the first White Oak teacher. The 20 pupils attended school from Oct. 1 to March 22 and spent the rest of their time helping on their families' farms.

Dunagan's teaching certificate, dated 1886, hangs in a place of honor in the WOISD Administration Building and many of his descendants, including his great-granddaughter 3½-year-old Lauren Bedsole either still live in White Oak or have been associated with the school.

By 1897 the district's population was growing and another room was added and another teacher was hired. The growth continued at a steady pace until January 1931 when Gregg County's first oil well came in and changed White Oak and East Texas forever.

In the fall of 1930 the White Oak school had two teachers and 50 pupils. However by the next year the influx of oil field workers created the need for more schools and more teachers. Overflow classes moved in the community's only church until October 1932 when work began on a modern brick building with 10 classrooms and an auditorium.

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White Oak became so identified with the oil industry that in September 1949 when the district's new stadium was dedicated, one of White Oak's most enduring traditions — that of the spirit of the oilfield Roughneck began.

"Whereas, the citizenship of White Oak Community is composed largely of people closely connected with the oil industry and whereas the roughneck is an integral part of the oilfield life and symbolizes the rugged and dauntless spirit of its people...therefore, be it resolved that in honor of the roughneck...this field shall hereafter be

**January 1, 1998**

**Vol. VIII, No. 47**

**One Section This Week**  
**Offices at 201-B Hwy. 80 East**  
**P.O. Box 445; White Oak TX 75693**  
**(903) 759-4410 • Fax: (903) 759-8100**  
**e-mail: newman@longview.net**

**The White Oak Independent**  
**January 1, 1998**

#### **4. Trustees face dilemma over fate of Meredith building**

It's one of White Oak's few historical landmarks. But it's also leaky and dangerous. And what to do about it presents a no-win dilemma for White Oak school trustees.

"It" is the Judy C. Meredith Building, abandoned since the district built the elementary campus.

To renovate the structure would not only require a new roof, but also a "retrofitted" elevator to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. That alone would cost about a quarter of a million dollars.

The solution, if distasteful, seemed obvious. Tear it down.

But then engineer Michael Dunn pointed out some complications. For one thing, all the asbestos must be removed by a specialty company before the building can be razed. For another, leveling the old building

**See TOP 10 on page 2**

#### **Continued from page 1**

could cause structural damage to adjoining middle school and C.C. Simmons Auditorium.

The bottom line? Expect to pay \$600,000 for a parking lot.

The decision? None in 1997.

*The White Oak Independent*  
*October 3, 1998*

**THIS WEEK  
IN WHITE OAK**

**Donations for  
WOISD history  
marker needed**

Donations are requested to help with the purchase of a historical marker for White Oak schools. James Oliver and the Gregg County Historical Commission have been working on the project for a years. Historical documents and records have been gathered and information has been sent to Austin.

Cost of the marker is \$650. Money left from donations will be used to purchase a plaque honoring members of the first graduating class of 1937 and to the White Oak Ex-Students Association to be used for scholarships.

Send your donations to Oliver, 205 Monterrey, White Oak, 75693. Make checks payable to White Oak Schools Historical Marker.

APPLICATION FORM  
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):  
200 South White Oak Road, White Oak, TX 75693

County: Gregg

Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable):  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
**APPROVAL OF COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

The application and narrative history must be approved by the county historical commission before forwarding to the Texas Historical Commission.

Chair's Signature: *Norman H. Mack, D.D.* Date: 10-11-98

*The CHC chair automatically will receive all copies of correspondence regarding this marker project.*

**PERMISSION OF OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT**

Permission for placement of a marker must be obtained by the property owner. Please provide the name of a contact person if the owner is an institution, organization, or public entity. This section need not be completed if the marker is to be placed on right-of-way maintained by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

Name: White Oak Independent School District

Contact person (if applicable): Dr. Tim Sonnenberg, Supt.

Mailing address: 200 South White Oak Road  
White Oak, Texas 75693

Phone: 903-759-4492

Owner's Signature: WHITE OAK ISD by *[Signature]*

Do you wish to receive copies of all correspondence concerning this marker application?  Yes  No

To whom should the request for payment be addressed?

Name: James Marcus Oliver 205 Monterey White Oak, TX 75693

(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization, or public entity.)

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Does this person wish to receive copies of all other correspondence concerning this application?  Yes  No

Is there anyone else to whom all correspondence concerning this marker application should be addressed?  
(One additional name and address only, please.)

Name: Beth Dodson

Mailing address: NP 106 Lake Cherokee, Longview, TX 75603

Phone: 903-643-9509

**SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS**

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. If the marker is to be placed on the highway right-of-way, it will be shipped directly to the district highway engineer.



## WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

In the year 1884, or thereabouts, north of the Sabine River and west of Hawkins Creek, the small community of White Oak was born.<sup>1</sup> Because of two beautiful white oak trees which were located in a prominent location, this community was named White Oak.<sup>2</sup>

Before 1885 there was a small school building near Hawkins Creek that children attended. This building burned in 1885.<sup>3</sup> At this time fifteen families of this sawmill community saw the need for a school for their children. The names of these families included T. J. Tuttle, John Bumpus, Joe Persons, Jim Rucker, Marion Phillips, J. P. Ray, Teague Todd, McBee Fisher, Kaleb Bumpus, Pleas Harris, and Austin Shelton. In 1907, the heirs of some of the above pioneers donated approximately two acres of land, where a forty by sixty foot building facing west on the grounds of the present White Oak School stood.<sup>4</sup> There were four windows on each side, two windows in the rear, and a door on each side in the front. A front loading stove made of iron provided heat in winter. A stage, blackboard in the rear, and homemade benches completed the school room. The first teacher, W. M. Dunagan, taught from 20 to 30 students.<sup>5</sup> It is interesting here to note that this little school not only served the children's needs, but

here to note that this little school not only served the children's needs, but also their religious needs, as it was used as the community's church for the next twenty-five years.<sup>6</sup>

By 1912, new settlers had moved into the community, and it was necessary to replace the little building with a more adequate two-room structure. The original school, and later the larger building, had among their teachers George Cunyus, Miss Cora Mackey, who was later county superintendent, and Miss Colista Davis.<sup>7</sup> There had never been more than seventy pupils enrolled at any one time, and classes continued much the same as they were in 1884. Then in January of 1931, the discovery well of the Gregg County section of the East Texas oil field was brought in, a mammoth gusher that completely changed the course of events for this area.<sup>8</sup> New families came flooding into the county, attracted by the flowing gold.

It was with open dismay that the school board and faculty struggled with the situation that confronted them when school opened in the fall of 1931. The building was literally overflowing with children. Two more rooms were hastily added to the school, but the situation was relieved very little. Many problems, other than lack of space, confronted the teachers, who were all women, and their trials were almost more than could be born. There was no sanitary drinking water, no sanitary toilets, firewood was scarce, and other problems too numerous to mention. Before the term was over, the staff had increased to six teachers. Classes spilled over into near-

by churches, and teachers were now struggling as best they could without desks or regular equipment.<sup>9</sup>

It was at the end of this 1931-32 session that Superintendent W. C. Mathis took charge of the school.<sup>10</sup> The sanitary problems were first attacked, and by the time school opened for the next term, improvements had been made, but water was still a terrible problem. Severe weather added another hardship for the teachers and over 200 pupils enrolled in grades one through eight.<sup>11</sup> To graduate, students were being transported to attend high school in either Longview or Gladewater.<sup>12</sup>

The school board was in the difficult situation of being forced to take immediate action of some kind, though no one knew as yet what the district was worth. No tax rolls had been approved and it was impossible to plan intelligently for this great influx of people.

It was finally decided to construct a modern brick school plant on 3.8 acres of land purchased from M. C. and Ada Satterwhite.<sup>13</sup> This was completed in February of 1933. The teaching staff and school board breathed sighs of relief as classes were formed at the start of the term, and it seemed that the beautiful two story, light-colored brick building, occupied for the first time on the 10th of February, would comfortably accommodate all of the children of the community. But their peace of mind was short lived as the enrollment continued to climb, and more teachers were added. Public

school music was taught, as well as homemaking for the girls, and industrial education to the boys. At this time some four hundred children were attending, and taught by thirteen teachers.<sup>14</sup> But, by 1933, this East Texas community was fast outgrowing even the wildest of dreams, and new families continued to pour into White Oak, which was proving a very rich part of the oil fields.

By 1934, work consisting of eight rooms and a gymnasium had been started on an addition to the plant.<sup>15</sup> At this time grade nine was offered for the first time and as more buildings were built, grades ten and eleven were added.<sup>16</sup> During the 1935-36 session, commercial work and a science department were added, plus a strong Class-B football team was organized. Everyone rejoiced when, on June 2, 1937, twenty-seven members of the first graduating class of White Oak High School marched across the stage to receive their diplomas.<sup>17</sup>

Sports play a major part in activities at White Oak. In 1949, a \$50,000 Roughneck Stadium was dedicated on land purchased from L. E. and Essie Orms.<sup>18</sup> A new gymnasium was completed in 1952.<sup>19</sup> Max McGee, graduate of 1950, carried the White Oak tradition to the West Coast when

he played in the first Super Bowl in 1967, scoring the first touchdown in Super Bowl history.<sup>20</sup>

In 1968, a new auditorium was begun to meet the growing enrollment.<sup>21</sup> In 1975, a modern new high school, consisting of science labs, a theatre, shop, home economics department, band hall, library, choir, cafeteria and gymnasium was built, which is still in use today.<sup>22</sup>

With the fluctuation of oil revenues looming in the 1980s, the construction of a new elementary school was begun on land purchased from H. E. and Aline Bingham.<sup>23</sup> An administration building and a new middle school were accomplished during this time. The last new facility to be erected was in 1991 when a middle school gymnasium was erected, bringing the number of gyms to four.<sup>24</sup>

Academics have always played a major role at White Oak. Many honors have been won down through the years in University Interscholastic League.

Under the leadership of the present superintendent, Dr. Tim Sonnenberg, a multi-age program was instituted in 1994. Beginning as a controversial area, this program is now a shining step in the academic attraction of the



district. <sup>25</sup> Present enrollment of the White Oak ISD is 1,299.

Superintendents serving White Oak Independent School District:

W. C. Mathis	1932-1939
Lloyd Taylor	1939-1942
R. E. Anderson	1942-1948
Dana Williams	1948-1950
R. C. Fagg	1950-1958
E. B. Carrington	1958-1973
C. M. Koonce	1973-1980
Fred Gottlieb	1980-1981
Robert Proctor	1981-1993
Dr. Tim Sonnenberg	1993-1998
Jack Hale	1998-interim

The 113 year history of the White Oak Independent School District would be honored by the selection of an official Texas Historical Marker as it successfully continues serving the students of Texas.

This paper is dedicated to the class of 1937 and Dr. Tim Sonneberg.

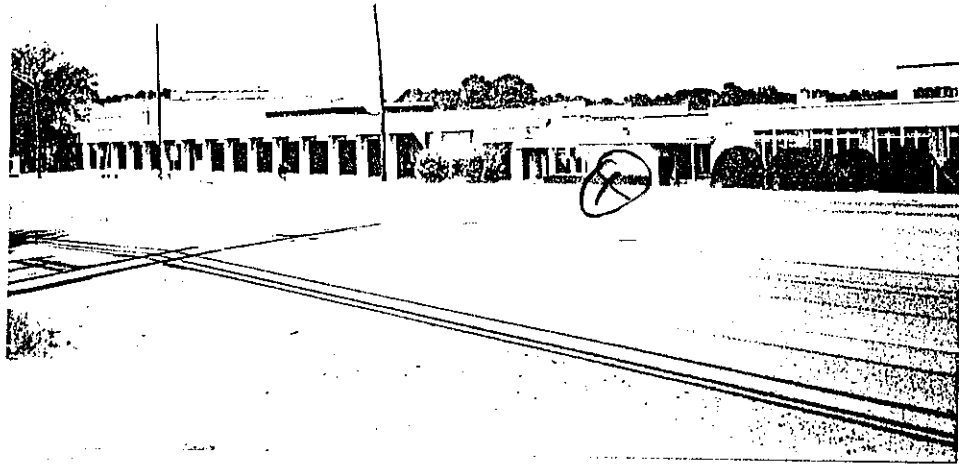
## Footnotes

1. The New Handbook of Texas, Volume 6. Austin: Texas State Association, 1996, p. 939.
2. Gregg County History. Walsworth Publishing Company. Missouri. 1957.
3. Ibid.
4. Deed Records Gregg County. Volume V, p. 569.
5. Tuttle, Nobie. Oral History. Transcript of conversation with Pastor J. A. Kirkland, October, 1981.
6. Ibid.
7. Longview Sunday News Journal. January 24, 1954.
8. Longview Morning Journal. January 27, 1966.
9. Turner, Louise Carson. Unpublished diary. 1987.
10. Ibid.
11. PTA Minutes. September 22, 1933.
12. Gregg County History. op. cit.
13. Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 207. pg. 109-110.
14. Turner. op. cit.
15. Turner. Ibid.
16. Turner. Ibid.
17. White Oak Diploma. Agnes Satterwhite. June 2, 1937.

18. Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 185, pg. 472-473.
19. Gregg County History. op. cit.
20. Smith, Joe Lee. Beneath the Towering Oil Wells: History of the White Oak Roughnecks. 1985, p. 4.
21. Cornerstone. White Oak Auditorium. 1968.
22. Cornerstone. White Oak High School. 1975.
23. Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 673, pg.59-60.
24. Cornerstone. White Oak Middle School Gymnasium.
25. White Oak Independent. June 18, 1998.

