

Marking the World War I Era:
1914-1919 the Years in Harris County and Houston, Texas
via Texas State Historical Markers

Compiled by Will Howard, 2015
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Our residents were distantly and intimately touched by the War in Europe, the Great War prompted in September 1914 by the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand as he sought to impress his imperial family and his own anticipated inheritance upon the Slavic people of the Balkan territories. Our newspapers covered his death lightly, but did follow the unfolding trail of Europe's entangling alliances. Unknown to most, German authorities began quietly but actively physical and social sabotage in 1915, in other than Texas states. The U.S. delayed entry under after the Lusitania's sinking in 1917.

The historical markers' texts herein provided express a direct war connection or often represent normal life during 1914-1919. Some incidental personal dates are included, not all. These collected texts present an odd, patchwork story as strung together here. They were not originally intended to tell a smooth story of World War I, but rather more narrow mini-histories on specific topics, persons, or buildings. Even so, the readers can imagine themselves as attending a family reunion or business or religious convention here in Houston in 1920. Each marker represents a local story told by somebody in the crowd.

Maybe those Houstonians paying closest attention to the early stages were business concerns with international interests and recent immigrants. Our most popular stories recall the establishment of Ellington Field for the new-fangled airplanes' pilots and Camp Logan for traditional land forces training. Others will mention the highly national and international role played by Edward M. House as President Woodrow Wilson's primary advisor. Houston's new Deep Water Port commissioners must have sensed both danger and opportunity. The thriving cotton trade of the Anderson, Clayton and Company moved to the city, and Clayton served on the U.S. War Industries Board Committee on Cotton Distribution. The Houston Light Guard returned from Mexico and went to Europe. Women found their needles, their husbands' plows, and their voices.

Most markers herein, however, relate to only tangentially or not at all to the belligerency at hand. A hundred years ago, without universal immediate auto mobility, radio, television, or the internet, and without a knowing of somebody directly involved, life on the farm or in the wards could pass as the seasons have always wont to do – without notice of another human burst of violence. Land was cleared, children were born, homes were built, folk socialized and worshipped, old people died - stones marked their passage.

The Table of Contents shows the several dozen markers are arranged chronologically – year by year, with some casual grouping within each. Preceding the collection is a march of gestural sentences referring to one or another marker as if trying to glancing note each leaf falling around you as a steady autumn wind shakes a giant red maple.

1914

As the War Began During August in Europe

Bayou Bend

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, 1 Westcott Drive, Houston

Marker Text: American heritage collection in mansion built 1927 by William Clifford (1875-1930), Ima (b. 1882), and Mike Hogg (1885-1941), children of first native Texan Governor James Stephen Hogg (1851-1906) and his wife Sarah Stinson. Will Hogg, attorney and businessman, originator of a student loan program in numerous Texas colleges, 1914-16 chairman of Board of Regents of the University of Texas, developed River Oaks, where Buffalo Bayou makes noted bend. Mike Hogg, Texas legislator (1927-31), joined sister in establishing at the University of Texas the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health. Miss Ima Hogg founded (1913) the Houston Symphony and (1929) Child Guidance Center of Houston; also served 1943-49 on Houston School board; engaged in restoration and preservation, creating Varner-Hogg State Park in West Columbia and Winedale Inn complex in Fayette County. Miss Hogg and her brothers used their home in its 14-acre setting of natural beauty to house paintings and American memorabilia, entertaining national and international personages. their collections span three centuries, from about 1650, filling 19 rooms. In 1957 Miss Hogg gave Bayou Bend, its park, and its treasures to the Museum of Fine Arts of Houston. (1973)

John M. Dorrance House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, , 9 Courtlandt Place, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: (1852-1935) An early Houston cotton broker and business and civic leader, had this home built for his family in 1914. Designed by the noted Fort Worth architectural firm of Sanguinet and Staats, the house is an outstanding example of Mediterranean architecture. Prominent features of the structure include its arched windows and door openings, tile roof, and stucco finish. It remained in the Dorrance family until 1941.

Houston Heights City Hall and Fire Station

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, , 9 Courtlandt Place, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: When the former city hall burned in 1912, Houston Heights mayor J. B. Marmion and the city council commissioned Houston architect A. C. Pigg to design a new building to house city offices and also serve as a fire station and small jail. Completed in 1914, the city hall and fire station served its intended purpose only until 1918, when the city of Houston annexed Houston Heights. The building, which features decorative brick and cast stone work, then became Station No. 14 for the Houston Fire Department and remained active until 1995. A neighborhood landmark, the historic building continues in use as a community gathering place.

Houston's Deep-Water Port

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Wayside & Clinton Dr, Gate 8, Houston

Marker Text: As early as the 1820s, ships began using Buffalo Bayou to connect Harrisburg, now part of Houston, to Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. As more people came to Houston, traffic and commerce along the bayou grew and the need for a deeper waterway became apparent. After Charles Stewart, U.S. Congressman from Houston, brought attention to the need for work along the bayou in the 1880s, U.S. Representative Joseph C. Hutcheson championed a bill allowing for the committee on rivers and harbors to survey the waterway. Congressman Thomas Ball led the delegation on the survey tour and they agreed that Houston was destined to be a seaport. The destruction of Galveston's port during the great storm of 1900 created increased pressure for a larger and safer inland deep-water port.

During the early 1900s, Thomas Ball tried to convince Congress to support fully a deepwater port for Houston. Business and civic leaders joined forces in 1909, allowing Ball to propose the "Houston Plan," in which local constituents offered to pay half the cost of the deep-water dredging. Congress accepted the offer and this cost-sharing agreement set a precedent for funding of future federal projects. Work began in 1912 and the 52-milelong deep-water channel officially opened on November 10, 1914. By 1919, Houston was the second-largest spot cotton export port in the U.S., with exports growing exponentially each year during the 1920s. Business along the port grew, bringing new industries such as paper mills, motor fuel refineries and the first container terminal along the Texas gulf coast. Houston's deep-water port transformed a fledgling community into an internationally recognized center of commerce. (2013)

Humble Oil & Refining Company

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Wayside & Clinton Dr, Gate 8, Houston

Marker Text: Ross S. Sterling entered the oil business in 1909, when he invested in the Humble oil field north of Houston. Two years later he formed the Humble Oil Company with five partners: Walter W. Fondren, Charles B. Goddard, William Stamps Farlish, Robert Lee Blaffer, and Harry Carothers Wiess. Sterling's brother, Frank, became a company director in 1914.

In 1917 the company obtained a state charter under the name Humble Oil & Refining Company. In order to finance the building of a refinery, fifty percent of the company stock was sold to Standard Oil of New Jersey. The first oil was pumped into a still at the new refinery on May 11, 1920.

As the company expanded and employed more people, a town grew up around the refinery. The company provided low-interest home loans to its employees. By the 1930s research was being conducted at the Baytown refinery, resulting in the production of vital products for the U. S. war effort during World War II. The post-war years saw additional expansion at the refinery, and the company was merged with Standard Oil of New Jersey in 1959. The Humble name was used until 1972, when Standard Oil Company (NJ) became known as Exxon Corporation. (1989)

Aldine

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 905 Aldine-Bender Rd, Aldine

Marker Text: The railroad arrived in this area, first called Prairie Switch, in 1873. The Aldine Post Office was established in 1896; twenty-five to thirty families, most of Swedish descent, settled on Aldine's fertile land. Here they grew such products as Satsuma oranges, pears and magnolia figs. In 1900 developer E. C. Robertson and his partner, F. W. Colby of Kansas, began to market parcels of land to out-of-state speculators, many of whom bought tracts sight unseen. A Presbyterian Church was organized from a Union Sabbath School in 1902, and the town began to grow. It soon boasted a hotel and general

store, a two-room schoolhouse erected on this site in 1910, and a cemetery deeded for community use in 1911.

Aldine resident J. C. Carpenter operated a small fig cannery until 1914 or 1915 when the Carpenter Fig Company opened a cannery nearby. Reportedly one of the largest fig preserving plants in the U. S., it employed twenty-five to thirty people during the canning season. The fig industry died out from 1918 to 1920 because of freezes, blight and lack of sugar during World War I.

Dairy farms replaced fruit farms and the Magnolia Oil Company established a large crude oil pumping station in Aldine in 1923. The Aldine Railroad Depot shut down in 1931 or 1932, and the post office closed in January 1935. The community turned to automobiles for transportation. Farmers began marketing their wares in Houston. The town of Aldine gradually declined. In 1932 four area common school districts joined to form the Aldine Independent School District. Now a part of the metropolis of Houston, the townsite of Aldine remains only in the annals of Texas history. (1999)

Thomas H. Ball, Jr.

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Wayside & Clinton Dr, Gate 8, Houston

Marker Text: Thomas, H. Ball, Jr., son of the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Ball, was born in Huntsville, Texas, on January 14, 1859. He graduated from Austin College in Huntsville in 1877. He married Minnie F. Thomason in 1882, and they became the parents of four children. Ball studied law in a Huntsville law office and in 1887, one year prior to his admittance to the Texas Bar, he was elected mayor of Huntsville. He served three terms.

In 1896 Ball was elected to the U. S. Congress. During his four congressional terms he played a key role in gaining Federal authorization and funding for the building of the Houston Ship Channel. He returned to Houston in 1903 as the law partner of Frank Andrews. Ball provided many years of free legal counsel and lobbying on behalf of the Harris County Navigation District and earned local acclaim as the "Father of the Port." The town of Tomball, established in north Harris County on the Trinity and Brazos Valley Railroad which Ball represented, was named for him.

After a narrow defeat in the 1914 Texas Democratic Gubernatorial Primary, Ball practiced law in Houston and in 1923 was appointed counsel of the Harris County Navigation District. Ball died on May 7, 1944, and is buried in Houston's Forest Park Cemetery.

Thomas William House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 701 San Jacinto at Rusk, Houston

Marker Text: (1846-1923) T. W. House, Jr., was the third of eight children born to Thomas William (1814-1880) and Mary Elizabeth (Shearn) (1822-1870) House. T. W. House, Sr., was an English immigrant who established the T. W. House Bank in 1838 and became mayor of Houston in 1862.

The younger House received his education at the Houston Academy. At age 23 he married Ruth Nicholson (1847-1914); they had six children together, building a home at 1010 Louisiana in downtown Houston. House served on the Houston City Council from 1880 to 1886. Following his father's death, he became the director and then sole proprietor of the T. W. House Bank. In addition to managing the family business holdings, he was involved in the operation of three Houston utility companies. The T. W. House Bank collapsed during a national bank crisis in 1907. House filed for bankruptcy and the bank property was sold to the First National Bank of Houston.