## References

- Cornerstone. White Oak Auditorium.
- Cornerstone. White Oak High School.
- Cornerstone. White Oak Middle School Gymnasium.
- Deed Records Gregg County. Volume V. p. 569.
- Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 207, pg. 109-110.
- Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 185, pg. 472-473.
- Deed Records Gregg County. Volume 673, pg. 59-60.
- Gregg County History. Walsworth Publishing Company. 1957.
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Kirkland. October 1981.
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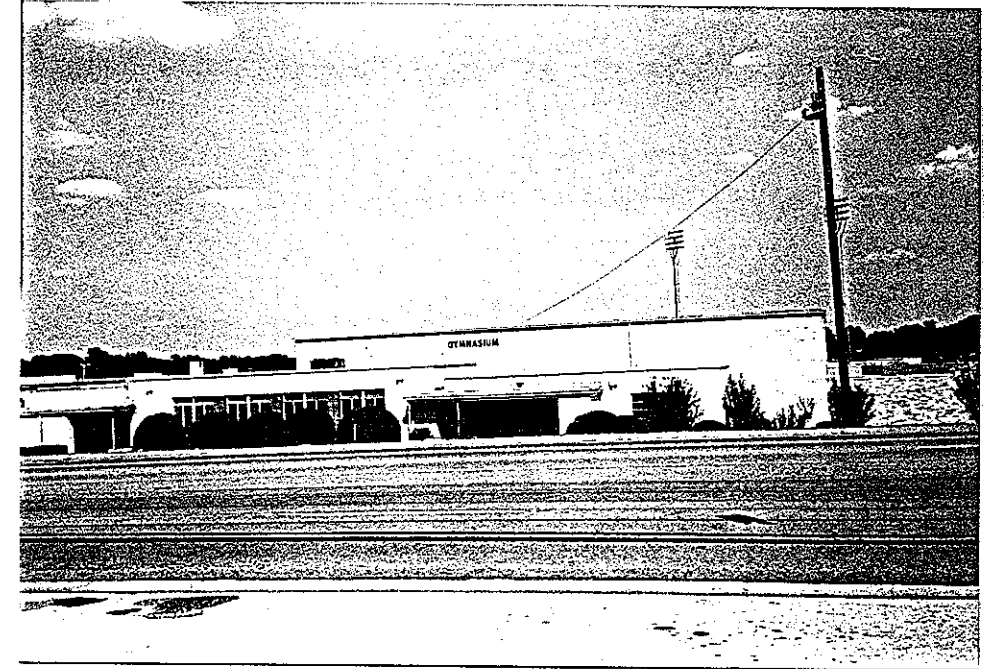


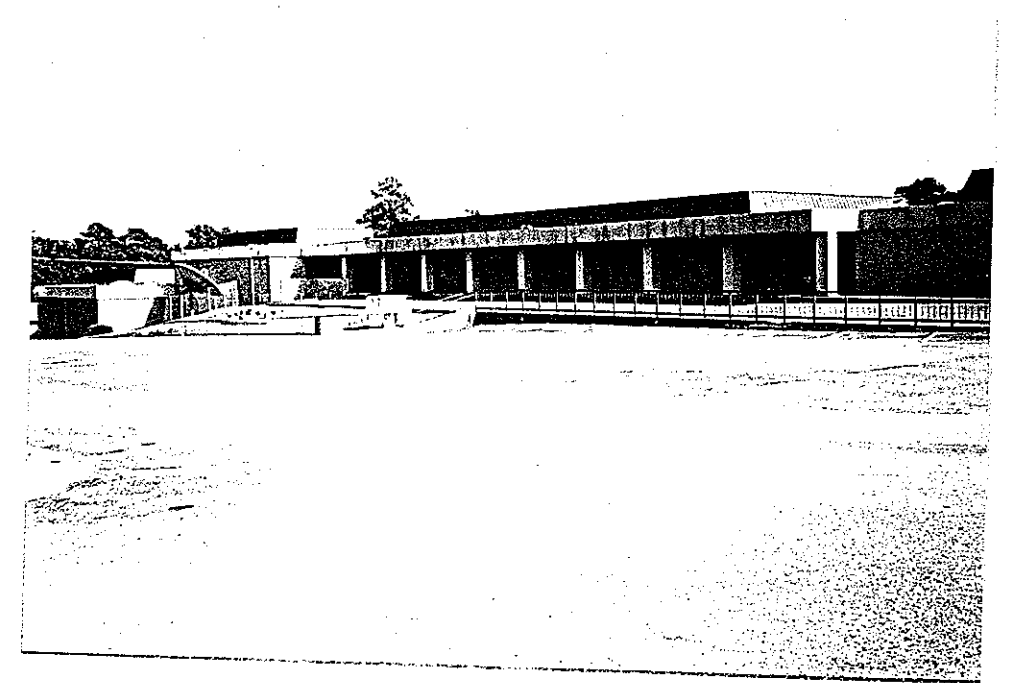
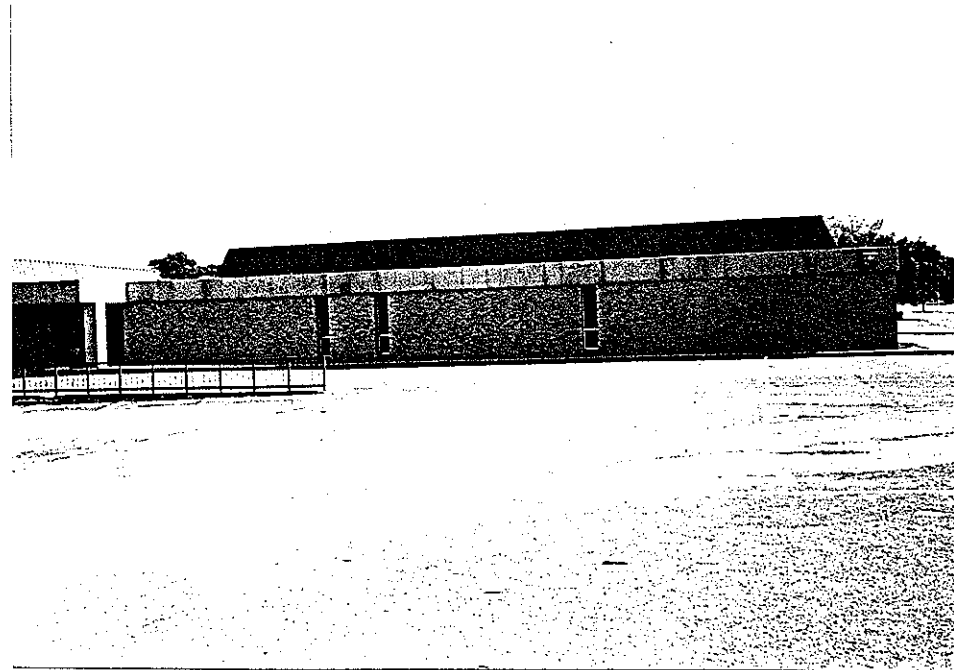
White Oak High School  
White Oak, Texas  
Front (West side)

GREGG CO.

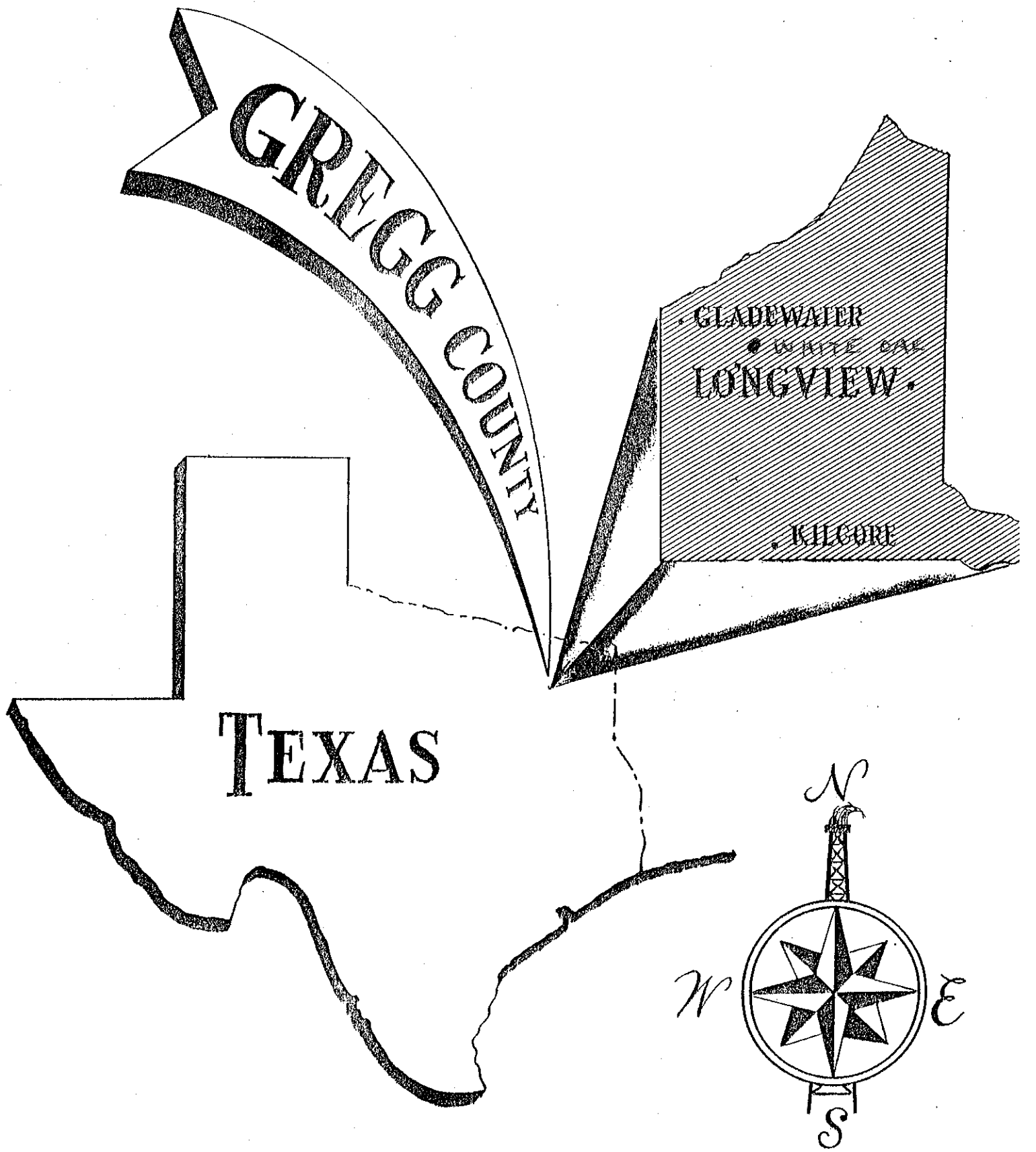
(X) proposed site of  
O.T. Hist. Marker

9-6-88

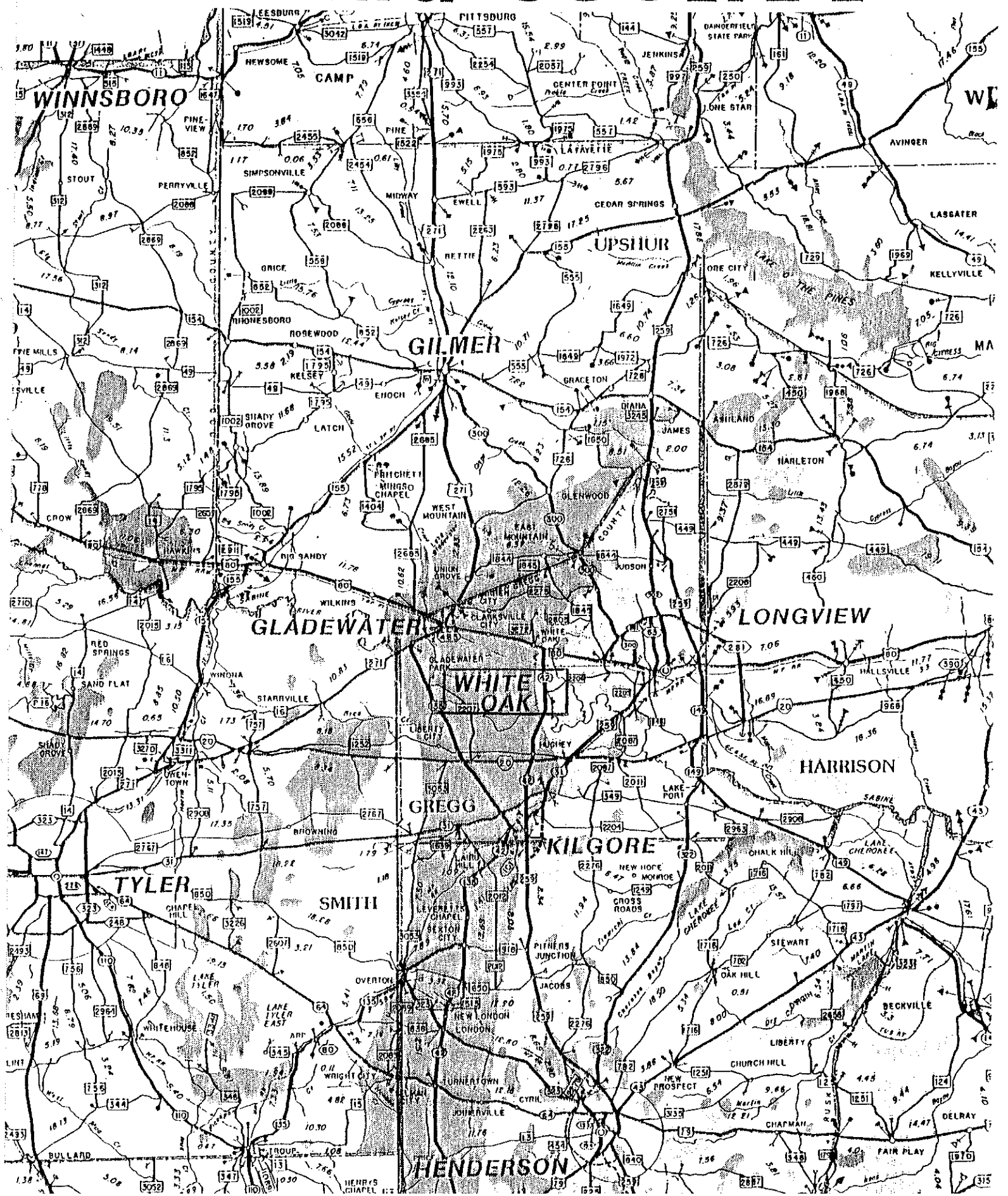








# GREGG COUNTY

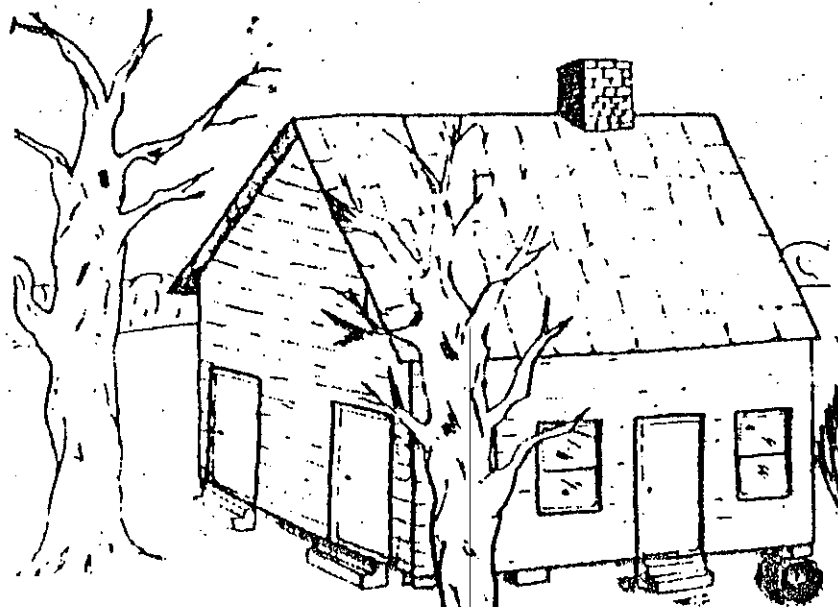


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VOLUME XXIX—NO. 14

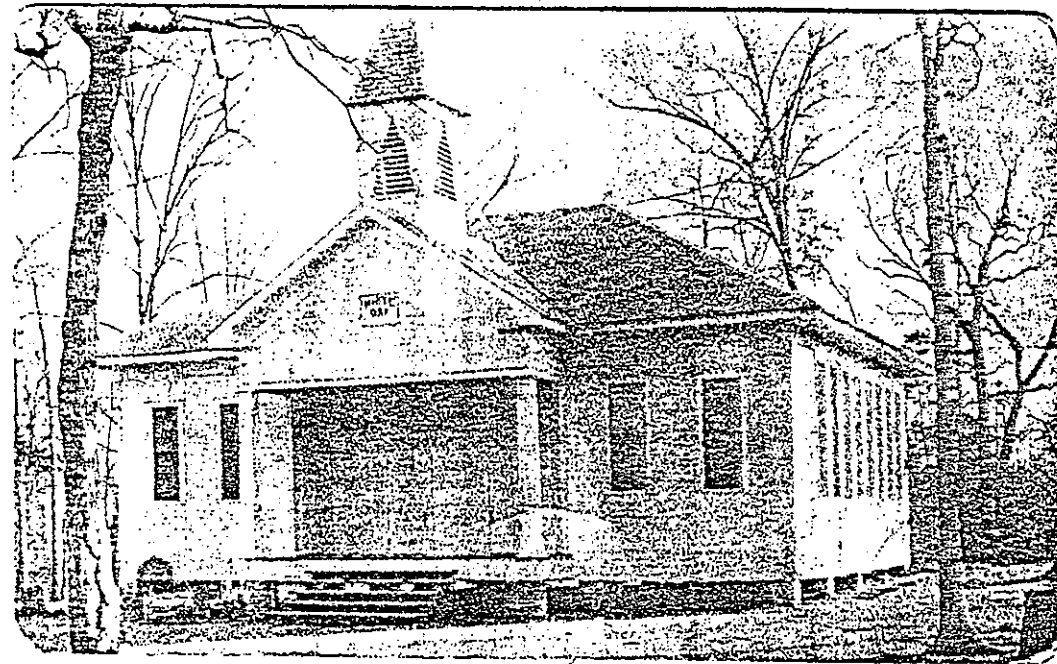
32 PAGES · 5 CENTS



### *First church, school building*

This drawing depicts the first church and school built in White Oak as described by Noble Tuttle. It shows the two white oak trees for which the community was named.