In 1913, President Woodrow Wilson appointed T. W. House, Jr., to the office of Houston postmaster. He served in that position, with his offices located on this site, until 1922. He died in 1923

and was buried in Glenwood Cemetery. The T. W. House Postal Station in Houston Heights was named in his honor. (1998)

Irwin Capers Lord

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2525 Washington Ave, Houston

Marker Text: South Carolina native Irvin Capers Lord (1827-1914) came to Houston with his family in 1854. A machinist by trade, he was co-owner of Lord and Richardson's Eagle Iron Works. In 1858 he was elected alderman, representing the First Ward until 1863 when he was elected city Marshall. Lord helped lead Houston through the trying times of the Civil War and Reconstruction. He was elected alderman from the Fifth Ward in 1874 and became Houston's 26th mayor in 1875. He later served as a Harris County commissioner, street commissioner, and sheriff.

Rice University

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 6100 Main St, Houston

Marker Text: William Marsh Rice (1816-1900) came to Texas in 1838 and through extensive entrepreneurship became one of the state's wealthiest men. Rice envisioned a polytechnic school as his philanthropic legacy. The State of Texas chartered the William M. Rice Institute for the advancement of literature, science and art on May 19, 1891. Rice delayed the project by stipulating that it open after his death. When he died under suspicious circumstances, investigations and legal struggles jeopardized the school's future. After his estate was settled, development began for the first university in Houston. Trustees had a multi-million dollar endowment but little experience in education. The first president, Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett of Princeton University, spent months visiting experts around the world. His experiences helped him broaden Rice's vision to a university uniting teaching and research. In 1909, the Boston firm of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson developed the campus plan, combining classically-inspired architecture with Mediterranean influences. On Sep. 23, 1912, classes opened with 59 young men and women and four buildings. Rice was a charter athletic member of the Southwest Conference (1914) and quickly achieved academic accreditation, with the first class graduating in 1916. Two world wars and the great depression slowed growth. In 1945, trustees broadened the curriculum and initiated a substantial building program. Renamed Rice University in 1960, the school has hosted presidential visits, including John F. Kennedy's in 1962 when he urged the nation's space program to explore the moon by the end of the decade. Rice boasts many distinguished alumni and faculty, including Nobel and Pulitzer Prize recipients. In 2012 Rice University embarked on its second century of producing "leaders across the spectrum of human endeavor."

San Jacinto High School

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1300 Holman, Houston

Marker Text: South End Junior High School opened its doors in 1914 with 750 students in an impressive classical revival style structure built here in 1913. South End Junior High became a senior high school in 1923, and in 1926 its name was changed to San Jacinto High School.

Houston Junior College, predecessor to the University of Houston, began offering night classes at San Jacinto High School in 1927. An east wing containing 20 classrooms, a boys' gymnasium, and lunch room was built in 1929. In 1936 an art deco style west wing containing an 1800-seat auditorium, classrooms, and a girls' gymnasium was built. The University of Houston, which officially opened here in 1934, continued to offer night classes at San Jacinto High School until 1939.

Special Education students began attending classes here in 1947. In 1960 two large technical/vocational school facilities were added to the San Jacinto High School complex. San Jacinto High School held its final classes here in 1970 when the Houston Technical Institute occupied the building. Houston Community College began offering classes here in 1971.

Many of San Jacinto High School's former students formed an alumni association which by the mid-1990s had a membership in excess of 9,000.

1915

Baker-Jones House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 22 Courtlandt Pl, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Prominent attorney, banker, and industrialist James Addison Baker (d. 1941) purchased this property in 1915. He hired noted Houston architect Birdsall P. Briscoe to design this house, which he presented as a gift to his daughter, Alice Graham Baker and her husband, Murray Brashear Jones.

Completed in 1917, the Baker-Jones House is an excellent local example of an early-20th century grand residence. Classical stylistic influences are exhibited in its refined and symmetrical proportions.

The structure's prominent architectural features include a pedimented entrance pavilion flanked by Doric pilasters, with a recessed entry portico supported by fluted Doric columns. Also of note are the multi-light windows and round-headed dormers.

Murray Jones was a respected lawyer who served as assistant district attorney and Harris County judge. Alice Baker Jones was a prominent local civic leader involved in numerous church and charitable activities.

The house was sold out of the family in 1938. It has undergone a succession of owners since that time but remains one of the best preserved examples of Birdsall P. Briscoe's work in Houston.

Thomas J. & Mary Donoghue House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 17 Courtlandt Pl, Houston

RTHL Markerr Text: Thomas J. Donoghue, a Texas company (Texaco) founder and executive, and his wife, Mary, built this house in 1915-16. Designed by noted New York architect Whitney Warren of the firm of Warren and Wetmore, it is an excellent example of Georgian revival architecture with wood and stone carvings by master artisan Peter Mansbendel. A part of the exclusive early 20th century Courtlandt Place neighborhood, the house remained in the Donoghue family until 1966.

Matthews-Johnson House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1833 Cortland St. Houston

RTHL Marker Text: William and Regina (Meyers) Matthews had this house built in 1915. William, a civil engineer and chief draftsman for the Sunset Central Lines, contracted with W. T. Carter

Lumber And Building Co. to erect the house. The house is a well-preserved early craftsman bungalow with late Victorian influences. Significant architectural elements include a hipped roof, gabled front entry, l-shaped porch with tapered square wood columns, tracery windows and exposed rafter ends. In 1930, the Matthews sold the house to Ernest and Gertrude Johnson. Ernest was a pumper and labor leader for the Sinclair Oil Co., and the Johnsons converted attic spaces to bedrooms with dormer windows for their five daughters.

Hugo Victor Neuhaus, Jr.

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, 2910 Lazy Lane Blvd., Houston

RTHL Marker Text: A significant example of the International style of architecture, the 1950 Neuhaus House has a strong horizontal emphasis and expression of private and public space, as well as an integration of living space and landscape. Architect and Houston native Hugo Victor Neuhaus, Jr. (1915-1987) designed the home for himself. He graduated from Yale University in 1938 and then attended the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University, where the faculty included noted European modernists Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer. Following graduation in 1941, Neuhaus served in the U.S. Army Air Force, and he returned to Houston and wed Mary Wood Farish, widow of his cousin William Stamps Farish, Jr. Neuhaus joined the office of C. Herbert Cowell where he partnered from 1949 until the firm dissolved in 1962. During his early years with Cowell, he became the local associate architect to renowned designer Philip Johnson, who had strong ties to Mies van der Rohe, a preeminent innovator of the International style. Neuhaus' design for his own home shows a strong reflection of the modern styles he was exposed to at Harvard and to the work of van der Rohe. The house features planes of solid brick and glass walls. Through the large windows, the indoor rooms share visual space with a plunge pool and terraced outdoor living areas, designed in collaboration with Houston landscape architect C.C. "Pat" Fleming. The Neuhaus home, one of several celebrated Neuhaus designs, was frequently represented as a shining example of Houston's modern architecture, a legacy that continues today.

Houston Bar Association

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 301 Fannin, Houston

Marker Text: Members of the legal profession began practicing in Houston in 1837, one year after Texas gained its independence from Mexico and became a Republic. The earliest evidence of organization among the city's attorneys dates to 1870, when the original Houston Bar Association was formed. Judge Peter W. Gray was elected president of the association, whose objectives were to raise the standards of the legal profession and to purchase a law library. The organization was short-lived, however, and no records concerning its activity have been found.

In 1901, fifty-three attorneys joined together to form the Harris County Bar Association, but it too ceased to exist after a few years. The present Houston Bar Association was formed on March 26, 1904. Among its early accomplishments was a campaign to build the 1910 Harris County Courthouse (present Harris County Civil Courts building) and the establishment of the Harris County Law Library in 1915.

Throughout its history, the Houston Bar Association has supported programs to serve the community, including legal services to the indigent, legal education, lawyer referral services, legal publications, and other volunteer projects. (1991)

Original Site of the Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2009-2011 Washington Ave, Houston

Marker Text: The Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company, one of the first companies in the nation granted franchise rights for the distribution of Coca-Cola in bottles, opened its doors in a brick building on this site in 1902. J. T. Lupton of Chattanooga, Tennessee, was the primary owner. The initial purchase of syrup from the Coca-Cola Company consisted of 387 gallons of syrup, and bottled Coca-Cola was delivered by a mule-drawn wagon. In 1908, the company bought almost 3,000 gallons of syrup to meet the soda demand, which was growing along with Houston's population. In this location, they had one hand-operated bottling machine with a capacity of 250 cases a day. By 1915, sales of Coca-Cola had increased such that the company moved to larger facilities at 1212 Washington Avenue. In 1918, J. E. Evans became the plant's general manager, and during his tenure Houstonians continued to celebrate the soft drink sensation, prompting the company's continued growth. By 1948, C. Lupton Thomas, general manager, and J. E. Evans, president, developed plans for a new facility at 2800 Bissonnet. Lauded as the world's most modern Coca-Cola plant, the new million-dollar plant opened to the public in June 1950. For more than a century, the Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company has provided jobs, as well as refreshment, to the City of Houston and surrounding areas. The company has consistently given back to the city through charity work and project funding. As one of the largest operations of its kind in the world, it continues its commitment to employees, customers and neighbors. (2003)

Bear Creek Methodist Church and Cemetery

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, SH 6 just north of Patterson Rd., Addicks

Marker Text: German immigrants settled in the area surrounding the junction of Langham and Bear creeks in the 1840s. Settlers traveled to nearby churches for Sunday services until about 1879 when seven charter members established the Bear Creek German Methodist Church. The congregation initially met in members' homes. The church was subsequently made a mission of the Rose Hill Methodist Church near Tomball. In 1890 a small church building was erected near the Hillendahl Family Cemetery. The site proved to be poorly drained and often inaccessible, and in 1902 the congregation moved the sanctuary here on three acres donated by Fred and Katherine Brandt. A part of the acreage was laid out as a cemetery. Christine Backen's burial in 1904 was the first recorded here. The cemetery is still active and is maintained by the Addicks Bear Creek Cemetery Association.

A summer storm destroyed the sanctuary in 1915 but by the end of that year a new church building had been erected. Area flooding in 1935 resulted in the construction of the nearby Addicks Reservoir in 1940 and the subsequent removal of the church to another site about 1.7 miles south of here. The congregation changed its name to Addicks United Methodist Church in 1968. (1994)

Damascus Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3211 Center St. at Court, Houston

Marker Text: This congregation traces its history to 1866, when the Rev. I. S. Campbell was sent by the National Baptist Convention to organize African American churches in Texas immediately after the Civil War. Assisted by Joseph Smalley, Campbell organized Damascus Missionary Baptist Church to serve residents of the West End and Chaneyville neighborhoods, part of Houston's Sixth Ward.

The Rev. Louis Hansburg served as first pastor of the new church, which met in the home of Phillis Wheatley until a sanctuary was built at Center and Leverkusen streets. By 1899 the congregation was meeting in a building at Center and Court streets; by 1902 it had moved across the street to 1109 Court Street. Destroyed by a storm in 1915, the church was rebuilt and dedicated in 1918. Moving to this location in 1924, the congregation erected a new structure in 1939.