FROM FILES OF  
GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
417 Moberly Avenue  
Longview, Texas 75602  
903-757-2261



Second school built in White Oak in 1912

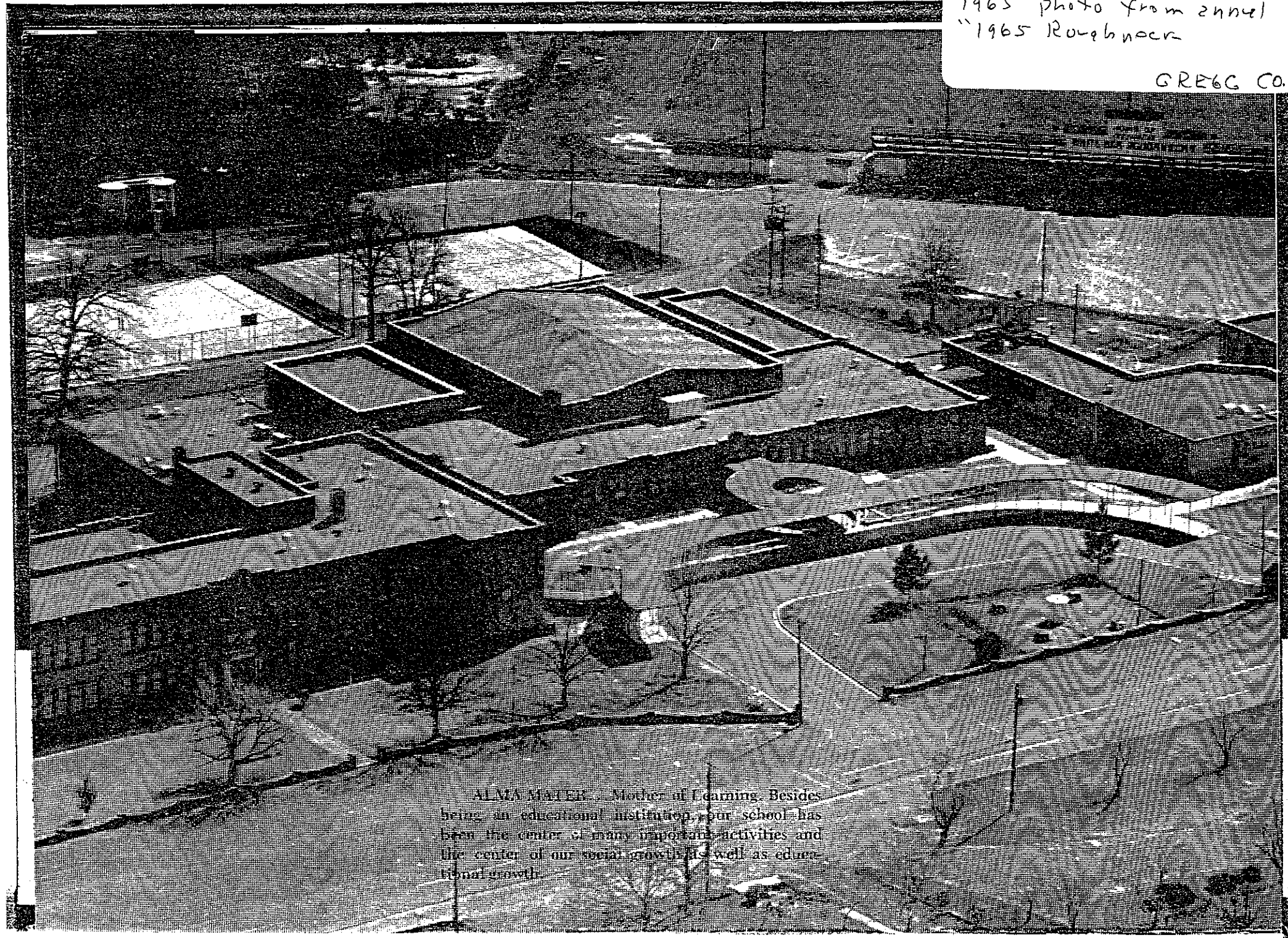
From a photograph and article in the Longview Daily News, Wednesday, September 18, 1985.  
The article states this is a photograph of a post card.

# White Oak early School and Church

FROM FILES OF  
GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
417 Moberly Avenue  
Longview, Texas 75602  
903-757-2261

White Oak High School  
1965 photo from annual  
"1965 Roughneck"

GREGG CO.

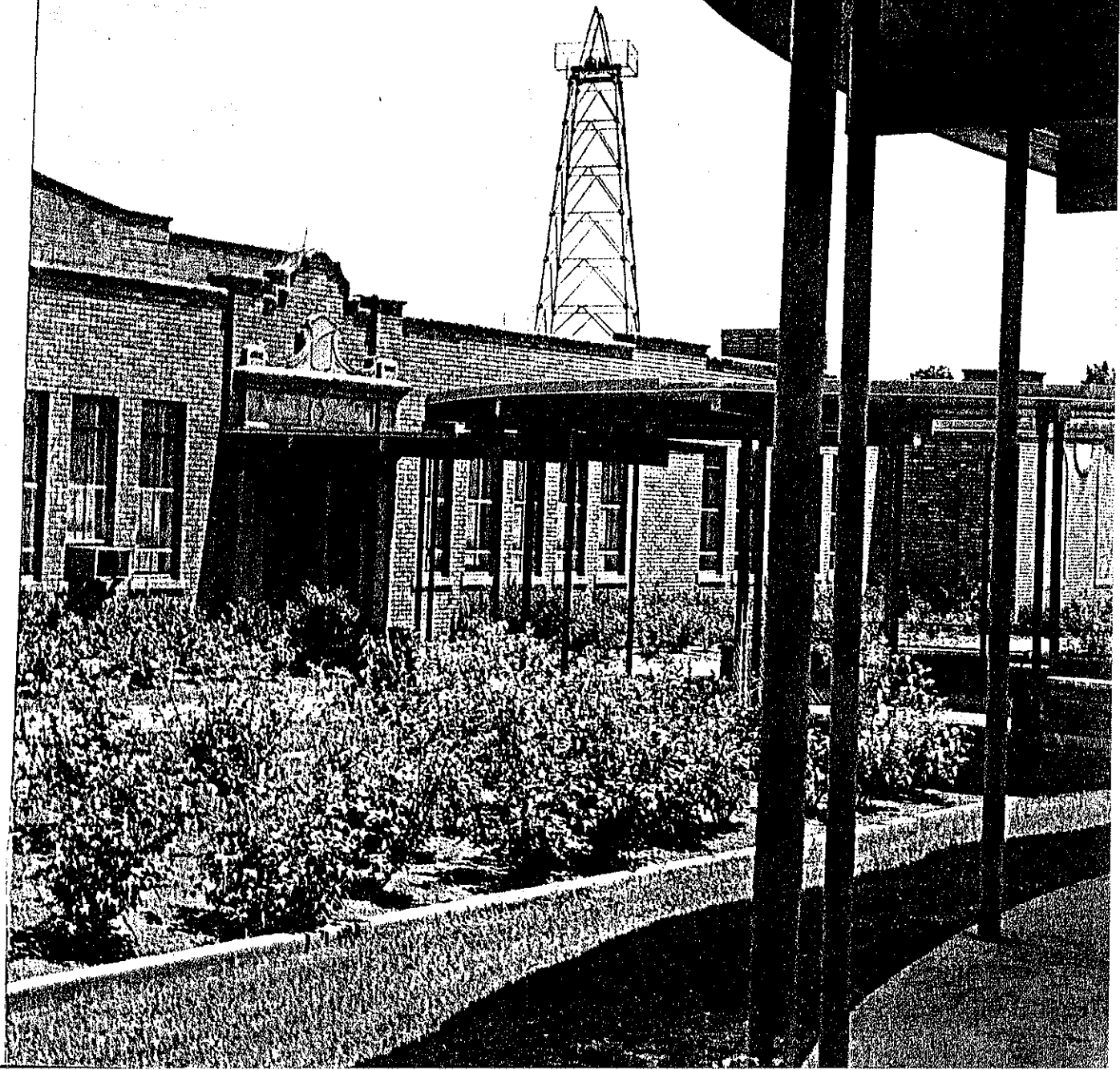


ALMA MATER... Mother of Learning. Besides being an educational institution, our school has been the center of many important activities and the center of our social growth as well as educational growth.

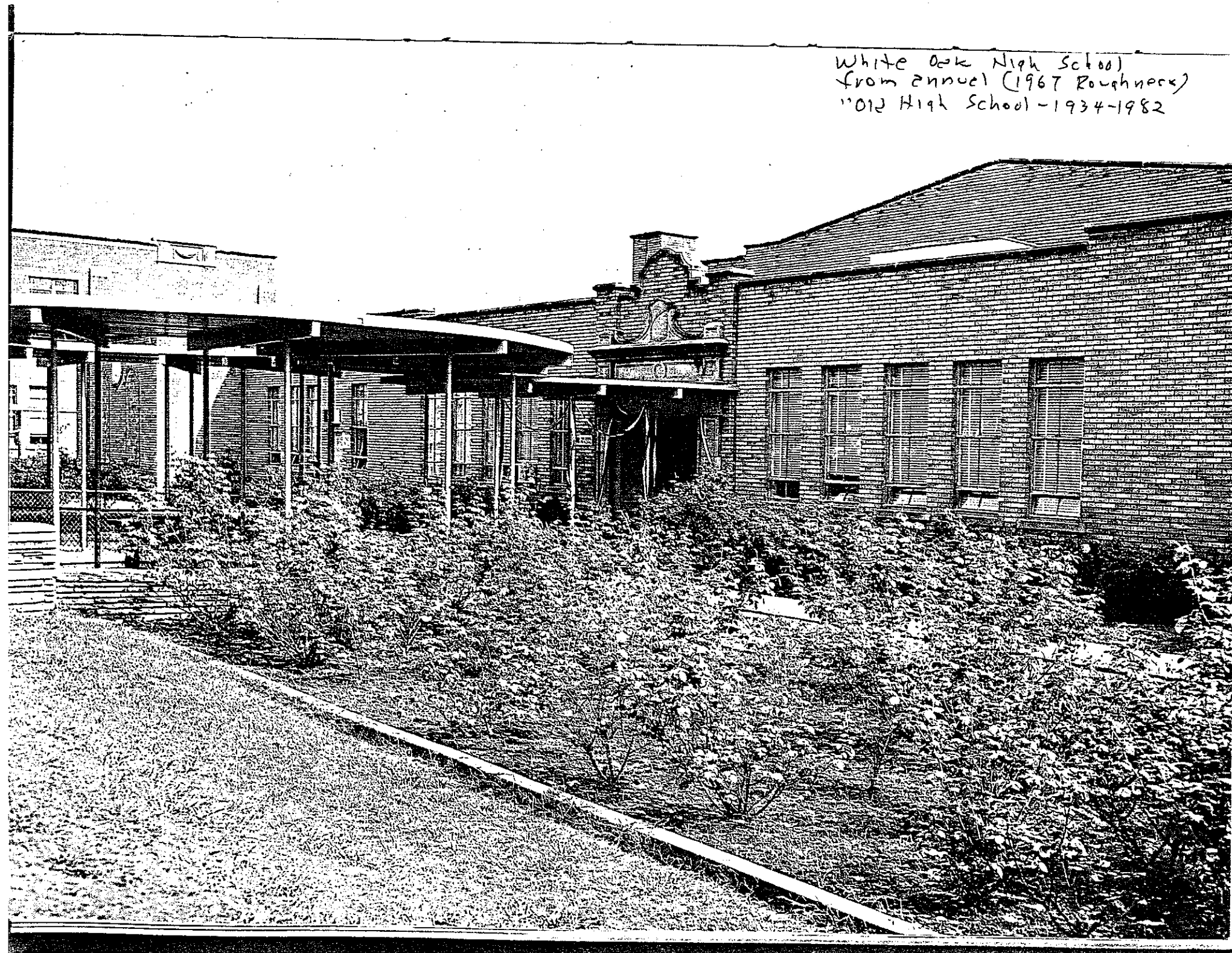


White Oak High School  
from annual (1961 Roughneck)  
1934-1982 ("old high school")

GREGG CO.

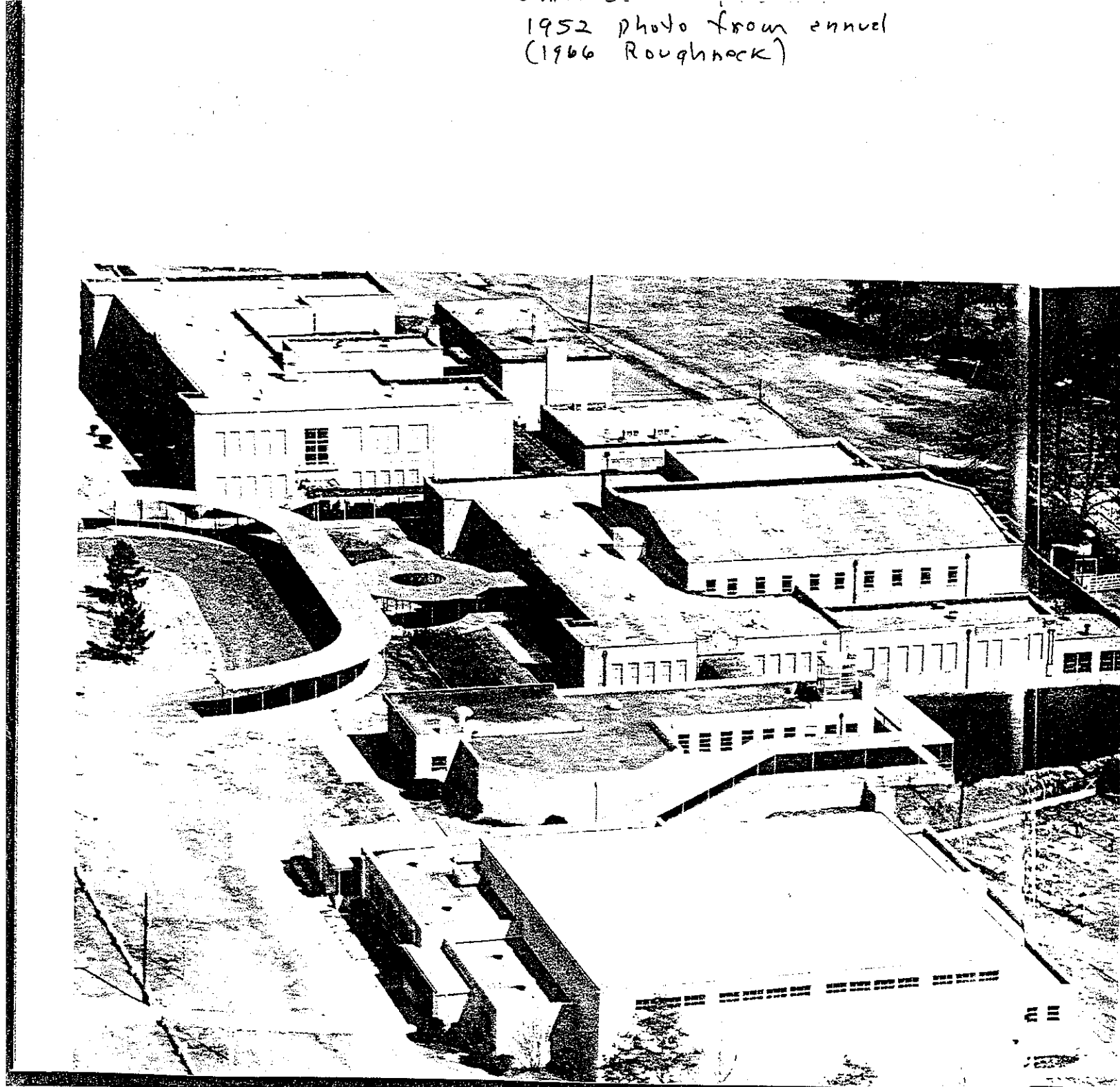


White Oak High School  
from annual (1967 Roughneck)  
'012 High School - 1934-1982





1952 photo from annual  
(1966 Roughneck)



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and grow to

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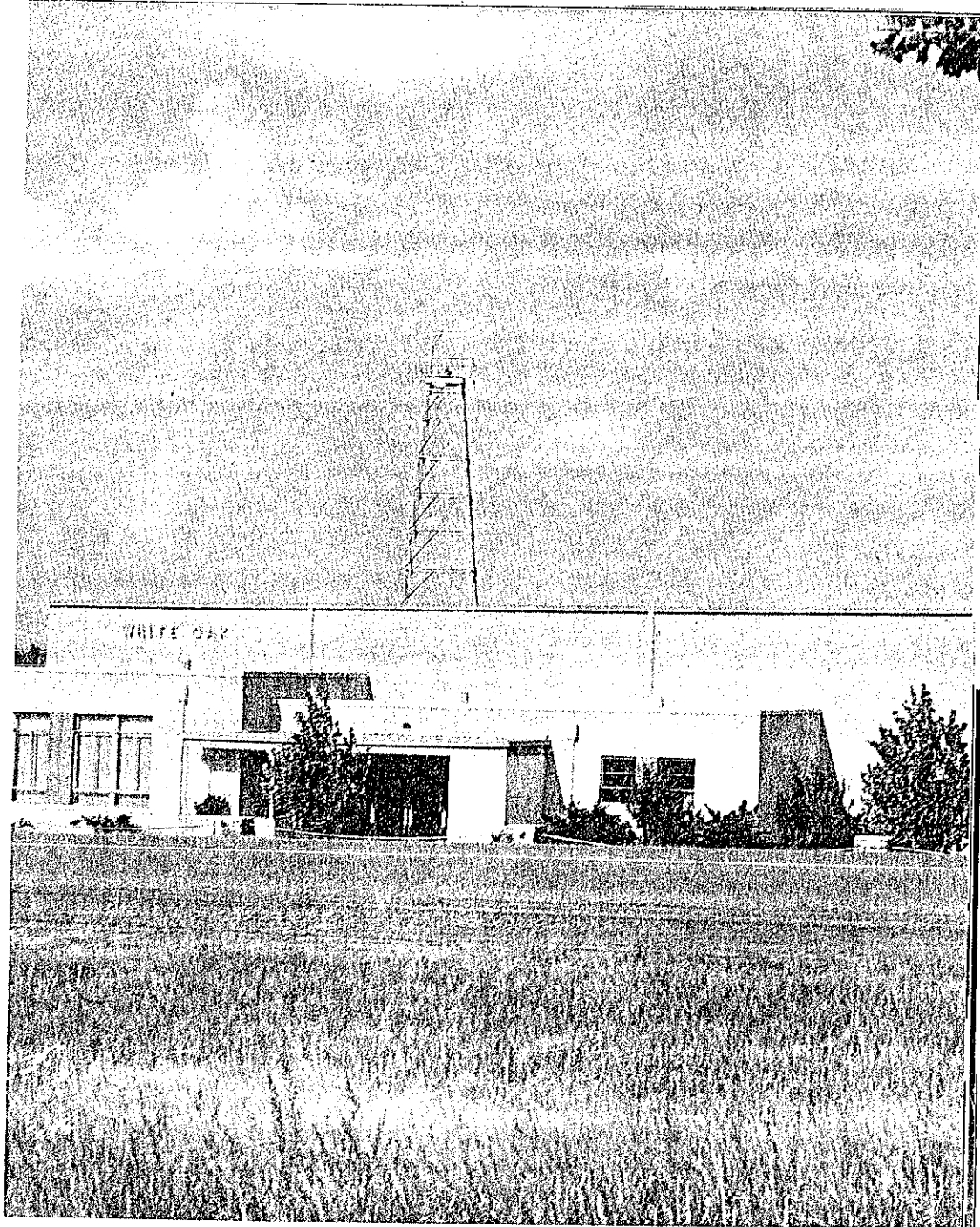
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White Oak High School  
Photo from annual 1962  
(White Oak Roughneck)

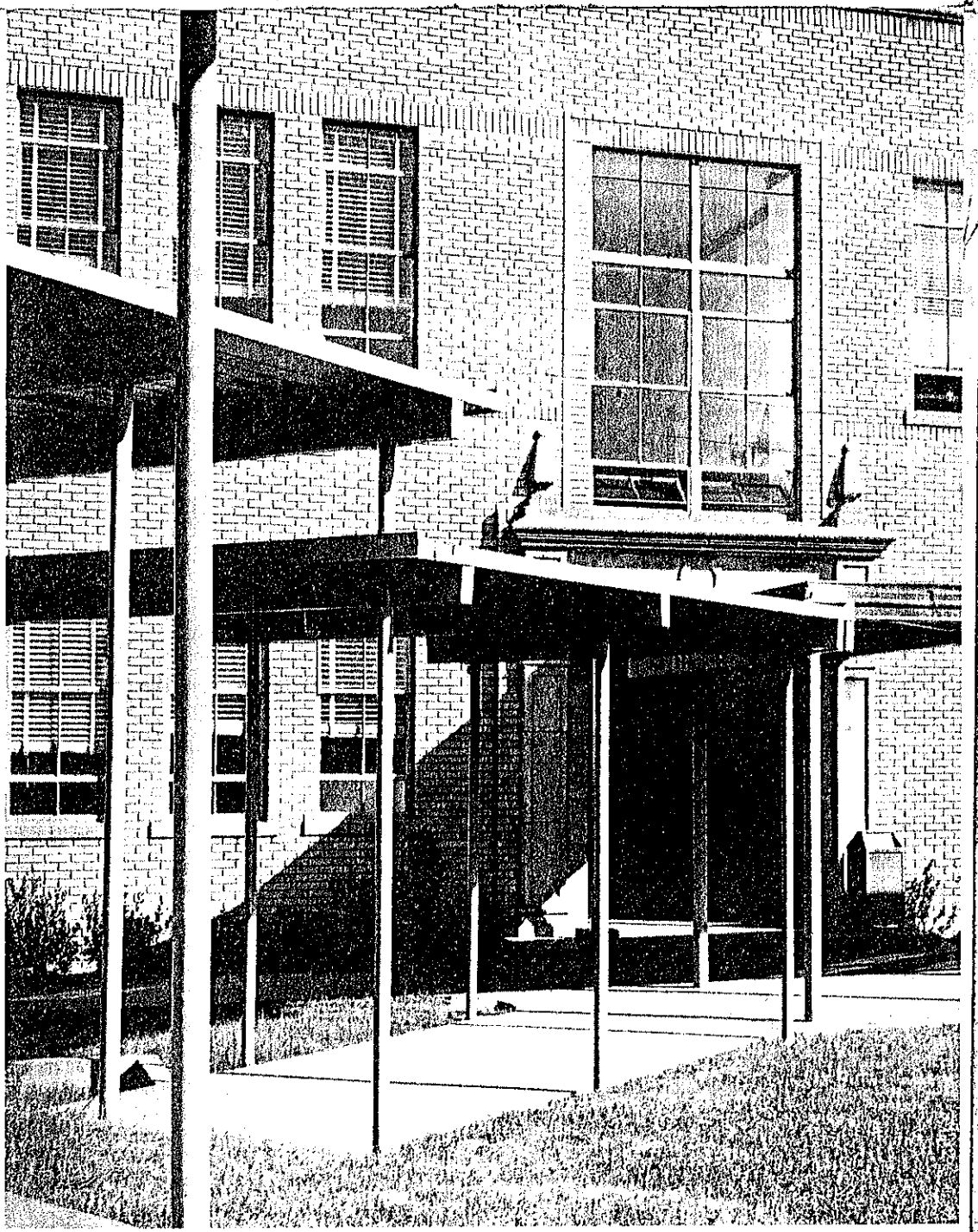
GREGG CO.



*athletics*

White Oak High School  
photo from Emanuel (white)  
Oak Roughneck - 1962

GREGG Co. 1

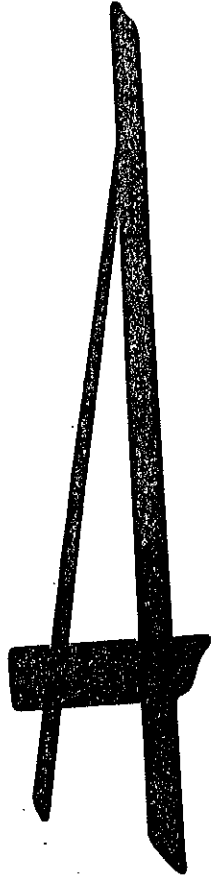
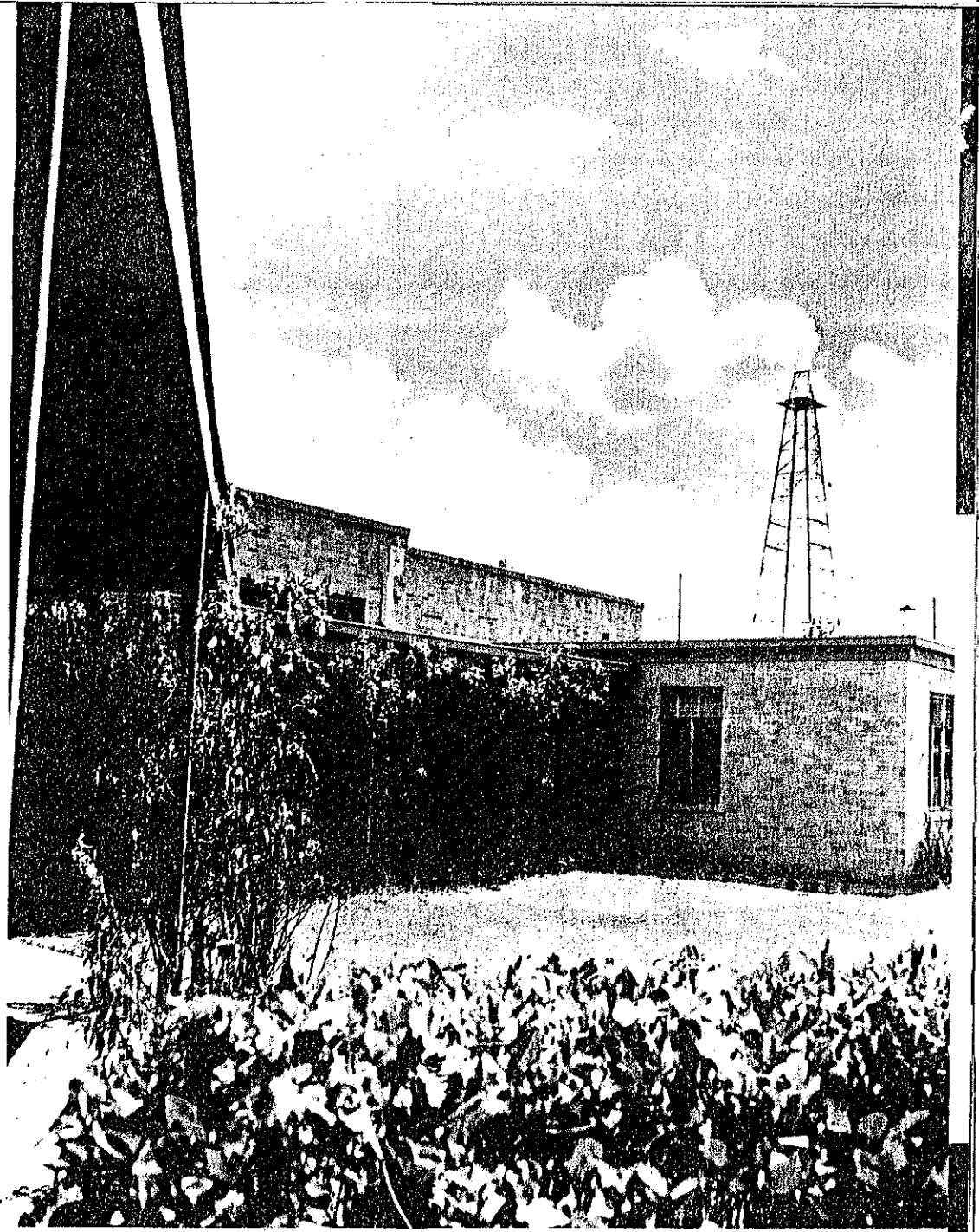


**E**

*lementary*

White Oak High School  
photo from Emanuel (1962  
Rough neck)  
Home Economic & Gymnasium  
— Much the same as in 1998.

GREGG CO.



*ctivities*



## WO exes return home for 100th anniversary

First in a series

By **ROY LINSON**  
Business Editor

**WHITE OAK** — This weekend former White Oak students, teachers, administrators and employees will be returning to the campus to mark the school district's 100th anniversary.

The exes, along with today's students and school personnel, will be celebrating a spirit of tradition that has remained an integral part of White Oak from its 1880s beginning as a farming and saw mill community, through the East Texas Oil Boom era when wells dotted the landscape. The tradition continues today as White Oak takes its place as one of East Texas' fastest growing cities.