Throughout its history, Damascus Missionary Baptist Church has served the community with missionary, worship, educational, and civic outreach programs. Some church members represent families who have been associated with the congregation for as many as six generations. (1992)

Damascus Missionary Baptist Church [Replacement]
Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3211 Center St. at Court Houston

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The Rev. Thomas Louis Hansborough served as first pastor of the new church, which met in the home of a member until a sanctuary was built at Center and Leverkusen streets. By 1885, church trustees purchased property on the west side of Court, near Center Street, and a new church building was erected at the site in 1893. The structure was destroyed by storms in 1900 and 1915 and was rebuilt each time. The congregation purchased nearby property at 3122 Center Street in 1926 and new structures were erected at the site in 1939 and 2007.

Throughout its history, Damascus Missionary Baptist Church has served the community with missionary, worship, educational, and civic outreach programs. Auxiliary organizations organized by members of the congregation include the business and professional women of Damascus, the Damascus Christian Education Committee and the Willing Workers Organization. A scholarship fund, a bereavement ministry and a food and clothing pantry have also been established by the congregation to provide Christian outreach to the community. Some church members represent families who have been associated with the congregation from the time of its organization. (1992, 2009)

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church
Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 6616 D.S. Bailey Ln, Houston

Marker Text: Galilee Missionary Baptist Church is located in the community of Acres (Acre) Homes, developed beginning in 1910 by the Wright Land Company. The company sold plots of land for low prices, making it affordable for many families. By the 1930s, a large majority of those living in the neighborhood were African American. In the following decades, Acres Homes experienced significant population and business growth.

The Rev. D. Hartman organized Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in 1913, with services held under a brush arbor. By 1915, the Wright Land Company sold land located at the church's current site to church trustees, and members began construction of a new building. In the following years, under the leadership of the Rev. Jack C. Smith, members formed many auxiliaries and held traditional events such as Juneteenth celebrations, homecoming and the church's anniversary.

The Rev. D.S. Bailey served as pastor of the church from 1947 until his death in 1977, and under his leadership the church experienced tremendous growth. Bailey worked with community, political, school and business leaders in Acres Homes during his tenure. In 1979, the city of Houston passed an ordinance changing the name of Sherwin Street, on which the church is located, to D.S. Bailey Lane.

As membership grew over the years, the church rebuilt several times, including a large sanctuary constructed in 2003. Galilee Missionary Baptist Church remains an important community institution, unifying and serving the residents of Acres Homes and surrounding areas. (2006)

Heights Church of Christ

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1548 Heights Blvd., Houston

Marker Text: Founded in 1915, this was the second Church of Christ congregation established in Houston. G. A. Dunn served as minister when the congregation built its first place of worship in 1916. In 1924 noted Houston architect Alfred C. Finn was hired to design a new church structure in the renaissance revival style with Georgian revival influences. A significant element in the Houston Heights neighborhood, the church has established new congregations throughout the Houston area and has been involved in foreign missionary endeavors, as well. (1990)

Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2201 Tuam Ave, Houston

Marker Text: As Houston's Third Ward neighborhood developed, the Rev. James Harvey Makey (1849-1915) called neighbors to his home in 1879 to form the Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. Makey, a member of Antioch Baptist Church, found guidance from Antioch's pastor, the noted Rev. John Henry "Jack" Yates. Rev. Makey and Deacon Clarence Young constructed a small frame church building in 1884. Makey and his wife, Jeanette, served the congregation for many years. Other early leaders included Brother Henry Thomas, the first Sunday School superintendent, as well as Deacons Joe McConico, David Thompson, and Willie Hogan. Members held revivals in the spring and conducted baptisms on Easter Sunday in Buffalo Bayou. In 1917, the growing congregation purchased this site for a new sanctuary.

The Rev. Joseph Patience Churchwell became pastor in 1928 and served until his death in January 1957. During his years of leadership the congregation developed many programs, including evangelism, twelve Mission Circles, men's chorus, youth council and various boards and groups. His wife and daughter were also active in building the congregation's services. In 1954, also during Churchwell's pastorate, members constructed a new sanctuary. Church members called the Rev. David Leon Everett, II to serve as pastor in 1957, and he served until his death in 1990. Under his guidance the church initiated community outreach activities and participated in various Baptist networks. More than 1,500 members joined during his time as pastor.

Today, Jerusalem Missionary Baptist congregation continues to uphold the standards set by its strong leaders, playing an active role in community life. The church has met at this location since its founding in the Rev. Makey's home. (2005)

Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1407 Valentine Street at Ruthven, Houston

Marker Text: Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church has served as a vital spiritual and community institution in the Fourth Ward since the congregation's organization in 1915. The church has always met in the historic Freedmen's Town District, founded by former slaves after emancipation. As

the Freedmen's Town District grew, churches became vital institutions, serving as centers of social, educational, political, economic, cultural and religious life in the community.

Mt. Carmel originally organized as Nelson's Chapel Baptist Church. The congregation changed its name to Zion Rock Baptist Church between 1918 and 1921 before first being called Mt. Carmel in response to a sermon in 1921. In 1937, members named the Rev. Robert T. Bingham as pastor. He ministered here until 1952, guiding the church through a time of growth and change. In 1940, members constructed a new building, largely through the pastor's efforts. He provided much of the new facility's lumber from his personal east Texas lumberyard.

Since its organization, Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church has aided the community in significant ways. Members started a food pantry, offered counseling to those in need and provided space for weddings, funerals and public meetings, as well as for worship services of other churches.

Today, as one of few remaining historic churches in the Freedmen's Town District, Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church continues to serve as an important spiritual and civic leader in Houston's Fourth Ward. (2007)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2405 Navigation at S. Jensen, Houston

Marker Text: In 1911, Houston's Church of the Immaculate Conception sent four Oblate priests to establish a mission church to serve the city's Spanish-speaking population. At that time, Houston's Mexican community was growing rapidly, absorbing many refugees that were fleeing the Revolution of 1910. After purchasing this block, the Oblates built a wood-frame structure here and named it for Mexico's patron saint. The building served as both church and school, and services and classes were in Spanish. Sr. Benitia Vermeerch began a 23-year career as school principal in 1915, and later founded the Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence.

In 1921, when the mission was elevated to parish status, one of the four founding priests, Father Esteban de Anta, a native of Spain, became the first pastor. Construction on a second church building commenced that year, and it was dedicated two years later. In 1973 the Sacred Heart order assumed responsibility for the church, but its traditional role ministering to immigrant communities remained the same. Still a focal point for Houston's Mexican American community, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church became the home church to many Central American and Vietnamese refugees in the 1970s. (1991)

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2222 Gray St, Houston

Marker Text: St. John Missionary Baptist Church, organized in 1899 by reverends Gilbert Green and Hilliard R. Johnson, first met in a small building near Calhoun Avenue and Live Oak Street. In 1901, Rev. James B. Bouldin purchased property, later conveyed to church trustees, in the 2100 block of Broadway (now Bastrop Street). A small frame building was later erected there, but after a storm demolished it, a tent was used temporarily for worship services. Between 1907 and 1915, a new sanctuary was built with a baptismal pool, auditorium, partial balcony, elevated choir stand, additional rooms, and a bell in the left tower that continues to be used today in the right tower.

In 1917, the church split due to various misunderstandings, creating another St. John Baptist church on Dowling Street. As membership increased with more people moving to the city after World War II, a larger building was needed. In 1946, James M. Thomas, a local black contractor who became Houston's most prominent architect for black congregations, built the three-story Gothic Revival masonry structure with the nave and twin towers exemplifying 1930s to 1950s local African-American church architecture. Although St. John had many struggles and grew slowly, it became one of the most important

churches in the early 1900s, noted for its attitude towards civic and benevolent movements. It has progressed from a traditional service to a spirit filled, praise and worship experience and continues as an influential African-American institution.

Trinity East United Methodist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2418 McGowen and St. Charles, Houston

Marker Text: The congregation of Trinity East United Methodist Church has served Houston's greater Third Ward since the early 20th Century. It is an offspring of Trinity United Methodist Church, the oldest black Methodist church in Houston. In the early 1900s, many members of the historic church migrated to the Third Ward area. By 1908, a group led by member William Young organized a Sunday School that met in Cook's Hall on Holman Street. The next year, the Rev. Sidney Johnson joined with the Sunday School attendees in organizing a church.

The congregation soon built a small building on Dowling at McGowen Street. Though first named Dowling Street Mission, it was widely known as Little Trinity. The 1915 hurricane destroyed the structure, and services were temporarily held in Young's house. The church rebuilt on McGowen at St. Charles Street and was renamed Calvary Mission. After outgrowing its mission status, the church became Trinity East, reflecting its location east of the mother church. Trinity East was led by a number of noted pastors, including the Rev. Dr. Julius Scott, whose two tenures were marked by spiritual and financial growth. In May 1969, Trinity East hosted the Gulf Coast Annual Conference, during which historically black Methodist churches in the Texas and Gulf Coast Conferences voted to merge and to later unite with the newly established United Methodist Church.

Throughout its history, the church has been active in helping needy area residents with health care, food and utility bills. The congregation has also focused on aiding the elderly and the homeless. Today, historic Trinity East United Methodist Church continues to be a vital institution in Houston's diverse Third Ward community. (2009)

Acres Homes Community

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, West Montgomery & W. Little York, Houston

Marker Text: In 1910, land developer Alfred A. Wright platted the first of several subdivisions that eventually became the African American community of Acres Homes. Wright sold parcels of varying sizes to residents who were attracted to the rural area by the inexpensive land, low taxes, and the absence of building restrictions, as well as the slow-paced life and wide-open spaces of rural living. Despite the lack of common municipal services such as electricity, street lights, garbage disposal, sewer and water, Acres Homes flourished as a self-contained community. In 1957, Negro Life magazine described acres homes as the "largest all-negro community in the United States." By 1974, the community extended roughly from West Tidwell to Gulfbank and from North Shepherd to White Oak Bayou and Duboise. The residents included farmers, laborers, factory workers, "waterfront" workers and domestics who commuted to work in other parts of town.

The first church, Galilee Missionary Baptist, was organized in 1913, and the first school, White Oak Colored, opened in 1915. From the 1930s through the 1950s, a large migration of settlers moved into the area, organizing civic clubs and building homes, churches, Masonic halls and businesses. The first dry goods store, drug store and post office opened in 1945. The first black-owned bus company in the south, the Acres Homes Transit Company, operated from 1959 until 1968.

Integration and the gradual annexation of Acres Homes by the City of Houston from 1967 to 1974 brought population diversity and transformation to Acres Homes. However, Acres Homes continues to retain its strong community identity and civic pride. (2008)

Independence Heights

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 7818 North Main & 38th St., Houston

Marker Text: Promoted by the Wright Land Company, the Independence Heights community began about 1908. Many black families purchased lots and built their own homes. A school was established in 1911.