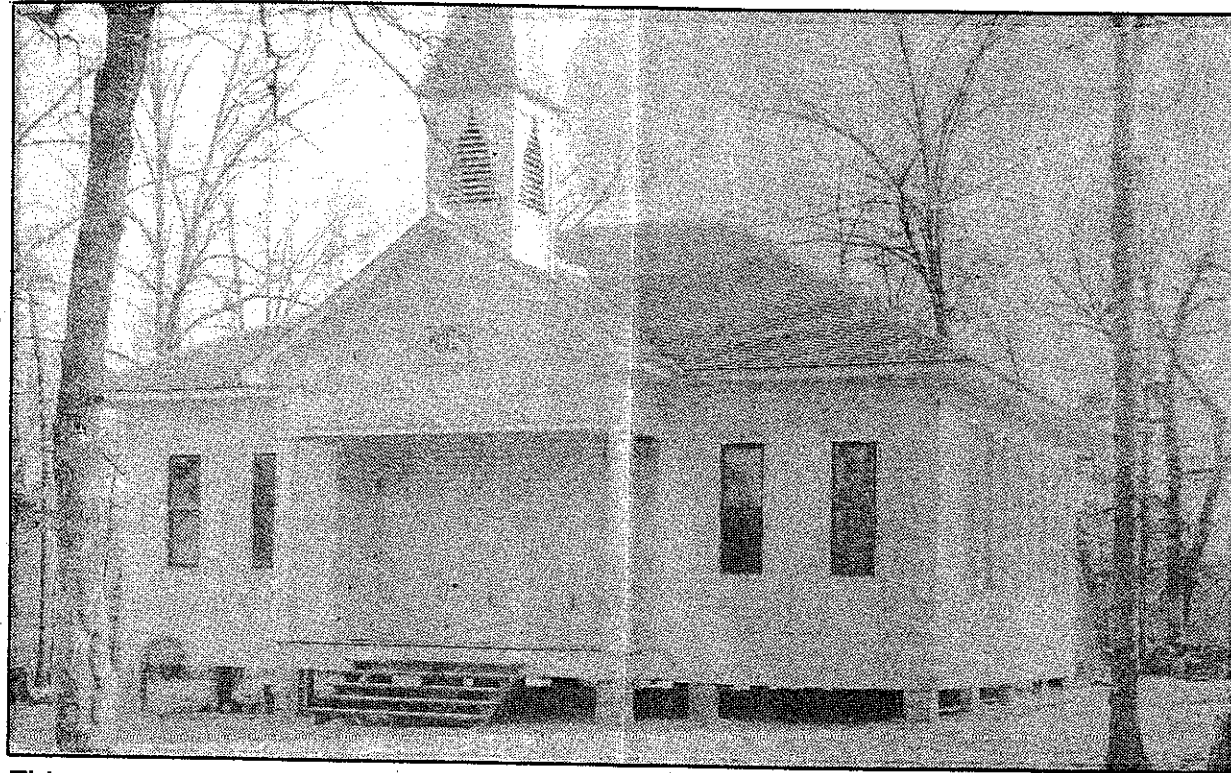
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"The difference, it appears, between White Oak and most schools is a combination of the ingredients with the longevity of practices and beliefs handed down. Few have experienced the type of tradition that exists at White Oak. Few of the thousands associated with White Oak's schools can probably adequately explain the tradition."

"After all, it is difficult to describe the special feelings for teammates, classmates, coaches and teachers; or why strong feelings remain ingrained long after departure from the community; or why chills may flow through the body 25 years later when the Alma Mater is heard."

"The significance of White Oak's achievements is not only the array of impressive feats, but the consistency of those accomplishments for such an extended time frame."



This postcard shows the second school built in White Oak in 1912.

Although it may be difficult to explain the tradition, it's not difficult to trace the history that led to many of the White Oak ISD traditions.

Over the years, school officials, including Superintendent Robert Proctor and journalism instructor Vera Porter who compiled a pamphlet "The White Oak Story," have carefully preserved many old records, photographs and other mementos that detail the school's growth from a one-room school near Hawkins Creek in the 1880s. Many of these are on display at various locations in the White Oak school complex.

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"Whereas, the citizenship of White Oak Community is composed largely of people closely connected with the oil industry and whereas the roughneck is an integral part of the oilfield life and symbolizes the rugged and dauntless spirit of its people...therefore, be it resolved that in honor of the roughneck...this field shall hereafter be named Roughneck Stadium."

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TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

George W. Bush • Governor  
John L. Nau, III • Chairman  
Curtis Tunnell • Executive Director

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

**Date:** October 15, 1998

**Re:** White Oak Independent School District      Gregg County

Thank you for your application to the Texas Historical Commission for an Official Texas Historical Marker. It has been received in the History Programs Division office, and we look forward to working with you on this project. Please refer to your guidelines and application booklet for information on the application process, but if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call us.

In making a preliminary review of the application, we may have noticed some missing components. If a list of one or more items appears in the space below, we would ask that you submit these items as soon as possible. That will allow us to make a more thorough evaluation when your application comes up for review in approximately 60-90 days. In order to be fair to all the marker applicants, we review the applications in the order in which they are received.

Here is what we need to complete your application packet:

**Your packet appears complete. Thank you!**

**Comments:**

Thank you for your interest in preserving Texas' heritage. If you have questions at any point throughout the process, please do not hesitate to call our office at 512/463-5853. We look forward to working with you.

Cynthia Beeman, Director  
Local History Programs  
512/463-5854  
cynthia.beeman@thc.state.tx.us

Emily Bell  
Historian  
512/463-8769  
emily.bell@thc.state.tx.us

Egina Reyes  
Office Manager  
512/463-5853  
egina.reyes@thc.state.tx.us

HISTORY PROGRAMS DIVISION



## WO school board discusses roofing needs of campus sites

Board members discussed different options in regards to roofing existing buildings on the campus of White Oak ISD during Monday night's regular monthly meeting of school trustees.

Jeff Potter, an architect with Harrison, Walker and Harper, offered two different plans of attack when trustees eventually move forward with reconstructing various roofs that have leaks.

The first option is to re-roof the existing buildings and secure 20-

year warranties with the work. Option two, though more expensive, calls for metal sheets to be placed atop the present structure. This, however, could cause cosmetic problems.

Trustees voted to unanimously contribute \$1,250 to help city officials produce a brochure that highlights the many advantages White Oak has to offer. These brochures are given out to prospective new businesses and residents new to the community.

James Oliver gave a presentation regarding White Oak ISD receiving a historical marker. Trustees agreed to contribute \$200 to the cause. It costs \$650 to receive such a marker. Tentative plans to erect the marker are set for early spring of 1999.

Board members also voted to nominate Jackie Don Carpenter to serve on the Appraisal Review Board of the Gregg County Appraisal District. Carpenter is one

**See BOARD, page 8**



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

George W. Bush • Governor  
John L. Nau, III • Chairman  
Curtis Tunnell • Executive Director

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

January 11, 1999

James M. Oliver  
205 Monterrey  
White Oak, TX 75693

RE: WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
18" x 28" marker w/ post  
Job # 03099, Gregg County

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am pleased to notify you that the State Marker Review Board has reviewed and approved the above-referenced topic for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

Payment for the marker, in the amount of \$650.00, is now due. Please complete and return the enclosed payment form at your earliest convenience. Once payment for the marker is received, the application will be placed in line to have the marker inscription written. The inscription will not be written until after funds have been received. When the text is prepared, a copy will be sent to you and any parties listed below for review and approval.

The Texas Historical Commission congratulates you on your efforts to record and preserve Texas history.

Sincerely,

*Cynthia J. Beeman*

Cynthia J. Beeman, Director  
Local History Programs  
History Programs Division

cc: Dr. Norman Black, Gregg CHC  
Dr. Tim Sonnenberg  
Beth Dodson



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

George W. Bush • Governor  
John L. Nau, III • Chairman  
Curtis Tunnell • Executive Director

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

HISTORY PROGRAMS DIVISION  
512/463-5853

Official Texas Historical Marker  
Payment Form

Marker Title: White Oak Independent School District

County: DeWitt Job Number: 03099 Amt. Enclosed: 650.00

Please specify method of payment:  Check enclosed\*  Visa  Mastercard

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: James Marcus Oliver

\*Checks should be made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

FOR THC OFFICE USE ONLY:

Remittance #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



88-7135/3119

CHECK NUMBER  
01/21/1999  
031116

DATE 1-22-1999

PAYEE Texas Historical Commission \$ 650.00

DOLLARS

James Oliver  
REMITTER

PAID TO THE ORDER OF  
ONLY \$650.00

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

**CASHIERS CHECK**

⑈031116⑈ ⑆311971352⑆ 010001590004⑈

## **WOISD marker to be unveiled fall of 1999**

The historical marker for White Oak schools is becoming a reality. James Oliver, working with Gregg County Historical Commission President Dr. Norman Black, had submitted all the legal paperwork to Austin and has been informed that it has been approved. Donations are still being accepted to cover costs of the marker and foundation and can be made at First Federal Bank in White Oak. Dedication of the marker is planned for the fall of the 1999-2000 school year.



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

GEORGE W. BUSH, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWRENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 29, 1999

Dr. Norman Black, Chair  
Gregg CHC  
417 Mobberly Avenue  
Longview, TX 75602

RE: WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
18" x 28" marker w/ post  
Job # 03099, Gregg County

Dear Dr. Black:

Enclosed is the proposed inscription for the above-referenced marker. (Please note that this is a working copy, including filing and foundry instructions. The right-hand margin, which is uneven in this copy, will be justified on the finished marker.)

Please review and verify the information contained in the inscription. In particular, be sure to check all names and dates, and make certain we have noted the correct marker location. Please contact other sponsors of this application to discuss the wording of this marker. If you approve the inscription, sign where indicated and return it to me. You also may want to make a copy of the inscription for your files.

If you have corrections to make or changes to suggest, please do so on the enclosed copy of the inscription and return it to me with the marked corrections. To ensure that I catch all your suggested changes, I ask that you not type a new version of the inscription. The revised wording will need to meet style and spacing requirements; suggestions for new information not documented in your narrative history must be sent with appropriate reference notes.

The marker will not be ordered for casting until the county historical commission and other persons or groups listed below have approved the inscription. For that reason, we will expect to receive signed copies of the inscription from each person; in order to avoid possible delays, you may want to consult with each other and discuss approvals or possible revisions and coordinate the return of all of the copies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily C Bell".

Emily Cole Bell, Historian  
Official Texas Historical Marker Program  
History Programs Division

pc: Dr. Tim Sonnenberg  
James Marcus Oliver  
Beth Dodson

Texas Historical Commission Staff (ECB). 6/16/99

18" x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker with post  
Gregg County (Job #03099)

Location: 200 S. White Oak Road, White Oak

**WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF WHITE OAK

GREW UP AROUND A ONE-ROOM SCHOOL BUILT

IN THE 1880s. AFTER THE FIRST SCHOOL BUILDING

BURNED IN 1885, LOCAL FAMILIES WORKED TO

ERECT A NEW ONE-ROOM SCHOOL, WHICH ALSO

WAS USED FOR RELIGIOUS SERVICES. BY 1912

IT WAS REPLACED WITH A TWO-ROOM BUILDING.

AFTER OIL WAS DISCOVERED IN EAST TEXAS IN

THE 1930s, THE SCHOOL BECAME OVERCROWDED

WITH THE CHILDREN OF FAMILIES WHO CAME TO

THE AREA IN SEARCH OF BLACK GOLD. THE

COMMUNITY CONSTRUCTED A MODERN BRICK

FACILITY IN 1933, AND IN 1937 THE FIRST SENIOR

CLASS GRADUATED FROM WHITE OAK SCHOOL.

FACILITIES WERE ADDED AS NEEDED OVER THE

YEARS. NEW ADMINISTRATION, ELEMENTARY

AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS WERE ERECTED IN

THE 1980s.

(1999)

**PLEASE CHECK ONE AND SIGN:**

I approve this text as written.

Please consider the revisions as  
noted on this copy.

Norman H. Heck, Jr.  
(signature)

7-8-99



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

GEORGE W. BUSH, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWRENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 21, 1999

Dr. Norman Black, Chair  
Gregg CHC  
417 Mobberly Avenue  
Longview, TX 75602

RE: WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
18" x 28" marker w/ post; Job # 03099  
Shipment to above address

Dear Dr. Black:

We have ordered the above-referenced marker for casting. It is currently taking 6 - 8 weeks for delivery from the foundry. **However, this is just an estimate; a final shipment date will depend on the foundry's workload.** A copy of the final inscription as it was sent to the foundry is enclosed for your files. According to our records, the marker should be shipped to the address above. If these instructions have changed during the marker process, please let me know as soon as possible so that I may notify the foundry.

If you have not already done so, this would be a good time to begin planning the marker dedication ceremony. However, please avoid setting the dedication date until the marker is received. The estimated shipping date above does not take into account potential shipping problems or other unforeseen delays, and the best laid dedication plans could be upset if planned around this time estimate. We will notify you and all parties listed below once the marker has been shipped from the foundry.

A guide to planning a dedication ceremony is available from our office upon request. Since this is a state program, we suggest that your state senator and/or representative be included in the program, as well as your county judge and commissioners who have appointed your county historical commission. Also enclosed is a form which you may use to let us know your dedication plans; we maintain a list of all upcoming dedications which is distributed to agency commissioners and staff.

Again, please contact me at 512/463-6063 if there has been a change in the shipping address, or if you would like a marker dedication guide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eginia".

Eginia G. Reyes  
Administrative Technician  
History Programs Division

pc: Dr. Tim Sonnenberg  
James Marcus Oliver  
Beth Dodson



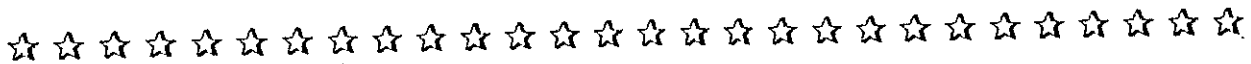
August 5, 1999



# Marker Dedication Announcement

This form may be used to announce your marker dedication in the Texas Historical Commission's newsletter, *The Medallion*; in the THC's marker dedication calendar, which is distributed to agency commissioners and staff; and in the monthly *News for County Historical Commissions*.

To announce your dedication to THC commissioners and staff in the agency's marker dedication calendar, this form needs to be received approximately three weeks prior to the dedication. The announcement will be listed in the next calendar issued after its receipt. To include your announcement in *The Medallion*, please submit this form at least two months before the marker dedication.



Title of Marker WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community or Nearest Town White Oak, Texas

County GREGG

Date of Dedication Saturday, November 13, 1999

Contact Person Dr. Norman W. Black

Address 417 Mobberly Ave.

City, State, and Zip Longview, Texas 75602

Area Code and Telephone Number 903-757-2261

Return this form to:

**Local History Programs**

Texas Historical Commission

P.O. Box 12276

Austin, TX 78711-2276



(revised 7/93)

SEE BACK OF DELIVERY RECEIPT

DATE 09/22/99

4 SNT 142 ALJ C1LVY924

FREIGHT BILL # CFL#17222879-3

SHIPPER 6600 O BT

SOUTHWELL CD  
928 N ALAMO  
SAN ANTONIO TX 78215



**Central**  
Freight Lines, Inc.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS  
P.O. BOX 2638  
WACO, TX 76702-2638  
PHONE (254) 772-2120

ROUTING  
0520250001 TR# 172228793

CUSTOMER COPY  
SCAC=CENF  
IL

CONSIGNEE 4800  
DR NORMAN BLACK  
417 MOBERLY AVE  
LONGVIEW TX 75602

REF. #  
BL 03099

0000000000 LBS

UNITS	P	HM	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT IN LBS	RATE	CHARGES
1			HISTORICAL MARKERS 1.0% FUEL SURCHARGE CENF 25 TEX 00340 TRFB @@@SYN	48	M	1.
1			*PREPAID CHARGES ON INVOICE COPY ONLY*	48		2.
						3.
						DRIVER <i>Roy</i>
						UNITS <i>10</i>
						DATE <i>9-27-99</i>
						TIME <i>1413</i>
						AMT. COLLECTED

CFL  
7413056

RECEIVED IN GOOD ORDER EXCEPT AS NOTED RECEIVING CO. NAME  
 X *Dr Norman Black*  
 PRINT LAST NAME SEAL # INTACT ON RECEIPT  
 X

*Closed*

# Marker to honor White Oak schools

## Dedication ceremony set for Saturday in front of middle school

By Annetoinette Moore

Staff Writer

WHITE OAK — James Oliver will celebrate his family's history Saturday when he helps dedicate a historical marker honoring White Oak schools.