Businesses in Independence Heights included retail stores, restaurants, building contractors, lumberyards, a blacksmith shop, tailor, and barber shop. Fraternal organizations were formed, as well as a number of churches: New Hope Missionary Baptist Church (founded in 1912 at this site), Green Chapel A. M. E., St. Paul C. M. E., Ebenezer M. E., Concord Missionary Baptist, and North Main Church of God in Christ. By 1915 there were about four hundred residents. In that year an election was held and the city was incorporated. George O. Burgess was elected the first mayor. City improvements over the next few years included the shell paving of streets, plank sidewalks, and the installation of a municipal water system. O. L. Hubbard and Arthur L. McCullough, Sr. also served mayoral terms. In 1928 another election was held in which the city organization was dissolved. Independence Heights was annexed by the city of Houston on December 26, 1929. The Independence Heights name is still associated with the area. (1988)

La Porte

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 604 West Fairmont Pkwy, La Porte

Marker Text: Colorado-based land developers A. M. York, J. H. York, I. R. Holmes, and Tom Lee formed the La Porte Land and Town Company in 1890. They purchased over 1,000 acres of land in this area and began laying out town lots in the fall of 1891. Edward York later joined his two brothers and the other investors to organize the La Porte Investment Company.

Advertising to prospective settlers in New York State and the Midwest, the developers began selling lots by January 1892. Soon a hotel, general mercantile store, and U. S. Post Office opened in the new town. The La Porte, Houston, and Northern Railroad, chartered in 1892, completed a line to Sylvan Beach Resort in 1899. Along with agriculture, the beach became the town's main economic mainstay. The original investment company became insolvent by 1895, but a new company purchased the land in 1898 and continued development efforts. Disastrous effects of the 1900 storm, as well as another storm and a fire in 1915, the discovery of the Goose Creek oil field in 1916, and the industrialization of the area following World War II, resulted in an increased population and a shift away from the agricultural character of the town. (1992)

Bell Prairie

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2000-1/2 Tri-Cities Beach Rd, Baytown

Marker Text: Once located southwest of this site was the home of Henry Falvel Gillette (1816-1896). A native of Connecticut, Gillette came to Texas in 1840 at the urging of his cousin, Ashbel Smith. He became a noted educator in Harris, Washington, and Polk counties. He married Lucinda Maxey (1826-1901) of Washington County in 1842.

The Gillette family lived on the plantation of Lucinda's father, William Maxey, in present San Jacinto County from about 1848 until 1859, when Henry bought property on Galveston Bay. He named his plantation home Bell Prairie. The plantation included a two-story brick home, matching carriage house, and slave quarters. a wharf on the property was used for the importation of cattle from England.

In addition to operating his plantation, Gillette was superintendent of the Bayland Orphan's Home on nearby Goose Creek and was a founding member and worthy master of the Cedar Bayou Masonic Lodge.

Following Henry Gillette's death, Bell Prairie remained in the family until the mid-20th century. The plantation home was severely damaged in the 1900 hurricane and burned to the ground after being struck by lightning in the 1915 storm. (1989)

Felix Tijerina

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 904 Westheimer at Grant St., Houston

Marker Text: (April 29, 1905-September 4, 1965) Felix Tijerina was born in general Escobedo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico to Rafael and Dionicia Villarreal Tijerina. When his father died in 1915, ten-year-old Felix became responsible for supporting his mother and sisters, and the family immigrated to Texas later that year. After finding employment in Houston, he moved his family there in 1922. Tijerina worked as a busboy while taking nighttime English classes, and opened a restaurant of his own in 1929. In 1937, Tijerina opened the first "Felix Mexican Restaurant." He opened several additional locations through the years, and the local chain remained a Houston landmark until the flagship restaurant at 904 Westheimer closed its doors in 2008. Tijerina was a devoted member of Houston's council #60 of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). He achieved widespread recognition as national president of LULAC from 1956 until 1960. Under Tijerina's leadership, LULAC grew from an organization with councils in five southwestern states to a truly national organization with representation in thirteen states across the nation. Tijerina also advocated education during his presidency, implementing the "little schools of the 400" program. The program gave Spanish-speaking children the opportunity to learn a core vocabulary of 400 English words prior to their enrollment in first grade, enabling them to successfully pass that first crucial year of public school.

Although Felix Tijerina died at the relatively young age of sixty, he made a lasting impression as a businessman, philanthropist, role model and mentor to many Mexican Americans in Houston and across the state. (2009)

Hortense Sparks Malsch Ward

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 3506 North Main St., Houston

Marker Text: (July 20, 1872 - December 5, 1944) Hortense Ward was born in 1872 in Matagorda County and was the eldest child of Frederick and M. Louise (LaBauve) Sparks. As a child, Hortense attended the Catholic Academy of Nazareth in Victoria and later taught school for a time in Edna. While in Edna she married Albert Malsch; the couple had three daughters, but the marriage ended in divorce in 1906. In 1909, Hortense married William Henry Ward in Houston. In 1910, Hortense Ward passed the Texas State Bar Examination and became one of the first female attorneys in Texas.

She joined with her husband to form the law firm of Ward & Ward, becoming the first female attorney to practice in Houston. Hortense led the campaign for passage of the 1913 "Married Woman's Property Law" in the Texas Legislature. The law defined separate and community properties of a husband and wife and removed disabilities of a married woman to control her separate property. Ward achieved

many firsts during her career, including being the first Texas female attorney admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1915 and the first woman to register to vote in Harris County in 1918. In 1925, Gov. Pat Neff appointed Ward as special Chief Justice of a special all-woman Texas Supreme Court to hear a case involving the Woodmen of the World, because qualified male attorneys without ties to the organization could not be found. It would be 57 years before another female served on the court.

Ward retired from practicing law upon the 1939 death of her husband. She remained active in various ladies clubs and community organizations until her death in 1944. (2010)

George Washington Carver High School
Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2100 South Victory Dr, Houston

Marker Text: In 1915, Harris County Common School District # 26 established White Oak (Colored) School to serve the Acres Homes Community. The Wright Land Company, which developed this historically African-American community earlier in the decade, deeded land at West Montgomery and Willow Streets for a new one-room school.

By the 1930s, as attendance grew, the school taught seven grades, with grades one through three meeting for a time at Greater Zion Baptist Church. In 1937, the school became part of the Aldine School District and housed seven teachers and more than 300 pupils. The school moved to Wheatley Road in 1941 and continued to grow under Archie Baldwin Anderson, who served as principal from 1941 to 1957. Under his direction, the school changed its name to George Washington Carver School, received accreditation, and separated into an elementary and high school. In the 1950s, a large number of African Americans migrated into Acres Homes, leading to construction of a new high school building at this location in 1954. The former campus was renamed Carver Elementary and later dedicated as A. B. Anderson Elementary.

In 1978, Carver H.S. became Aldine Contemporary Education Center, implementing an innovative program to attract students who were not African American to the campus. The curriculum consisted of flexible hours and voluntary enrollment for students who worked or had special interests. In 1994, the school changed names again before becoming a magnet school. Many graduates have achieved personal and professional success, and today, George Washington Carver High School for Applied Technology, Engineering and the Arts continues to be a notable institution of learning in the community. (2007)

1916

The Houston Light Guard

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3816 Caroline, Houston

Marker Text: Organized as a Texas Militia unit on April 21, 1873, the Houston Light Guard originally participated in parades, ceremonies, and competitive drills, and served as guard of honor for visiting dignitaries. The first commander was Capt. Edwin Fairfax Gray (1829-1884), then the city engineer of Houston. During the 1880s The Guard, dressed in uniforms of red coats and red-plumed helmets, became known as a leader in drill competitions throughout the United States. Prize money funded their first armory in 1891.

In 1898 The Guard was activated for service with United States troops in the Spanish-American War. After participating in the punitive expedition against Mexico, 1916-1917, the unit joined U. S. forces fighting in Europe during World War I. The Guard built a new armory at this site in 1925 and deeded it to the State of Texas in 1939. The next year the unit was again activated and during World War II saw action in seven campaigns in Africa and Europe. As part of the 36th Infantry Division, Guard members were among the first American troops in Europe during the war. Now part of the National Guard, the Houston Light Guard represents a proud heritage of distinguished military service. (1982)

Clayton House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3500 Caroline, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Built in 1916-17, this Georgian revival house was the home of William L. Clayton (1880-1966), founder of Anderson, Clayton, & Co., a cotton trading firm. A leader in public service as well as business, Clayton was a principal architect of the Marshall Plan for economic recovery in Europe after World War II. The two-story brick home features Tuscan columns, paneled pilasters, elliptical fanlight over the front door, and fan lit dormers on the roof.

Link-Lee House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3800 Montrose Blvd. at Alabama, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Constructed in 1912 for businessman John Wiley Link, this building was designed by the firm of Sanguinet, Staats & Barnes and was the first home completed in the Montrose subdivision, which Link developed. Oilman Thomas P. Lee purchased it for his family in 1916 and in 1922 had Houston architect Alfred Finn make several alterations. An exceptional example of Neoclassical architecture, the Link-Lee house features a pronounced portico, elaborate brickwork and ornate terra cotta ornamentation. Sold to the Catholic Diocese of Galveston in 1946, it has served the University of St. Thomas since the school opened in 1947.

Nazro House, Underwood

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 25 Courtlandt Pl, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: This house, the only one of Georgian Revival style in Courtlandt Place, is an example of the early 20th century residential work of Fort Worth firm Sanguinet and Staats. The red brick veneered house features a front entry portico with full entablature supported by slender columns with composite capitals. Underwood Nazro, his wife Clara, and their two children lived here from 1916-28. Nazro was vice-president of the Gulf Oil Company and also did business in finance and community investment. Banker Ike McFarland and his wife, preservationist Mae Wynn McFarland, lived here from 1940-69.

Anderson, Clayton & Co.

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1310 Prairie at Caroline, Houston

Marker Text: In 1904, Frank E. Anderson, his brother, Monroe D. Anderson, and his wife's brothers, William L. and Benjamin B. Clayton, formed the partnership of Anderson, Clayton & Co. in Oklahoma City. The successful cotton firm moved its headquarters in 1916 to Houston and built Long Reach, a cotton compressing-storing-shipping complex covering 32 acres on the new Houston Ship Channel, including a wharf for the simultaneous loading of eight steamships.

At the time, the world's cotton-trading center was the New York Cotton Exchange; Houston and other cities had lesser exchanges. In 1924, the Houston Cotton Exchange moved into a new building at this site. Anderson, Clayton & Co. became the building's principal tenant for many years. From the eleventh floor headquarters, company officials supervised more than 24,000 employees stationed around the world. The company incorporated in 1945. By 1960, coffee had surpassed cotton in sales, and the firm continued to diversify, with interests in related foods and textiles. By the 1980s, the food division had become its principal asset, and the Quaker Oats Company acquired the business in 1986.

The firm's Houston partners greatly influenced the city's development and enriched its future. The M.D. Anderson Foundation established the Texas Medical Center, the University of Texas-M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and many other projects. Ben Clayton created the Clayton Research Foundation and other philanthropies. Will Clayton became prominent as Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs and for his work on the Marshall Plan after World War II. He and his wife gave their home to Houston's Public Library. In 1996, the former Cotton Exchange Building became the Anderson Clayton Courthouse Annex. (2005)

Heights Church of Christ

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1548 Heights Blvd., Houston

Marker Text: Founded in 1915, this was the second Church of Christ congregation established in Houston. G. A. Dunn served as minister when the congregation built its first place of worship in 1916. In 1924 noted Houston architect Alfred C. Finn was hired to design a new church structure in the renaissance revival style with Georgian revival influences. A significant element in the Houston Heights neighborhood, the church has established new congregations throughout the Houston area and has been involved in foreign missionary endeavors, as well. (1990)

Heritage Presbyterian Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, 7934 North Hwy 6, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Originally constructed near the banks of Little Cypress Creek (11 mi. NW) in 1916, this chapel served the congregation of St. John Lutheran Church. Designed with Gothic detailing,

it was built by German craftsmen. When the fellowship grew too large for the sanctuary, it was purchased by the members of Windwood Presbyterian Church and moved to Grant Road (8 mi. NE). Heritage Presbyterian Church relocated it here in 1980.

Shepherd Drive Methodist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1245 Heights Boulevard, Houston
[Marker relocated from its original site on Shepherd.]

Marker Text: In 1899 a group of Methodists from this area, known then as the Brunner Addition, met in a building known as McClure's Assembly Hall and organized the McAshan and City Mission Methodist Church. A sanctuary, built on this block in 1900, was destroyed by a severe storm that year. A new sanctuary was completed in 1901.

The church was renamed McAshan and Brunner Methodist in 1904, Brunner Methodist in 1906 and Brunner and Epworth Methodist in 1913. When construction of a new church building began in 1917, it became known as West End Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The church acquired additional land here in 1940 which included a parsonage and provided a full block of frontage on Shepherd Drive. By 1942 the congregation was known as the Shepherd Drive Methodist Church. In 1954-55 a new church building containing 17 classrooms, a sanctuary, and a fellowship hall was built at this site. In 1959 Shepherd Drive Methodist Church merged with the Larkin Street Methodist Church, a nearby congregation organized in 1916.

This congregation continues its traditional spiritual programs, support of youth and senior outreach programs, promotion of community gatherings, and involvement in civic and social issues affecting the area.

La Porte

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 604 W Fairmont Pkwy, La Porte

Marker Text: Colorado-based land developers A. M. York, J. H. York, I. R. Holmes, and Tom Lee formed the La Porte Land and Town Company in 1890. They purchased over 1,000 acres of land in this area and began laying out town lots in the fall of 1891. Edward York later joined his two brothers and the other investors to organize the La Porte Investment Company.

Advertising to prospective settlers in New York State and the Midwest, the developers began selling lots by January 1892. Soon a hotel, general mercantile store, and U. S. Post Office opened in the new town. The La Porte, Houston, and Northern Railroad, chartered in 1892, completed a line to Sylvan Beach Resort in 1899. Along with agriculture, the beach became the town's main economic mainstay.

The original investment company became insolvent by 1895, but a new company purchased the land in 1898 and continued development efforts. Disastrous effects of the 1900 storm, as well as another storm and a fire in 1915, the discovery of the Goose Creek oil field in 1916, and the industrialization of the area following World War II, resulted in an increased population and a shift away from the agricultural character of the town. (1992)

Emancipation Park

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3018 Dowling, Houston

Marker Text: Many Texas African American communities began to regularly commemorate "Juneteenth" soon after the June 19, 1865, reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at Galveston by Union General Gordon Granger. Members of Antioch Baptist Church and Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church organized the Colored People of Harris County Festival Association to promote the annual Houston Juneteenth celebration. It soon became apparent that a permanent location for the celebration was needed, and in 1872, the association purchased this ten-acre site for Emancipation Park. The creation of the park as a recreational and educational facility by the organization and its successors so soon after emancipation demonstrates the determination of African Americans in Houston to create an institution that they owned and operated.

The park was the home of the first De-ro-loc No-tsu-oh ("colored Houston" spelled backwards) carnival in 1909. The carnival was patterned after the No-tsu-oh carnival, and included attractions such as a Wild West show and a football game between Prairie View and Bishop Colleges. The park was donated to the City of Houston in 1916, and when Houston parks were officially segregated in 1922, Emancipation Park became the only public park in Houston open to African Americans until 1940.

Through the years, the park has been the site of parades, concerts, movies, classes for youth and adults, and community meetings. Juneteenth celebrations continue at Emancipation Park, which remains an important central gathering place for area African American residents. (2008)

M.D. Anderson

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1310 Prairie at Caroline, Houston

Marker Text: Tennessee native Monroe Dunaway (M. D.) Anderson (1873-1939) joined his brother Frank and William L. and Ben Clayton in an Oklahoma cotton merchandising business in 1904. Anderson served as chief financial officer for the business, known as Anderson, Clayton & Company. In 1907 he moved to Houston and opened a branch office for the company in Houston's original Cotton Exchange building at the corner of Travis and Franklin streets.

Anderson, Clayton & Company moved its main offices to Houston in 1916 and in 1923 moved here to the Houston Cotton Exchange building. They prospered and became the leading merchants in the global cotton market.

Anderson never married and lived frugally in downtown hotels. In 1936 he established a charitable foundation with the fortune he made in the cotton business. Upon his death in 1939, \$20 million of his estate was willed to the M. D. Anderson Foundation. The Texas Legislature authorized the creation of a cancer research hospital in 1941. Upon learning this, trustees of the M. D. Anderson Foundation successfully bid for the institution and helped finance it. The M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and the Texas Medical Center which the M. D. Anderson Foundation created have become world renowned institutions. (1994)

W. L. and Susan Clayton

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 5300 Caroline, Houston

Marker Text: Mississippi native William Lockhart Clayton (1880-1966) left school early to become a court reporter. His skill attracted an executive of the American Cotton Company and he moved first to St. Louis then to the New York office the following year. He soon became Assistant General Manager in 1904. He organized a partnership with his sister's husband Frank E. Anderson and the latter's brother Monroe D. Anderson in forming Anderson, Clayton & Company in Oklahoma City. They were joined in 1905 by Will's brother Benjamin. By 1916, two years after the Houston ship channel opened, and in the midst of World War I, the firm moved its headquarters to Houston. During the war Clayton

served on the Committee on Cotton Distribution of the War Industries Board, then returned to the firm, which greatly expanded into international markets. Before World War II, he returned to government service, later becoming Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (1945-47) under George C. Marshall. He is widely recognized

as a principal architect of the Post-World War II Marshall Plan.

Susan Vaughan (1881-1960), born in Kentucky, wed Will Clayton in 1902. She worked with noted architect Birdsall P. Briscoe on their home at this site, later advising him on other family homes in the River Oaks subdivision. Noted for her architectural taste, Sue was also known for philanthropic work, raising funds for the Fine Arts Museum, supporting women's suffrage and helping build low-income housing. The Claytons bequeathed their nearby home to Houston's public library. It is now the site of one of the country's foremost centers for genealogical research. The Claytons' legacy continues to enhance Houston culture and resources and their descendants still support programs and institutions the couple began. (2004)

Daniel Denton Cooley

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1802 Heights Blvd, Houston

Marker Text: (April 15, 1850 - November 22, 1933) A native of Binghamton, New York, D. D. Cooley moved to Omaha, Nebraska as a young man. In 1887 he joined the American Loan and Trust Company. The company bought a tract of land northwest of Houston in 1891 and sent Cooley and other representatives to oversee its development the following year.

As general manager of the Omaha and South Texas Land Company, formed by American Loan and Trust in 1892, Cooley had direct input into the design of the Houston Heights community. Known later as the "Father of the Houston Heights," he laid out the main street, Heights Boulevard, and built his home here in 1892-93. He continued to promote real estate in the area after the company was dissolved about 1895.

The first school in the neighborhood was named for Cooley, and he was a member of the school board. After Houston Heights was incorporated in 1896, he was elected an alderman. Cooley was a respected civic and business leader, whose interests included banking, insurance, railroads, real estate, and oil.

Married to Helen Grace Winfield (1860-1916) in 1883, Cooley was the father of three sons. He died in 1933 and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery. The Cooley home was razed in 1965. (1991)

Maurice J. Sullivan

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, Southmore Blvd and Fannin St, Houston

Marker Text: Maurice J. Sullivan, son of Maurice and Margaret (Fitzsimons) Sullivan, was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He attended Detroit College (1901-1903) and studied structural and civil engineering at the University of Michigan (1904-1906). While working at engineering firms from 1909-1912, Sullivan taught himself architecture. He married Anne Winston and they had four sons and three daughters.

After moving to Houston in 1912, Sullivan was appointed City Architect by Mayor Baldwin Rice and took on numerous projects, including Dora B. Lantrip elementary school (1916). Known for being an eclectic architect who frequently worked in popular revival styles including Romanesque, Mediterranean, and Neo-Gothic, Sullivan opened his own practice in 1919, sharing an office with Birdsall P. Briscoe for 35 years. His ecclesiastical work is considered his most significant and includes the Villa de Matel Chapel (1923-28), Holy Rosary Church (1933), St. Anne Catholic Church (1940) and First Presbyterian Church (1949). Other prominent buildings include the Petroleum Building (now the Great Southwest

building), which introduced the stepped-back skyscraper to Houston, Houston Negro Hospital (now Riverside Hospital), St. Thomas High School, Ripley House, and St. Mary's Seminary.

In 1922, Sullivan designed his family home at the corner of Southmore Boulevard and Fannin Street in the picturesque Manorial style, exemplifying the houses associated with 1920s and 1930s elite Texas residential neighborhoods. In 1924 and 1933, he served as president of the South Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Sullivan is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. In 1992 private citizens purchased the home for use as a commercial property.

Cooley School

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1600 block of Rutland, Houston

Marker Text: Soon after Houston Heights (The Heights) was founded in 1891, the new neighborhood's leaders turned their sights to providing schools for the children of the area. Community leaders Daniel Denton Cooley (1850-1933), affectionately known as the "Father of Houston Heights," and Helen Grace Winfield Cooley (1860-1916) believed in education's importance and financed the construction of the Heights' first school.

Cooley School opened in the fall of 1894 as a one-room school with an unfinished upstairs room, which was completed in 1896. Due to the Heights' remarkable growth, Cooley School was expanded to a six-room school in 1906 and to a sixteen-room school in 1912. Olle J. Lorehn (1864-1939), a prominent Houston Architect who designed Houston's first skyscraper and first apartment building, designed the 1912 expansion, enveloping the earlier construction in the new Georgian-style structure.