Part of the land White Oak schools now occupy once belonged to Oliver's grandparents, M.C. and Ada Satterwhite, Oliver said.

He researched White Oak Independent School District history and did the paperwork necessary to acquire the marker. The official Texas Historical Marker will be dedicated at 2 p.m. Saturday in front of White Oak Middle School, 200 S. White Oak Road in White Oak.

Oliver, a teacher at Foster

Middle School in Longview, said the marker commemorates the history of White Oak schools.

"I went back and found the deed to the original two acres where John Bumpus had named it White Oak. It was 1885 when this school was built," he said.

"The school was built between two oak trees and that's why they called it White Oak," Oliver said. The two acres weren't deeded to the school district until 1907. A two-room building replaced the one-room school house by 1912.

In January 1931, discovery of oil in the Gregg County portion of the East Texas Oil Field changed life in White Oak forever, as hundreds of new families came flooding in, Oliver said. More than 200 pupils enrolled in grades one through eight and school facilities were overwhelmed.

In February 1933, the district bought about four acres of land from the Satterwhites and

constructed a new building, Oliver said. The first high school class of 27 students graduated June 2, 1937.

"My mother was in that class," the 1971 White Oak High School graduate said.

Oliver said he had been a part of the school's history and he wanted to share that sense of history with the current White Oak students.

"My family has been a part of it. The school is basically made up of those two acres, the land that they bought from my grandparents and land that they bought from Bill and Aline Bingham," Oliver said.

"We really needed to have it done. I want it to make an impact on the students and the students to come," he said.

Oliver will speak at Saturday's marker dedication, along with White Oak Superintendent Dr. Richard Montgomery and Dr. Norman Black, chairman of the Gregg County Historical Commission



**GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**Dedication**

of an

**Official Texas Historical Marker**

**WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
White Oak, Texas

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1999  
2:00 P.M.



White Oak School  
1885

Sponsored by

THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
THE GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
THE WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

- |                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| NORMAN W. BLACK, DDS, CHAIRMAN | MRS. H. L. LONG          |
| SUE MARTIN BROWN               | ANNE P. MACKENZIE        |
| MR. JACK BUCHANAN              | NAUTY BYRD MAYER         |
| MRS. PAULINE COX               | AMANDA PRATT NOBLES      |
| MRS. B. W. CRAIN, JR.          | DR. W. D. NORTHCUTT, III |
| BETH HOLLOWAY DODSON           | MRS. JOHN W. OSTEEN      |
| MRS. HELEN MCHANEY GRIFFIN     | MR. HAROLD R. WELLS      |
| CAROL MORRIS LITTLE            | MR. JOE WHITE            |
|                                | MR. W. A. WILLIAMS       |

**Pledge to the Texas Flag**  
"Honor the Texas flag:  
I pledge allegiance to thee,  
Texas, one and indivisible."



**WHITE OAK  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF WHITE OAK GREW UP AROUND A ONE-ROOM SCHOOL BUILT IN THE 1880's. AFTER THE FIRST SCHOOL BUILDING BURNED IN 1885, LOCAL FAMILIES WORKED TO ERECT A NEW ONE-ROOM SCHOOL, WHICH ALSO WAS USED FOR RELIGIOUS SERVICES. BY 1912, IT WAS REPLACED WITH A TWO-ROOM BUILDING. AFTER OIL WAS DISCOVERED IN EAST TEXAS IN THE 1930's, THE SCHOOL BECAME OVERCROWDED WITH CHILDREN OF FAMILIES WHO CAME TO THE AREA IN SEARCH OF BLACK GOLD. THE COMMUNITY CONSTRUCTED A MODERN BRICK FACILITY IN 1933, AND IN 1937 THE FIRST SENIOR CLASS GRADUATED FROM WHITE OAK SCHOOL. FACILITIES WERE ADDED AS NEEDED OVER THE YEARS. NEW ADMINISTRATION, ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS WERE ERECTED IN THE 1980's.

(1999)

**Program**

Welcome	Dr. Norman Black Chairman Gregg County Historical Commission
Invocation	Jack Hale Director of Curriculum White Oak ISD
Music Introduction	Dr. Black
Pledges	Jamie Oliver 5th Grade
Introduction of School Board	Rusty Kennedy, President
Remarks	Dr. Richard Montgomery Superintendent James Oliver
Dedication	Dr. Black
Reading	Mrs. Claudia Carrington
Unveiling	Dr. Montgomery and James Oliver
School Song	Velma Knowles, Author
Benediction	Brooke Snoddy President Student Council

DEDICATION  
OF AN  
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER  
WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
November 13, 1999, 2:00 P.M.

WELCOME Welcome to the dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker: The White Oak Independent School District. This marker is authorized by the State of Texas and sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission, the Gregg County Historical Commission and the White Oak Independent School District.

INVOCATION & MUSIC Mr. Jack Hale, Director of Curriculum of the White Oak ISD, will bring the invocation. This will be followed by music by the White Oak High School Band under the direction of Mr. Wayne Smith....Thank you Mr. Hale, Mr. Smith and the fine band.

PLEDGES Jamie Oliver will lead us in both Pledges of Allegiance. You will find the Pledge to the Texas Flag on the back of your program.....Thank you, Jamie.

SCHOOL BOARD Mr. Rusty Kennedy, President of the White Oak ISD School Board will introduce the other members of The Board...Thank you, Mr. Kennedy and The Board Members.

GUESTS There are some other people I would like to introduce: We have some members of the Gregg County Historical Commission present and, if you will, will you raise you hands? Also, these proceedings are being recorded by Gem Meacham of the Gregg County Historical Museum. *Beth Dodson, Jean Buchanan, W.A. Miller*  
(Judge Smith, ~~Commissioners~~, dignitaries) *Sheriff Bobby Weaver,*  
*Judge Alvin Khury, (Mayor Tim —, et. al. from W.O.*

REMARKS And now, some remarks by the Superintendent, Dr. Richard Montgomery and Mr. James Oliver, who did the research for

this marker....Thank you both, Dr. Montgomery and Mr. Oliver.

DEDICATION This is a very significant historical marker and I would like to dedicate the marker to the Students and Faculty of the beginning, the Students and Faculty of the present, and the Students and Faculty of the future of The White Oak Independent School District.

TEXT & UNVEIL Mrs. Claudia Carrington will read the text of the marker followed by its unveiling by Dr. Montgomery and Mr. Oliver.

SCHOOL SONG We're fortunate to have a special person with us this afternoon and although all of you know her, I want to re-introduce her because she wrote the School Song: Velma Knowles....Mrs. Knowles. The band will lead us in the singing of the school song.

BENEDICT. There is a change in the program: <sup>another young lady introd by</sup> ~~Jamie Hudspeth~~ will give <sup>Jack Holt</sup> the benediction....Thank you, Jamie...And thank you all for coming.

copy given to Winnie Newman  
of W.O. Independent.

# White Oak schools mark history with dedication

By John Lynch

Staff Writer

WHITE OAK — The first person to graduate from White Oak High School hopes today's students know a good thing when they see it.

"I hope they appreciate the things they have," said Audrey Adams Mayberry Booth of Longview on Saturday. "I hope they appreciate the opportunities they have."

Booth was the first of the school district's first graduating class of 27 students to receive a high school diploma. It was 1937, she was still Audrey Adams and the school's football team was only a year old.

"We were happy and we loved our school — and still do," said Booth, who is also the school's first cheerleader.

Sixty-two years later, Booth's alma mater has gone through a lot of changes — so many that it sometimes seems like a different place.

"It really doesn't look like White Oak in a way," she said. "But the memories are still in my heart."

Teachers from the school district's past and present joined with students and alumni such as Booth to celebrate those changes Saturday with the dedication of a Texas Historical Marker commemorating the district's evolution from a one-room schoolhouse

in the 1880s to a modern multi-building complex at the end of the 20th century.

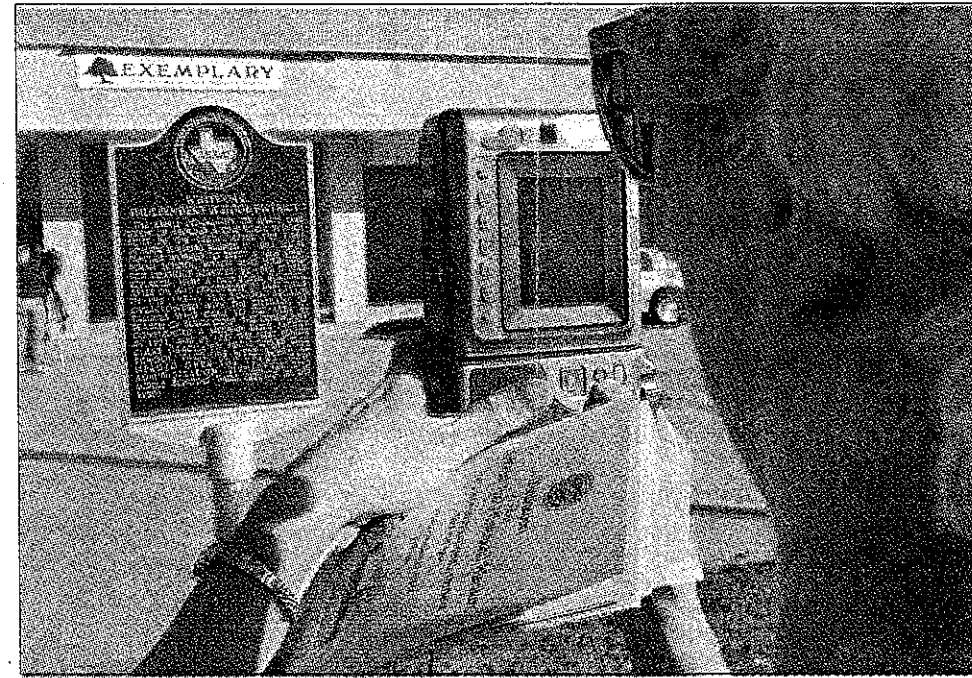
"History and tradition link the past with the present, and that includes the teachers and students who attended the one room schoolhouse, all the way up to today's school — an exemplary K through 12 system," said Dr. Richard Montgomery, the school's superintendent, during the dedication ceremony at White Oak Middle School.

For James Oliver, a White Oak

graduate, the ceremony culminated more than a year of research and work to get state approval for the marker.

White Oak has always made education a priority, he said.

"This school has faced and overcome many problems, such as overcrowding and unsafe drinking water, because of the dedication of the community," he said. "This school will continue to grow and prosper because of the unselfish dedication of our community."



Beth Dodson videos the new Texas Historical Marker honoring the White Oak Independent School District during the marker dedication Saturday at the district's middle school. The district began in the 1880s, and its first high school graduating class was in 1937.

Kevin Green  
Staff Photographer



# WO School District receives Texas Historical Marker

By WINNIE NEWMAN  
Independent Editor

"We gather here today to dedicate this marker in honor of the accomplishments of this school, both past, present and future." Those were the words James Marcus Oliver said during ceremonies held Saturday, Nov. 13 to dedicate a Texas Historical Marker to the White Oak Independent School District.

Dr. Norman Black, Chairman of the Gregg County Historical Commission headed up the dedication at the 2 p.m. ceremonies held in front of the White Oak Middle School.

Oliver, a 1971 White Oak graduate, began research on the school's history a year ago to gain approval from the state for the marker. Through his dedication, and donations from the community to purchase the marker, another piece of White Oak history has been recorded.

For Oliver, the history of White Oak schools go far beyond his graduation as his grandparents,



**DEDICATION — Dr. Richard Montgomery and James Oliver unveil the historical marker at last Saturday's ceremonies.**

M.C. and Ada Satterwhite owned part of the land that the school was built upon and his mother, Agnes Satterwhite Oliver, was among the first graduating class

of 1937.

A teacher at Foster Middle School in Longview, Oliver knows the value of education and the importance of preserving history. White Oak was born out of a sense of pride and tradition and through the years that sense of pride and tradition has carried on through the schools, bringing with it "excellence in education."

From the one room wooden schoolhouse built in 1907 on two acres of land for children of the then sawmill community to the present four-school campus that sits on an approximate 39.9 acres, the school district has gained the reputation as one of the best in the state. Much of the growth of White Oak can be attributed to the school district.

"This school has faced and overcome problems of overcrowding and unsafe drinking water because of the dedication of its community and families," Oliver told the audience at the ceremonies. "The discovery of oil helped White Oak schools to prosper. Now that the

**See MARKER on page 8**

# Marker

Continued from Page 1

oil resources are not as plentiful, our school will continue to prosper because of the dedicated support of this community to the cause of education," he said.

Dr. Richard Montgomery, Superintendent of WOISD, remarked "History and tradition link the past and present, binding together the students, teachers and families who experienced the one room White Oak school house of 1885 to a progressive K-12 system of exemplary and recognized schools poised for even greater achievement in the 21st Century.

"It is our hope that those who stop to read this historical marker which we unveil today, as well as all who have a stake in the future

of our children and schools will be inspired to re-assess and reaffirm their commitment to the inherent value of education, and to insure that the heritage of pride, tradition, and educational excellence will be preserved for generations of "Roughnecks" yet unborn," he said.

Many people with close links to White Oak schools were in attendance. Velma Knowles, a retired teacher at White Oak, who wrote the school song was in attendance as were Audrey Adams Mayberry Booth, the first White Oak cheerleader and also the first 1937 graduate to walk across the stage; Margaret Tuttle Boring, 1937 graduate, and daughter of T.J. Tuttle; Claudia Carrington, long-time teacher at White Oak and wife of former superintendent E.B. Carrington; Sandra Koonce, wife of former superintendent C.M.

(Mickey) Koonce; Woodrow Satterwhite and Nina Cockrell, son and daughter of M.C. and Ada Satterwhite; Janis Bingham Canion, White Oak graduate and daughter of Bill and Aline Bingham who also owned land where the White Oak school facilities were built; Robert Proctor, former superintendent at WOISD and a host of others with original ties to the White Oak community and school.

Claudia Carrington gave the reading of the marker before it was unveiled by Oliver and Montgomery. She reminisced as to times past and of her teaching experiences. Many of her former students were on hand at the event.

Among dignitaries attending were Judge Alvin Khoury, Judge Mickey D. Smith, Sheriff Bobby Weaver, and White Oak Mayor Tim Vaughn.

# It all began with the Class of '37

## *'Prestige of the WOHS of the future leans heavily on you'*

By WINNIE NEWMAN  
Independent Editor

The first of the new millenium, Homecoming 2000 marks the 63rd anniversary of the very first graduating class of White Oak's first four-year high school. In 1936 the Bumpus School consolidated with White Oak Schools and the tradition of pride in education and educational excellence in White Oak began.

### Foresight into history

W. C. Mathis, superintendent of the school system, showed foresight when, addressing the seniors of '36-'37, he wrote in the first Roughneck Annual the following message:

"The year 1936-1937 will be marked on the pages of history portraying the progress of White Oak High School.

"Tradition is being founded; the new is taking the place of the old. You, the seniors of 1936-37, are the chief actors in this drama of life and around you center the pleasant memories and profitable experiences that will make this tradition a vital living thing."

"The strength and prestige of the White Oak High school of the future lean heavily on you. Your successors — the juniors, the sophomores, and the freshmen — will be ever looking to you to light the way by which their courses shall be guided.

"We have tried to provide an atmosphere that would tend to encourage and inspire you to higher ideals. We have confidence

in you; surely you will truly let this be the 'commencement' of your achievements."