Cooley School began as a common school in County School District No. 25. In 1898, the municipality of Houston Heights and its independent school district took charge of the school eventually, the financial needs for the several Heights schools became too pressing for the community, leading to the consolidation of Houston Heights with the City of Houston in 1918; Cooley and the other Heights schools then became part of the Houston Independent School District (HISD).

The 1912 school building was destroyed by fire 1961. The school was rebuilt and opened the next year. Cooley School continued to operate as an elementary school until 1980, when it became an HISD administrative building. In 2010, the property was sold for residential development. (2013)

Dora B. Lantrip Elementary School

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 100 Telephone Road, Houston

Marker Text: Eastwood Elementary School was constructed in 1916 on land deeded by William A. Wilson, the developer of Eastwood, one of Houston's first master-planned neighborhoods. Designed by City of Houston architect Maurice Sullivan in the mission architectural style, it was the first Houston school arranged on the "cottage plan," featuring classrooms occupying a series of free-standing pavilions that were designed to be more "home-like" and less institutional.

The school's first principal, Dora B. Lantrip (1868-1951), served in the position for twenty-six years and was known for her innovative school administration. During World War I, she directed the students' planting of flower and vegetable gardens at the school. Each year, Lantrip's students elected a "city council," "mayor," and "health inspector" to introduce them to the government process and public participation. During the summers of the 1920s and 1930s, Lantrip traveled throughout the world, bringing back souvenirs and costumes that students could try on each fall. The souvenirs lined the halls of the school and helped to teach the students about world geography and culture. Lantrip retired in 1942, and the school was renamed in her honor in the early 1950s.

Beginning in 1975, Lantrip Elementary instituted an ecology magnet program to encourage students from all backgrounds with an interest in the specialized subject matter to attend. Students now grow flowers and vegetables in the campus greenhouse, perpetuating the science and nature focus first initiated by Dora B. Lantrip. (2010)

McGhee Elementary School Building

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 1st Street at Crockett, Channelview

RTHL Marker Text: Built before 1916, this one-room schoolhouse served the black children of this area. It originally stood about 1/2 mile east of this site on land donated by Joseph McGhee, a black farmer who also helped with the construction. With one teacher and seven grades, the school was typical of many in rural communities in Harris County in the early 1900s. McGhee School operated until 1942.

Rice University

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 6100 Main St, Houston

Marker Text: William Marsh Rice (1816-1900) came to Texas in 1838 and through extensive entrepreneurship became one of the state's wealthiest men. Rice envisioned a polytechnic school as his philanthropic legacy. The State of Texas chartered the William M. Rice Institute for the advancement of literature, science and art on May 19, 1891. Rice delayed the project by stipulating that it open after his death. When he died under suspicious circumstances, investigations and legal struggles jeopardized the school's future. After his estate was settled, development began for the first university in Houston. Trustees had a multi-million dollar endowment but little experience in education. The first president, Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett of Princeton University, spent months visiting experts around the world. His experiences helped him broaden Rice's vision to a university uniting teaching and research. In 1909, the Boston firm of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson developed the campus plan, combining classically-inspired architecture with Mediterranean influences.

On Sep. 23, 1912, classes opened with 59 young men and women and four buildings. Rice was a charter athletic member of the Southwest Conference (1914) and quickly achieved academic accreditation, with the first class graduating in 1916. Two world wars and the great depression slowed growth. In 1945, trustees broadened the curriculum and initiated a substantial building program. Renamed Rice University in 1960, the school has hosted presidential visits, including John F. Kennedy's in 1962 when he urged the nation's space program to explore the moon by the end of the decade. Rice boasts many distinguished alumni and faculty, including Nobel and Pulitzer Prize recipients. In 2012 Rice University embarked on its second century of producing "leaders across the spectrum of human endeavor."

1917

Houston Heights Women's Club

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1846 Harvard Street, Houston

Marker Text: The Houston Heights Woman's Club has remained a pillar in the community since its founding in 1900 and even constructed its own club building in 1912, still in use. The club gave women the opportunity to make an impact in their community and move away from traditional women's roles. Members were active with such issues as the lack of women's property rights, and opposition to their voting, holding office, or serving on juries. They also focused on education by establishing a library at Houston Heights High School in 1905, and being valued volunteers at the Heights Public Library. During World War I, the club volunteered to make surgical bandages for the Red Cross when World War II erupted, the ladies again volunteered their time and clubhouse to the Red Cross, earning a special citation from the U. S. Secretary of the Treasury for their service.

The Houston Heights Woman's Club has also been dedicated to helping those less fortunate within the community. Members donated time and money to various organizations such as the United Fund, Care International, and the Veterans Hospital. They also brought toys to sick children at Ben Taub and Jeff Davis Hospitals. Today the club continues to volunteer in an effort to improve the Heights Neighborhood. Members spend many hours mentoring students, assisting the elderly and providing quilts to children in protective custody. The Houston Heights Woman's Club has grown to be an invaluable force in stimulating the intellectual pursuits of women an always striving to place the need of other as their foremost concern.

Baker-Jones House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 22 Courtlandt Place, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Prominent attorney and banker James Addison Baker had this home constructed for his daughter, civic leader Alice Graham Baker, and her husband, Murray Brashear Jones, a respected lawyer and Judge. The house, completed in 1917, was designed by noted Houston architect Birdsall P. Briscoe and is an excellent example of Houston's early 20th Century grand residences. Classical stylistic influences are exhibited in its refined and symmetrical proportions. Prominent feature include a pedimented entrance pavilion flanked by Doric pilasters and a recessed entry portico supported by fluted Doric columns.

Baker-Jones House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 22 Courtlandt Place, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Prominent attorney, banker, and industrialist James Addison Baker (d. 1941) purchased this property in 1915. He hired noted Houston architect Birdsall P. Briscoe to design this house, which he presented as a gift to his daughter, Alice Graham Baker and her husband, Murray Brashear Jones.

Completed in 1917, the Baker-Jones House is an excellent local example of an early-20th century grand residence. Classical stylistic influences are exhibited in its refined and symmetrical proportions.

The structure's prominent architectural features include a pedimented entrance pavilion flanked by Doric pilasters, with a recessed entry portico supported by fluted Doric columns. Also of note are the multi-light windows and round-headed dormers. Murray Jones was a respected lawyer who served as

assistant district attorney and Harris County judge. Alice Baker Jones was a prominent local civic leader involved in numerous church and charitable activities.

The house was sold out of the family in 1938. It has undergone a succession of owners since that time but remains one of the best preserved examples of Birdsall P. Briscoe's work in Houston.

Gov. John B. Connally, Jr. House

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 2411 River Oaks Boulevard & Locke Lane, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Houston architect Ernest L. Shult designed this Mid-century Modern house for his own residence in 1959. The home, sited on a triangular lot in the River Oaks neighborhood, is representative of contemporary style popular in the post-war years. The house has had alterations over the years including a two-story addition on the north side. Prominent features of the house include its asymmetrical façade, white stucco and unornamented exterior wall, multiple roof sections, portions of the front façade extending forward and varying in height, and a large expanse of windowless walls. John Connally, Jr. (1917-1993) and his wife, Idanell "Nellie" Connally (1919-2006) moved here in January 1969 after he served three terms as Governor of Texas. During his residence at this location, Connally was U. S. Secretary of the Treasury and campaigned for the U. S. Presidency in 1960. The couple sold the house in 1984.

John Connally, Jr. is known for his extensive career in politics. He was Secretary to Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson in 1939, served for several years as Johnson's aide, was Secretary of the Navy under President John F. Kennedy in 1961, and was elected Governor of Texas in 1962. When President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas on November 22, 1963, Connally, a passenger in the car, was shot and seriously wounded. Among his accomplishments as Governor were improvement in the areas of education, government, reform, historic preservation and the state's tourism industry. He joined Houston law firm Vinson, Elkins, Searls and Connally in February 1969 and became President Richard Nixon's Secretary of the Treasury in 1971. Governor and Mrs. Connally are buried at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

Humble Oil & Refining Company

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Decker Road & Rollingbrook Dr, Baytown

Marker Text: Ross S. Sterling entered the oil business in 1909, when he invested in the Humble oil field north of Houston. Two years later he formed the Humble Oil Company with five partners: Walter W. Fondren, Charles B. Goddard, William Stamps Farlish, Robert Lee Blaffer, and Harry Carothers Wiess. Sterling's brother, Frank, became a company director in 1914.

In 1917 the company obtained a state charter under the name Humble Oil & Refining Company. In order to finance the building of a refinery, fifty percent of the company stock was sold to Standard Oil of New Jersey. The first oil was pumped into a still at the new refinery on May 11, 1920.

As the company expanded and employed more people, a town grew up around the refinery. The company provided low-interest home loans to its employees. By the 1930s research was being conducted at the Baytown refinery, resulting in the production of vital products for the U. S. war effort during World War II. The post-war years saw additional expansion at the refinery, and the company was merged with Standard Oil of New Jersey in 1959. The Humble name was used until 1972, when Standard Oil Company (NJ) became known as Exxon Corporation. (1989)

Olivewood Cemetery

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 200 Court St., Houston

Marker Text: This cemetery served the early African-American community in Houston for approximately 100 years. The Olivewood Cemetery Association incorporated in 1875 and purchased 5.5 acres of this property that same year from Elizabeth Morin Slocomb. The organization bought two adjacent acres in 1917. Also known in its early years as Olive Wood, Hollow Wood and Hollywood, it is one of the oldest known platted cemeteries in the city. The original 444 family plots comprising over 5,000 burial spaces were laid out along an elliptical drive. The burial ground contains several hundred marked graves, in addition to an unknown number of unmarked graves.

Interred here are pivotal leaders of Houston's post-emancipation African-American community, including the pastor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, the Rev. Elias Dibble; businessman James B. Bell; alderman and landowner Richard Brock; attorney J. Vance Lewis; educator James D. Ryan; physician Russell F. Ferrill; and dentist Milton A. Baker. Also buried here are ex-slaves, laborers, sororal and fraternal organization members, and military veterans.

The cemetery features obelisks, statuary, curbing and interior fencing. The burial ground also includes examples of pre-emancipation burial practices, including upright pipes (symbolizing the path between the worlds of the living and dead), ocean shells as grave ornaments and text containing upside down or backwards letters (as used in some west African cultures to signify death). Today, Olivewood Cemetery remains as a key historical site in Houston, serving as a testament to the foresight and perseverance of the cemetery founders.

Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 3208 Washington Avenue, Houston

Marker Text: Organized in 1881, this church was founded to serve people living in the West End and Chaneyville communities, later known as the Sixth Ward. The Rev. Louis Brown served as first pastor of the church, which was named in his honor. A small sanctuary built in 1882 was destroyed by fire in 1917. Construction of the present building, originally a one-story frame structure, was begun that year. It was later enlarged to two stories, and in 1944 the exterior was clad in brick. Brown Chapel continues to be an important part of the Sixth Ward. (1989)

Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2201 Tuam Ave, Houston

Marker Text: As Houston's Third Ward neighborhood developed, the Rev. James Harvey Makey (1849-1915) called neighbors to his home in 1879 to form the Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. Makey, a member of Antioch Baptist Church, found guidance from Antioch's pastor, the noted Rev. John Henry "Jack" Yates. Rev. Makey and Deacon Clarence Young constructed a small frame church building in 1884. Makey and his wife, Jeanette, served the congregation for many years. Other early leaders included Brother Henry Thomas, the first Sunday School superintendent, as well as Deacons Joe McConico, David Thompson, and Willie Hogan. Members held revivals in the spring and conducted baptisms on Easter Sunday in Buffalo Bayou. In 1917, the growing congregation purchased this site for a new sanctuary.

The Rev. Joseph Patience Churchwell became pastor in 1928 and served until his death in January 1957. During his years of leadership the congregation developed many programs, including evangelism, twelve Mission Circles, men's chorus, youth council and various boards and groups. His wife and daughter were also active in building the congregation's services. In 1954, also during Churchwell's pastorate, members constructed a new sanctuary.

Church members called the Rev. David Leon Everett, II to serve as pastor in 1957, and he served until his death in 1990. Under his guidance the church initiated community outreach activities and participated in various Baptist networks. More than 1,500

members joined during his time as pastor.

Today, Jerusalem Missionary Baptist congregation continues to uphold the standards set by its strong leaders, playing an active role in community life. The church has met at this location since its founding in the Rev. Makey's home. (2005)

Shepherd Drive Methodist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1245 Heights Boulevard, Houston

Marker Text: In 1899 a group of Methodists from this area, known then as the Brunner Addition, met in a building known as McClure's Assembly Hall and organized the McAshan and City Mission Methodist Church. A sanctuary, built on this block in 1900, was destroyed by a severe storm that year. A new sanctuary was completed in 1901.

The church was renamed McAshan and Brunner Methodist in 1904, Brunner Methodist in 1906 and Brunner and Epworth Methodist in 1913. When construction of a new church building began in 1917, it became known as West End Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The church acquired additional land here in 1940 which included a parsonage and provided a full block of frontage on Shepherd Drive. By 1942 the congregation was known as the Shepherd Drive Methodist Church. In 1954-55 a new church building containing 17 classrooms, a sanctuary, and a fellowship hall was built at this site. In 1959 Shepherd Drive Methodist Church merged with the Larkin Street Methodist Church, a nearby congregation organized in 1916.

This congregation continues its traditional spiritual programs, support of youth and senior outreach programs, promotion of community gatherings, and involvement in civic and social issues affecting the area.

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 2222 Gray Street, Houston

Marker Text: St. John Missionary Baptist Church, organized in 1899 by reverends Gilbert Green and Hilliard R. Johnson, first met in a small building near Calhoun Avenue and Live Oak Street. In 1901, Rev. James B. Bouldin purchased property, later conveyed to church trustees, in the 2100 block of Broadway (now Bastrop Street). A small frame building was later erected there, but after a storm demolished it, a tent was used temporarily for worship services. Between 1907 and 1915, a new sanctuary was built with a baptismal pool, auditorium, partial balcony, elevated choir stand, additional rooms, and a bell in the left tower that continues to be used today in the right tower.

In 1917, the church split due to various misunderstandings, creating another St. John Baptist church on Dowling Street. As membership increased with more people moving to the city after World War II, a larger building was needed. In 1946, James M. Thomas, a local black contractor who became Houston's most prominent architect for black congregations, built the three-story Gothic Revival masonry structure with the nave and twin towers exemplifying 1930s to 1950s local African-American church architecture.

Although St. John had many struggles and grew slowly, it became one of the most important churches in the early 1900s, noted for its attitude towards civic and benevolent movements. It has progressed from a traditional service to a spirit filled, praise and worship experience and continues as an influential African-American institution.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3404 South Main St., Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Established in 1893, Trinity Episcopal Church acquired this site in 1910. Construction of the sanctuary, designed by architect Ralph Adams Cram, began in 1917 and was completed in 1919. Features of the Gothic revival structure include a basilica plan with an offset buttressed and pinnacled tower, and art glass windows. Five rectors of the parish became bishops in the Episcopal church. Trinity Church continues to serve a large active congregation.

Dairy

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 12101 7th Street, Houston

Marker Text: Reynolds Reynolds claimed a grant of 1,250 acres of land in this area in 1861. Land developer Jacamiah Seaman Daugherty bought the property from Reynolds' heirs in 1888, and in 1889 he granted a right-of-way to the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad. His plans to develop a townsite almost came to an end when he faced foreclosure in 1893, but the land was purchased by Francis I. Meston, who retained Daugherty to oversee its development.

In 1894, after the community was named Dairy by its surveyors, Dr. John S. Magee and his wife, Alief Ozelda Magee, moved here from Ellis County and became the town's first settlers. They were joined by more settlers, and in 1895 Alief Magee applied for a U. S. Post Office for the town. Named Alief by the postal service, the post office operated from her home.

Comprised of farms, ranches, a general store, depot, schools, and churches, Dairy endured despite devastating floods. Rice farming began after 1900, enhancing the area's economic base. The citizens formed the first Harris County Flood Control District in 1909 and established an independent school district in 1911. Although much of the town (renamed Alief in 1917) was annexed by Houston in the 1970s, it retains its identity. (1991)

Allen Ranch

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 101 South Richey St., Houston

Marker Text: This busy commercial area was once part of the Allen Ranch, one of the oldest and largest ranches in southeast Texas. A portion of the land was granted to Morris Callahan in 1824 by Mexico and inherited by his niece Rebecca Jane Thomas (d. 1919), who married Samuel William Allen (1826-1888) in 1844. Allen bought additional land, including a 1300-acre tract belonging to his friend Governor Francis R. Lubbock, and began operation of a prosperous cattle ranch. He helped organize the firm of Allen & Poole to ship cattle to eastern and foreign markets.

Samuel Ezekiel Allen (1848-1913) took over operation of the ranch from his father in 1881. He and his wife Rosa Lum (d. 1931) built a large home near the junction of Buffalo Bayou and Sims Bayou (1 mi. N). Allen was a leading Houston businessman as well as a cattleman.

At the time he died, Allen's property included 13,000 acres in Harris County and 10,000 acres in Brazoria County. In 1917, Rosa Allen sold 700 acres to the Sinclair Oil Company (now Atlantic Richfield Corporation) as a refinery site. The remaining land was later divided for industrial, commercial, and residential use. The ranch house was moved to Galveston Bay, where it became Camp Allen of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. (1976)

Barrett, Harrison

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Old Highway 90 East, west of FM 2100, Crosby

Marker Text: (ca. 1845-1917) Born into slavery, Harrison Barrett was the son of Simon and Eliza Barrett, who had come to Texas from Louisiana. In addition to Harrison, the couple had two other sons and two daughters.

Following the emancipation of Texas slaves in 1865, Harrison Barrett spent several years gathering his family together. He eventually found all except one sister, and they settled on land east of the San Jacinto River. He purchased this land in 1889 and began a community which would later be known as Barrett's settlement.

Beginning with seven houses, the community grew to include additional homes, farms, and businesses. Considered the leader of the community, Barrett established a school, church, and cemetery. After a post office substation was opened here in 1947, the area became known as Barrett Station.

Married to the former Annie Jones soon after his emancipation, Barrett was the father of twelve children. His homestead, twice rebuilt by descendants, still stands on its original location. Harrison and Annie Barrett, along with four other family members, are interred in the nearby family cemetery, named Journey's End by descendants in 1985. (1988)

Camp Logan

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, Arnot & Haskell St., in Memorial Park, Houston

Marker Text: Soon after the United States' entry into World War I in 1917, the U. S. Army established 34 training camps to prepare troops for warfare. Named for Gen. John A. Logan, Mexican War and Civil War veteran and U. S. Senator from Illinois, Camp Logan was established at this site on July 18, 1917. Encompassing 7,600 acres of land, it consisted of a main camp, auxiliary remount depot, rifle range, artillery range, and drill grounds. During construction, members of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry (black troops commanded by white officers) were assigned to the camp as guards and were stationed about a mile to the east. The black soldiers' August 23, 1917, armed revolt in response to Houston's Jim Crow laws and police harassment resulted in the camp's most publicized incident, the "Houston Mutiny and Riot of 1917."

Troops receiving training at Camp Logan included the 33rd Division, composed of the Illinois National Guard, part of the 93rd Division, and other Regular Army units. Following training, they went on to serve in battle in France in 1918. Camp Logan closed on March 20, 1919. Part of the land later became Memorial Park, named in tribute to the soldiers who fought in Europe. (1992)

Ellington Field

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Challenger 7 Parkway at Aerospace Ave, Houston

Marker Text: In 1917, during World War I, the Houston Chamber of Commerce lobbied the federal government to establish an air field here. Named for Lt. Eric Lamar Ellington, an Illinois aviator killed in a California plane crash in 1913, it opened in November 1917. The site transferred to the National Guard during the 1920s, and following a fire and demolition, all that remained by the 1930s was a concrete water tank. The government retained ownership, leasing the site for grazing cattle. By the 1940s, the threat of another world conflict caused the U.S. to reactivate the base. Ellington was vital to American war planning during World War II due to its strategic location near oil refineries and the Houston Ship Channel. Construction began in 1940, and among the first improvements was a service apron believed to be the largest concrete slab in the world at the time. Troops began arriving at the modernized facility in April 1941.

Ellington was primarily a pilot training center, but navigators and bombardiers, as well as aviators from other countries, also trained here. Because the field was operational prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, one of every ten Army pilots went through its flying school in the first two years of the war. Later, the Army Air Force ran an advanced navigator training school here. After the war, Ellington was home to a Texas Air National Guard unit. During the Cold War, it again became an active Air Force base, primarily for navigator training. The Air Force abandoned the base in 1976, and the site has since been shared by the Texas Air National Guard, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Texas Army Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the City of Houston, which, since 1984, has used much of it for a municipal airport. (2005)

LH7 Ranch

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 573 Barker-Clodine Road, Barker

Marker Text: Emil Henry Marks (1881-1969), a descendant of Prussian immigrants, was orphaned at an early age and reared by his maternal grandparents in Addicks, Texas, and later by relatives in Pattison, Texas.

Marks registered the _H7 cattle brand in 1898. He married Maud May Smith in 1907. They raised longhorn cattle in Addicks and in 1917 relocated their expanding herd to a 640-acre ranch in Barker, Texas. By the early 1930s their herd had increased to 6,816 head of cattle and their grazing land had expanded to 36,000 acres.

A barbecue and rodeo held by Marks during spring roundup and branding activities in 1918 became such a popular annual event that he expanded the rodeo facilities and began charging admission. _H7 rodeos, a showplace for Marks' premier longhorn cattle, ended in 1950 after much of his Barker ranch was inundated by the creation of the Barker Flood Control Reservoir.