R. E. Anderson served as high school principal and C.C. Simmons, principal of the elementary school.

Members of the Board of Trustees for the 1936-1937 school year included President Joe Bander, G. E. Sweeney, secretary, and T. L. Sturgis. Cora Mackey served as County Superintendent.

Comprising the class were seniors Audrey Adams, Carl Norman Aldridge, Roy Maxel Anders, Ruby Doris Bailey, Charlene Barton, William Williard Bedford, Edna Pauline Brooks, Mary Genevieve Freeman, L.D. Gallagher, Foster Ingram, Lottie Bell Johnson, R.B. Pate, Helen Sue Rush, Agness Hughleen Satterwhite.

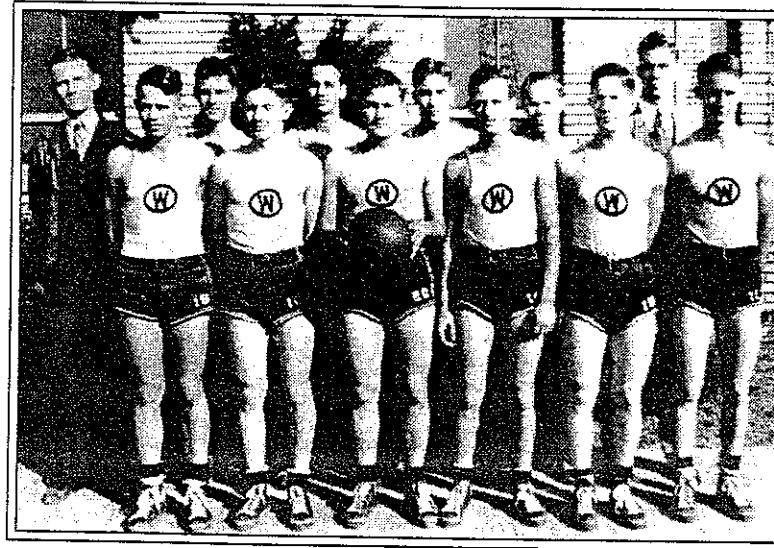
Manie Inez Sewell, Lenore Jean Sizemore, Mildred Isabell Smith, Thomas de Leon Spurrier, Geraldine Taylor, Joyce Willene Taylor, Louis Bomar Tuttle, Loy Tuttle, Margaret Tuttle, George Boyd Williams and Joe. B. Wilson.

Officers sitting on the first WOHS Student Council were Bill Bedford, president; Leon Spurrier, vice-president; Lottie Bell Johnson, secretary and Bomar Tuttle, treasurer.

Junior Margaret Ploeger was chosen as football queen, class favorites were Charlene Barton and Bill Bedford.

Sponsors of the class were Jean Rhea Street and Ray Maberry.

Nineteen hundred and thirty



Coach J.D. Fuller led the '37 Roughnecks in basketball.

seven also was the year White Oak school colors of maroon and white were established as well as the mascot, who is today called "Joe Roughneck." The name Roughneck was suggested by teacher Winnie Nunez.

At a meeting of the junior and senior classes the original logo for White Oak schools was born and a drawing was made depicting two oil wells with a sturdy Roughneck between them. The words "White Oak" were at the bottom of the artwork.

Class motto was "Build for character, not for fame." The class flower chosen was the rose.

Bill Bedford held the position

of editor-in-chief of the first Roughneck yearbook. Bill Mat

hews served as associate editor and Alfred Davis was art editor. Others working on the yearbook included Hellen Rush, who covered what was happening with each class; Betty Jane Shoupe wrote about athletics, Lafaun Bankhead and Lottie Bell Johnson covered school organizations, Leon Spurrier and Lenore Sizemore wrote feature stories. Genevieve Freeman was the typists and L.D. Gallagher, business manager.

Teaching the high school students were E. B. Carrington, so-

See CLASS OF '37 on page 11

## Class of '37

Continued from page 9

cial science; J. D. Fuller, boys' physical education; Winlon Knowles, science and coach; R. W. Maberry, math; Mary Jane Moore, music, Winnie Nunez, Spanish, social science; Ara Schrum, English; Jean Rhea Street, commercial; Maurine Taylor, home economics; Lena Faye Vaughn, English; Velma Wall, girls' physical education and W. E. Wright, industrial arts. Ellis P. Wood was band director, Grace Green was the librarian and Irene Bassett served as secretary.

### End-of-year events

The junior-senior banquet was held on May 15, 1937 in the school cafeteria. J. W. Knowles served as master of ceremonies and guest speaker was Fred Erisman. Mrs. L. M. Bucy performed a whistling solo and Betsy Sherwood performed an accodian solo. Daisy Smith and Ruby Nell Welch performed a Dutch Song and dance.

In celebration of the first graduating class the sponsors took the

seniors to Dallas on May 28 by bus where they spent the night at the Baker Hotel. There they were treated to their choice of food from the extensive menu.

Baccalaureate service was held on May 30 at 8 p.m. in the high school. Processional was led by Mary Jane Moore and the invocation was given by Rev. O. F. Bur-



Football queen  
Margaret Ploeger

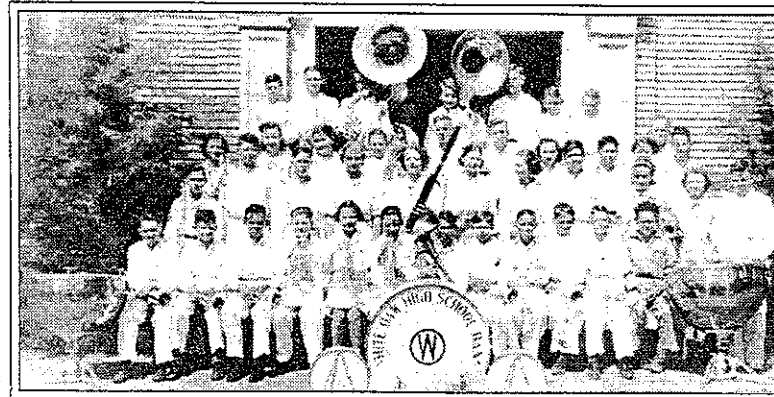
ton. Entertainment was provided by cornet trio Holmes Hutton, Oliver McCarty and Thomas Idom who performed "Three Chums," by Buchtel.

The scripture reading was given by R. W. Maberry, the commencement sermon by Rev. J. E. Montgomery and the benediction by Rev. Thurmond Rucker.

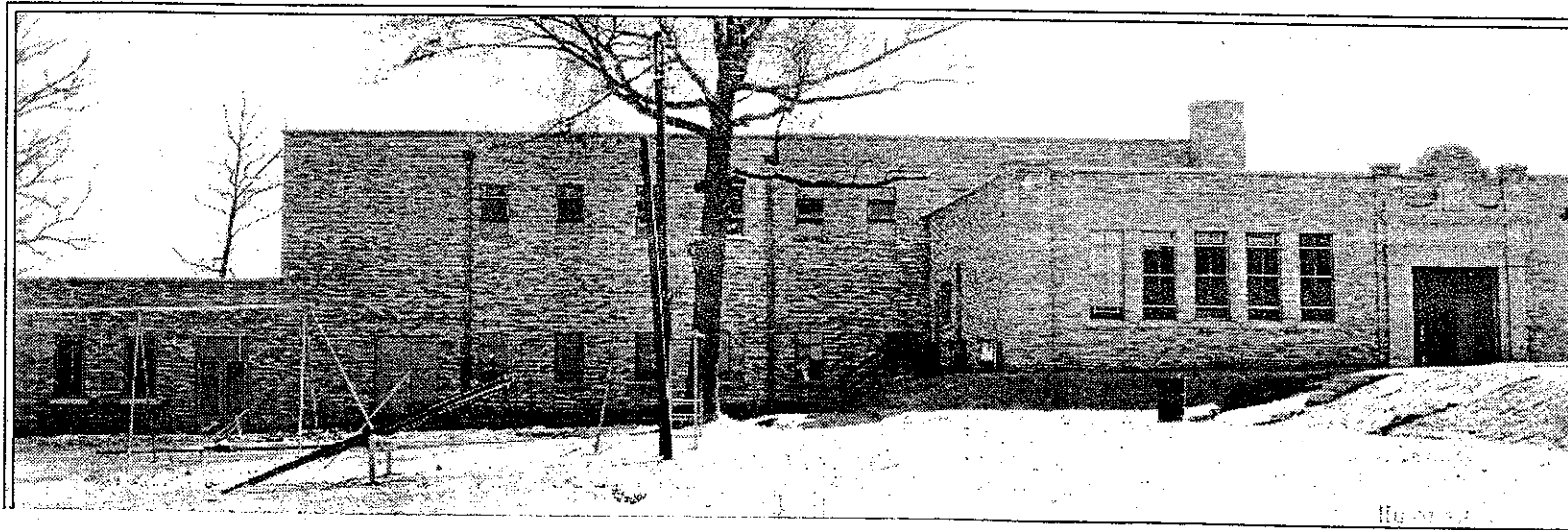
On June 2 at 8 p.m. Commencement Exercises of the first graduating class was held. The invocation was given by Rev. Floyd

Decker, Marie Sewell followed with the salutatory address. A vocal sextette consisting of Charlene Barton, Dortha Mae Lovingood, Lafaun Bankhead, Agness Satterwhite, Betty Jane Shoupe and Bertie Hodges and "Why do You Laugh Little Brook" and "Commencement Day."

The Honorable Sidney Latham addressed the students. After the valedictory given by Lenore Sizemore, W. C. Mathis made the presentation of diplomas.



The 1937 White Oak High School band.





Norman Black, D.D.S.

This history of White Oak Schools was compiled and written by Winnie Newman over a period of many years and its content is to the present date (October 2003). Winnie is the owner, publisher and editor of the *White Oak Independent*, a weekly newspaper.

# White Oak public schools have

The White Oak area was ruled by Indians in the early 1800's. The Cherokee and the Caddo Indian tribes dominated this wooded East Texas territory. The Cherokees traveled a path from Nacogdoches to their summer hunting grounds at White River, Arkansas. This historic path is what is today known as the Cherokee Trace. Along their way the Indians would plant roses, later to be known as the Cherokee Rose. White settlers eventually made their way to the East Texas area to settle what is today many prominent cities and towns.

In the late 1800's, a small farming community boasting three large sawmills was located on a thickly wooded virgin land that would eventually be known as White Oak.

In 1863, Andrew J. Tuttle came from Alabama during the Civil War. He settled north of Hallsville in Harrison country for five years until the death of his parents.

Tuttle then came to live with his uncle Pleas Harris. They lived south of Highway 80 in the area where White Oak State Bank now stands. Harris owned a good amount of the heavily wooded land where U.S. Highway 80 now runs through.

At the time there was only a filling station, grocery store and Reynolds Lumber. Lumber is the oldest and only continuous business in White Oak.

Tuttle grew up under the guidance of his aunt and uncle and later married the daughter of John Bumpus, another founding father of White Oak. Tuttle bought 100 acres of land on what is now White Oak Road where he built a brick house. He continued to acquire land until he had approximately 500 acres. He raised a large family and his oldest child, Julius Tuttle, would later serve on the school board in White Oak for many years.

By 1884, there were 12 to 15 families living in the area. With the influx of settlers, most who worked in the sawmills, there were enough children to warrant a school. Tuttle and J.E. (Uncle Bee) Shelton built a small school building near Hawkins Creek. The school was well attended by the children of the community until it burned in 1885.

After the fire Tuttle and Shelton again took steps to establish a new school. Pleas Harris and Kaleb Bumpus donated ground near a spring located between two White Oak samplings on which to build a new school. Bumpus and Tuttle furnished the lumber and the people worked together to build the school.

A 20x30 ft. one-room frame structure, was lighted by oil lamps and had an enrollment of 20 students. Will M. Dunagan was employed as the first teacher. The school was originally built on the other side of where the tennis courts are now located behind the middle school campus.

Upon completion, John Bumpus, a major contributor to the

school, noticed the two White Oak saplings on either side of the building. It was decided then and there that the name of this town would be White Oak.

The school year began on October 1 and ended on March 1 so the children could help on the farm during their "vacation." Two months of summer school were also scheduled. Active sports consisted of volleyball and baseball. The games were played from old stocking balls to horse apples.

As time passed, the enrollment increased, another teacher was hired, and in 1897, a room was added to the original building. In 1907, the heirs signed the deed stipulating that the land be used by the school or church ... and at such times as not to interfere with any sessions of school. In the event that it is used for any other purpose, the land reverts to the heirs' estate.

## A 'Modern' School

In 1912, a larger more modern, two-room building was constructed near the old one; it resembled a church and was also used for worship. Made of rough lumber, it had four classrooms, two cloakrooms and a main room with a stage. The "chairs" were actually homemade, wooden benches that were 16 to 18 feet long. The girls sat on the north side of the room and the boys on the south. Two wood burning stoves were used to stave off the cold and heat the rooms on chilly, winter mornings and outdoor privy's "modernized" the school.

Most of the students walked to school with their lunches of biscuits and honey or sweet potatoes and ham in a syrup bucket. Students would drink from a well out of a common dipper. During recess, the boys played bull pen, crossline and stick ball while the girls played hide-and-seek or stayed indoors to study.

In 1889, the first church was established with meetings held in the school building. L.P. Ray came from New Hopewell Baptist Church in Upshur County to preach to the community. In 1910, the first church, White Oak Missionary Baptist, was built near the school building.

In the fall of 1930, the school opened with expectation of the usual eight-month term. Two teachers had been employed and approximately 50 pupils enrolled.

Then the beginnings of oil field history began and changed the life and legacy of East Texas.

## Oil Brings Growth

On January 23, 1931, a discovery well was located at the west end of Gregg County in the famous East Texas Oil Field. Due to the rapid increase in activities in the area, the population grew and the need of a larger educational building was a priority.

The church building was divided into three classrooms by curtains. The school building, the church building and several small shotgun buildings were used to teach the students. Firewood was

used to divide the rooms.

Hawkins Creek provided fresh water from the spring. The larger male students would carry buckets of water from the creek and during the day students would drink from a community dipper.

Because of the influx of families coming to East Texas as a result of the oil boom, another school had been established. The Bumpus School was located across from the pond on Highway 42 on which is now a part of the Chloe Bumpus estate. Roads back in that time were of poor quality being mostly mud and rutted and transportation was not convenient. Due to that fact, schools were built close to where people lived so they could be within walking distance. Thus, the need for the Bumpus School.

Chloe Bumpus, grandson of John, was also active in the school system. He drove a White Oak school bus for 40 years.

## Meredith Building

The year 1933 brought change and growth to the school system. More room was needed for the fast growing school, but citizens could not agree on the plans for a new building. Finally, the school board and county superintendent decided to act upon their own judgment. A contract was let for an eight-room brick building containing a gymnasium that was started on September 1, 1934. In February of 1933, the bottom story was erected. Known today as the Judy C. Meredith Building, it then boasted of ten classrooms and an auditorium. The classrooms were finished and occupied by high school students on December 1, 1934 and the gymnasium completed March 1, 1935.

In the early 30's with the advent of the oil boom another wooden building was built to house the approximately 50 students and two teachers who were now employed. The school year opened for an expanded eight-month term. One of those teachers was Judy C. Meredith, who in 1958 became the elementary principal. She held that position for many years and was much respected.

In the 1800's and early 1900's people tended to build houses and public facilities near springs so they wouldn't have to build water wells. People would use a gourd as a dipper. Of course, there were also wells where water would be drawn from a bucket.

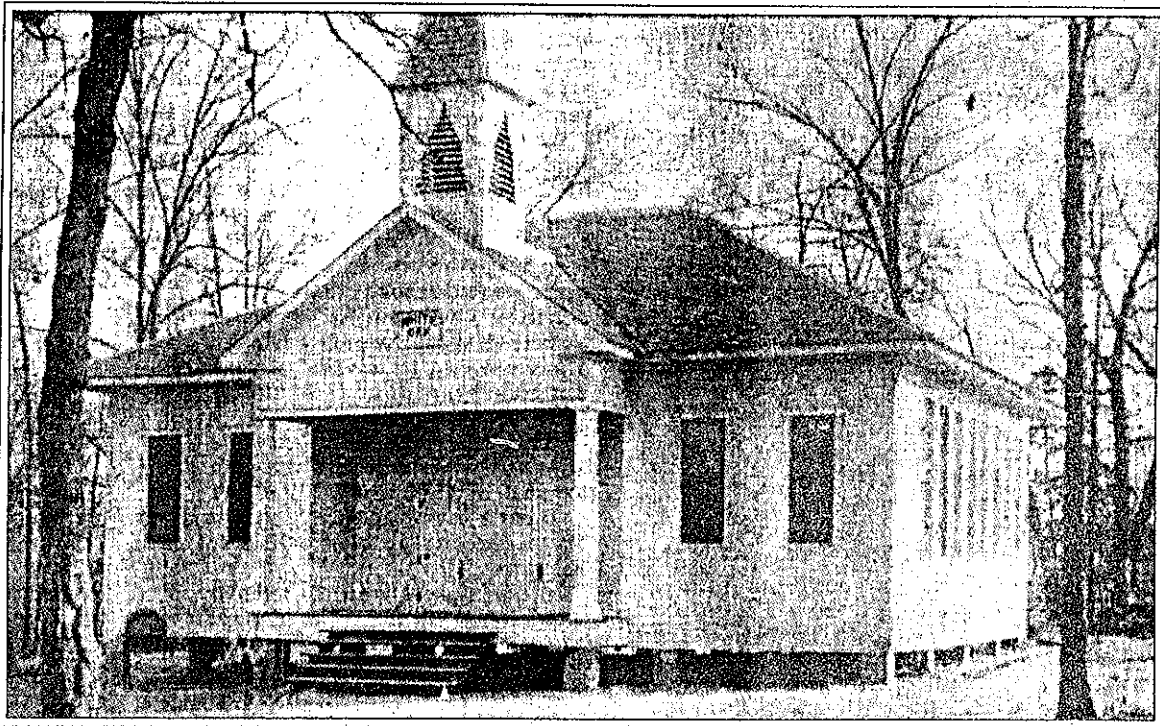
In 1932, W.C. Mathis, superintendent at that time, fashioned water troughs from wooden cases and placed them outside the school buildings.

In the early part of 1933, the school employed 13 classroom teachers and a music teacher and had about 400 children. Two new departments — homemaking and industrial arts — were added. They had electricity in schools and one telephone, which was wired through a dentist's office.

Construction on the Shiloh School, the first black school, also



# a rich, unique heritage



**DOUBLE DUTY** — The second school building, erected in White Oak in 1912, served as both the school and church. The building was considered a modern facility as it had four classrooms, two cloakrooms a main room with a stage, outdoor "privys" and two woodburning stoves. Students brought lunches of biscuits and honey or sweet potatoes and ham and would drink water from a well out of a common dipper.

began in the year 1933. It opened for the 1933-34 school year with four teachers. The first administrators were Safrona Anderson and Wilbur Williams. In 1937, D.M. Brown, an outstanding administrator with great interest in curriculum, became principal. His name is still synonymous with Shiloh School.

In 1949, Shiloh became an elementary school and the high school students attended classes in Gladewater. In 1966, Shiloh School closed and the students came to White Oak. D. M. Brown joined the White Oak staff as an administrative assistant and Lucille Clark as library assistant.

The original high school complex was erected in December, 1934. It would later be demolished to build the current middle school.

### Consolidation

In 1936, the Bumpus School was consolidated with White Oak schools and students attended the newly built facilities. The 1936-37 school term marked the first four-year high school. White Oak schools also became an accredited member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

An important addition to the school, — the library — was also added in 1936. The first library was located in a classroom and later moved to larger quarters adjoining the cafeteria. At the same time, a teacherage was built to house the superintendent, W. C. Mathis, his family and seven or eight single male teachers, who shared one bath. The superintendent's wife would cook for them all.

A two-story frame garage was built at that same time. The superintendent parked his car on

the ground level and the women teachers were housed upstairs. Eventually, a new two-apartment brick building was erected across the street, which housed approximately 20 unmarried women faculty members. The building later became the homemaking building and then a Kindergarten.

Women teachers were not allowed to marry back then; if they did, they had to give up teaching.

In the mid-30's, the two famous White Oak trees became distressed and had to be cut down.

In 1937, the first permanent cafeteria was added to the school campus. The cafeteria, a brick structure, is where the concession area of the middle school is now. An Industrial Arts complex was also joined to the existing high school gymnasium.

In 1948, White Oak had its first bond issue to build another building. The law pertaining to school finances limited school district debt to \$25,000 in advance. But because oil boom money was easily acquired — and there was an abundance of it — exceptions were made. Some school board members personally signed a note at a Longview bank and borrowed the money to build an elementary and high school.

Continued improvements and commitments to the finest educational and physical facilities have been characteristic of the White Oak school system from 1949 to the present.

### Roughneck Stadium

In January, 1949, the L.W. Pelptry Company was awarded the contract for the construction of a new football field at a cost of \$11,855. Bleachers and the lighting system from the old field were moved to the new location for an additional \$6,365. On September

1, 1949, Roughneck Stadium was dedicated before a record-breaking crowd of approximately 5,000 fans. The dedicatory address included the following statement:

"Whereas, the citizenship of the White Oak community is composed largely of people closely connected with the oil industry and;

"Whereas the roughneck is an integral part of the oilfield life and symbolizes the rugged and dauntless spirit of its people and;

Whereas; their sons have carried on his traditions on the football field by having many outstanding teams;

"Therefore, be it resolved that in honor of the roughneck and the many fine White Oak Roughneck teams of the past that this field shall hereafter be named Roughneck Stadium."

### The 50's

The year 1950 saw the construction of the band hall, the only building that had air conditioning back then. The new complex featured eight soundproof practice rooms, an office, a rehearsal room, a group practice room, a storage room, a uniform room and a recording studio.

The first award jackets were given in accordance with University Interscholastic League rules. The first Scholastic Day assembly was held and continues to be a highlight of the academic year.

Also in the 1950's, White Oak secured a post office and was incorporated as a city. The newly formed city brought the Longview pipelines that carried in water from Big Sandy.

In 1951, the middle school gymnasium and homemaking departments were added. The gym consisted of the latest athletic equip-

ment, individual showers, and electronically-operated partition and an 875-person eating capacity.

The homemaking department boasted modern clothing, completely furnished living and dining rooms and an office. Both structures were completed in 1952.

Since this happened during the Korean War, materials were difficult to obtain, so galvanized steel water pipes were used instead of copper. Copper was not available. With help from the congressman of that time, a special permit was acquired to help get some of the building materials.

Enrollment dropped during the war because people moved. They were either drafted, or went to work in factories that manufactured war materials.

In 1953, a wading pool was added to the swimming pool.

#### Into the Future

In 1961, the cafeteria was remodeled and a field house and science annex were built.

Increased and projected enrollment prompted a million-dollar renovation and building program in 1967. The Administrative Offices, 13 elementary classrooms and an auditorium were built. The luxury of air conditioning was also added to the other buildings.

Also in 1961, the town bought land from Bill Bingham, another founding father of White Oak.

The bus barn was built in 1970. In November, 1972, voters approved a \$1.5 million bond proposal for a middle school, additional space in the field house, football stadium improvements, driveways, parking area and seating in the auditorium balcony. In

1973, the new high school gymnasium was named after longtime superintendent E.B. Carrington.

In 1975, the old high school was razed to build the current high school complex. In March of '76, the elementary school was renamed the Judy C. Meredith Elementary School. The school campus pool closed in 1978 as a result of the construction of the new White Oak City Park and swimming pool.

A few years later, 1981 saw construction of today's primary and intermediate school building. 1982 brought the erection of the current Administrative Building and the dedication of it and the elementary and middle schools.

The Missouri-Pacific Railroad made a gift of a real train caboose to the school system where it has become a permanent fixture on the elementary playground for many years.

Stadium seating was renovated for the 1984 football season. Individual chair seating replaced the wooden bleachers in the reserved section and wooden bleachers were replaced with aluminum throughout.

In December of 1984, the school board voted to add an additional 14 classrooms to the primary wing of the elementary school.

#### Negative 90's

In the fall of 1992, the "Robin Hood" state funding reform was instated, raising school taxes from the "richer" school districts to help fund less wealthier districts. It made an impact on many school districts including WOISD.

However, on a positive note, 1995 brought new state-of-the-art technology into White Oak schools when a fiber optic computer network station was installed.

1999 saw the devastating effect of the once rich city and school

system of White Oak with the decline of oil production. Both governments had no choice but to raise taxes to meet the standards known to White Oak.

Also in 1999, a bond election was held to make repairs to roofs and other much needed work on school campuses with the most important being a major project to solve water drainage problems at the elementary campus.

The last of the 1990's saw the razing of the Judy C. Meredith Building. The building that had once held many students in its hallways, fell into major disrepair and sat empty and silent for many years. After much controversy as to whether to save the historical building and renovate, it was found many after engineering studies, that it was not cost effective. The building was razed much to the heartache of all.

#### A New Century

The early years of the new century eluded the controversy of the 90's. In November, 2000, the new White Oak High and Middle School Food Services Building was completed and officially opened in December, 2000.

In January, 2002, the old cafeteria in the high school was renovated, and through cooperation with the City of White Oak, a grant was awarded and bond money issued for a new school/community library.

In June, 2002 a bell, which was purchased by the class of 1947, was dedicated and hung in the bell tower in front of the food services building in what is now known as Roughneck Plaza. The bell tower is appropriately named ... "The Judy C. Meredith Bell Tower."

The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.

## Festivities

Continued from 1

Football captains will give inspirational speeches and the leaders will rally all in attendance to get the gym rumbling as run high in anticipation. Homecoming football game evening.

Friday evening registration continues before gametime at Roughneck Stadium. Pre-gametime activities begin at 7 p.m. with crowning of the 2003 Homecoming Queen and the presentation of her court. The game begins when the Roughnecks challenge the Jefferson Bulldogs.

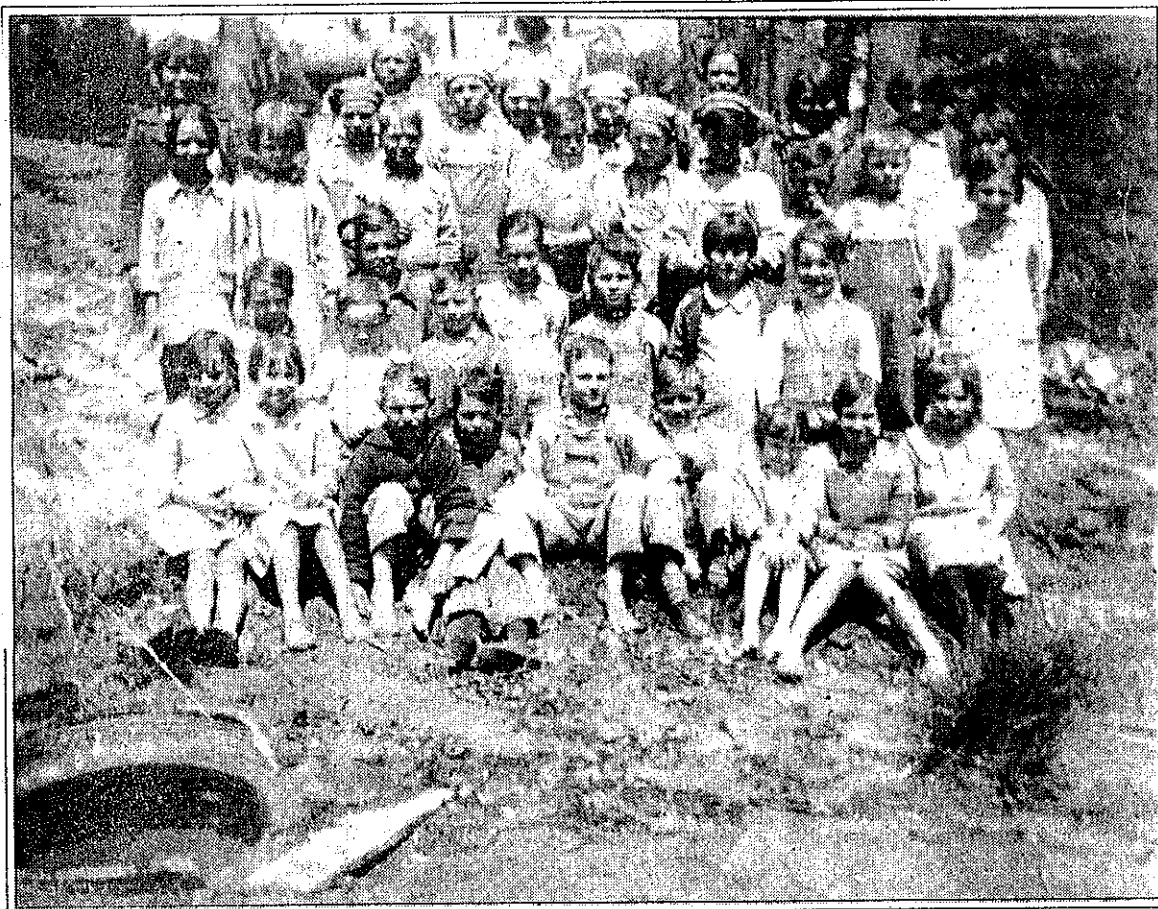
On Saturday, the Homecoming Parade begins a full day of festivities. The parade begins at 8 a.m. on White Oak Road. Those who have already signed up for the parade need to line up on the spur, Gladiola and Reynolds Streets. Late entries must be at Tommy Graves at White Oak Hall Saturday morning before the parade begins.

Among the parade entrants this year will be members of the White Oak All-Century Football and Basketball teams, members of the class of 1953, the White Oak High Middle School bands, the school student council and leaders, Lil' Neck cheerleaders, Homecoming Queen and her court, the fourth and fifth grade choirs, the WOHS Theatre Department, White Oak Boy Scouts, Longview Equestrian Center, Sharon Shrine Mustangs, WOVFD, the Gregg County Sheriff's Patrol, Campfire USA, East Texas Vintage Auto Club, and the East Texas Vintage Auto Club.

After the parade, the White Oak Lions Club will hold their barbecue from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the White Oak Community Center offering chicken and ribs. Also beginning immediately after the parade will be the annual "Cops and Kids, Auto Show at the Park" Softball Rally and at the girls softball field at White Oak City Park. Throughout the day numerous parties and reunions will be held.

Highlighting Saturday's festivities and ending Homecoming weekend will be the Homecoming Dance for all exes. The dance will be at the Maude Cobb Activity Center from 8 p.m. to midnight.

For more information on Homecoming 2003, contact Bill Liz Rogers at 759-7758-2118. To enter the parade, contact Carol Copeland at 759-3916.



**FIRST WATER SYSTEM FOR WHITE OAK SCHOOLS** — Back in 1885 students would trek down to the spring-fed well (bottom left) behind the school to get a drink of water using a common dipper. An innocent, everyday practice then, yet something that would be unheard of today.

Photo from the files of Agnes Satterwhite Oliver

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