Marks helped found the South Texas Producers' Association (1931), Houston's Fat Stock Show and Rodeo (1932), the Salt Grass Trail Drive (1952), and the Texas Longhorn Breeders' Association of America (1964). In 1936 he broke ground for the San Jacinto _H7 oxen. The heirs of Emil and Maud Marks continued to raise longhorn cattle and use the _H7 brand.

Mollie Bailey

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 3506 North Main at I-45, Houston

Marker Text: A native of Alabama, Mollie Arline Kirkland was married to James Augustus (Gus) Bailey in 1858. The son of a circus owner, Gus Bailey formed the Bailey Family Troupe with Mollie, his brother Alfred, and Mollie's sister Fanny. They traveled throughout Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas with their show until the beginning of the Civil War. Gus and Alfred Bailey joined the Confederate Army in 1861 and became members of Hood's Texas Brigade. While Gus led the regimental band, Mollie traveled with them as a nurse and as a member of Hood's minstrels, entertaining the troops.

Gus and Mollie Bailey and their children continued to travel as entertainers after the war. In 1879 they bought a small circus and moved to Texas. Billed as "A Texas Show for Texas People," it became the Mollie A. Bailey Show following Gus' retirement. After his death in 1896 Mollie continued to operate the circus, a popular annual event in many towns. She was known as the "Circus Queen of the Southwest." In 1906 Mollie married A. H. "Blackie" Hardesty, a circus employee. She continued to be known as Mollie Bailey, however, and ran the show until 1917. She died at St. Joseph's Infirmary in Houston on October 2, 1918. (1989)

Joseph William Ellender

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2850 Ferry Road, Cedar Bayou

Marker Text: (May 25, 1840 - February 24, 1917) British seaman Joseph William Ellender was shipwrecked off the coast of Iceland in 1866 and rescued by a schooner bound for Galveston. He settled in Cedar Bayou and married Nancy Lavenia Prather in 1868. They had ten children. A Master Mason, Ellender served as worshipful master of Cedar Bayou Lodge three times. He organized the Cedar Bayou chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in 1884 and was Worthy Grand Patron of Texas in 1889.

Blue Triangle Branch, Y. W. C. A. Building

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3005 McGowen at Sauer, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: In the early 20th century, Houston's African American community wanted to provide recreational facilities for its youth and for African American troops stationed at Camp Logan. Various groups formed, including two interested in the welfare of young girls. The Camp Logan Activities Committee offered civics and morality instruction, and a committee created by Mary L. Jones aimed to form an organization dedicated to girls' moral and spiritual growth.

During World War I, a national representative from the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) worked with Jones to open a recreation center in 1917 in the Masonic building at 806 Clay. Following the war, the center applied to Houston's YWCA for branch status, which was given in 1920. The Blue Triangle Branch, YWCA, offered athletic, musical and educational programs for girls. In 1921, it opened a boarding house, which grew throughout the decade. During the Great Depression, the center closed the residence, but services expanded, helping hundreds of women and girls find work.

In the 1940s, the Blue Triangle YWCA began plans to build a new center. A group of women donated this site, and construction began in 1950 on the building designed by noted Houston architects Hiram A. Salisbury and Birdsall P. Briscoe. The architects chose a Transitional style, showing late Art Moderne as well as more contemporary elements. The building exhibits a semi-circular entry portico, casement windows and raised brick banding, with a fret pattern used frequently by Briscoe. The Blue Triangle YWCA was an important part of the lives of the community's women and girls. Several women, including Lilla B. Love and Elizabeth E. Stevens, willed property to the organization in continued support of its mission. The Blue Triangle ended its YWCA affiliation in 1998. Restored and reopened by a community group, the new center offers youth and adult programs, and provides space for other groups. Supplemental Plaque: Blue Triangle Community Center purchased and restored Blue Triangle Multi-Cultural Association, Inc. Established January 2000, the building features a mural by celebrated artist John T. Biggers (1924-2001).

The Houston Light Guard

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3816 Caroline, Houston

Marker Text: Organized as a Texas Militia unit on April 21, 1873, the Houston Light Guard originally participated in parades, ceremonies, and competitive drills, and served as guard of honor for visiting dignitaries. The first commander was Capt. Edwin Fairfax Gray (1829-1884), then the city engineer of Houston. During the 1880s The Guard, dressed in uniforms of red coats and red-plumed helmets, became known as a leader in drill competitions throughout the United States. Prize money funded their first armory in 1891. In 1898 The Guard was activated for service with United States troops in the Spanish-American War. After participating in the punitive expedition against Mexico, 1916-1917, the unit joined U. S. forces fighting in Europe during World War I.

The Guard built a new armory at this site in 1925 and deeded it to the State of Texas in 1939. The next year the unit was again activated and during World War II saw action in seven campaigns in Africa and Europe. As part of the 36th Infantry Division, Guard members were among the first American troops in Europe during the war. Now part of the National Guard, the Houston Light Guard represents a proud heritage of distinguished military service. (1982)

1918

Houston Heights City Hall and Fire Station Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 107 12th St., Houston

RTHL Marker Text: When the former city hall burned in 1912, Houston Heights mayor J. B. Marmion and the city council commissioned Houston architect A. C. Pigg to design a new building to house city offices and also serve as a fire station and small jail. Completed in 1914, the city hall and fire station served its intended purpose only until 1918, when the city of Houston annexed Houston Heights. The building, which features decorative brick and cast stone work, then became Station No. 14 for the Houston Fire Department and remained active until 1995. A neighborhood landmark, the historic building continues in use as a community gathering place.

John Milroy House Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1102 Heights Blvd.m Houston

RTHL Marker Text: In 1891 the Omaha and South Texas Land Company purchased the property which was later developed into the town of Houston Heights. John Milroy (1862-1918), an early investor of the company, managed the Heights office. An active civic leader, he served as alderman and mayor of the new community. In 1898 he moved his family to this house. a composite of several styles, it features gables, bays, and fish scale shingling.

Original Site of the Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2009-2011 Washington Avenue, Houston

Marker Text: The Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company, one of the first companies in the nation granted franchise rights for the distribution of Coca-Cola in bottles, opened its doors in a brick building on this site in 1902. J. T. Lupton of Chattanooga, Tennessee, was the primary owner. The initial purchase of syrup from the Coca-Cola Company consisted of 387 gallons of syrup, and bottled Coca-Cola was delivered by a mule-drawn wagon. In 1908, the company bought almost 3,000 gallons of syrup to meet the soda demand, which was growing along with Houston's population. In this location, they had one hand-operated bottling machine with a capacity of 250 cases a day. By 1915, sales of Coca-Cola had increased such that the company moved to larger facilities at 1212 Washington Avenue.

In 1918, J. E. Evans became the plant's general manager, and during his tenure Houstonians continued to celebrate the soft drink sensation, prompting the company's continued growth. By 1948, C. Lupton Thomas, general manager, and J. E. Evans, president, developed plans for a new facility at 2800 Bissonnet. Lauded as the world's most modern Coca-Cola plant, the new million-dollar plant opened to the public in June 1950. For more than a century, the Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company has provided jobs, as well as refreshment, to the City of Houston and surrounding areas. The company has consistently given back to the city through charity work and project funding. As one of the largest operations of its kind in the world, it continues its commitment to employees, customers and neighbors. (2003)

KUHT-TV, Channel 8

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 4343 Elgin, Houston

Marker Text: Following the vision and leadership of University of Houston Board of Regents Chair Hugh Roy Cullen (1881-1957), UH President W. W. Kemmerer (1903-1993), and Station Manager John C. Schwarzwald (1918-1992), KUHT-TV, Houston's Channel 8, sent out its first broadcast on May 25, 1953. In doing so, KUHT-TV became the first noncommercial educational television station in the United States and only the second television station in the City of Houston.

The event was acknowledged across the nation as a trailblazing moment in both the television and educational fields. Its primary focus was on education, a significant contribution to the foundation of televised "distance education," which before consisted mainly of correspondence courses and satellite colleges. KUHT-TV helped pioneer instructional television with nationally distributed film presentations on biology and psychology. In the early years, Channel 8 also brought an understanding of space travel to audiences. It expanded cultural understanding, provided insight in local educational issues with its broadcasts of Houston ISD School Board meetings, and showcased local cultural organizations and artists with live television broadcasts of the arts in Houston.

KUHT-TV/Channel 8, licensed to UH, continues to provide life-long learning through educational, cultural, and technological programming for children and adults. Year after year, the community shows its belief and trust in this organization by providing the much needed funding that allows it to provide its services. Now housed in the Melcher Center for Public Broadcasting, a facility for the twenty-first century, KUHT-TV continues to offer educational, informative, and enlightening services for the people of the southeast coast of Texas. (2012)

Washington Cemetery

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2911 Washington Avenue, Houston

Marker Text: In 1887 a group of local German businessmen formed an association called the Deutsche Gesellschaft, for the purpose of establishing a cemetery for the German citizens of the Houston area. They purchased this tract, then located outside the city limits, from the heirs of John Lawrence and Thomas Hart. Until 1918 the burial site was known as the German Society Cemetery. The name was changed to Washington Cemetery because of anti-German sentiment during World War I. The earliest burials after the founding of the cemetery occurred on March 20, 1887, when J. Turner and Annie Fraser were interred here. One section with forty-two gravesites was set aside for the burial of Confederate veterans of the Civil War by members of the Dick Dowling Camp. No. 197, UCV. Emma (Edmondson) Seelye (1841-1898), also a veteran of the Civil War, is buried here.

Masquerading as a man and using the name Frank Thompson, she enlisted in the Federal army in 1861. For two years she served as a soldier, scout, brigade postmaster, and orderly on the staff of General O. M. Poe. She left the unit in 1863 after contracting malaria, but later served in the war as a nurse. She died near La Porte, Texas. (1980)

Washington Cemetery [Replacement]

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2911 Washington Avenue, Houston

Marker Text: The Deutsche Gesellschaft von Houston, founded in 1875, established the German Society Cemetery in February 1887 by purchasing this property, then located outside the city limits, from the heirs of John Lawrence and Thomas Hart. Twelve-space family lots were sold to society members for \$10 and to the public for \$25. It was renamed Washington Cemetery in July 1918 due to anti-German sentiment during World War I. Though headstones of reinterred persons show birth dates as early as 1800 and death dates as early as 1855, the earliest known burial is that of three-year-old Pauline Otilie Zeitler, on March 31, 1887. At least 15 citizens of the Republic of Texas and immigrants from more than 20 nations lie at rest here. Eighteen lots are owned by fraternal, labor, or veterans groups. More than 7600 persons are interred here, with more added each year. Also buried here are more than 300 veterans of nine wars, from the Black Hawk War of 1832 to Vietnam, including more than 135 Confederate and Union veterans. Sarah Emma Evelyn (Edmonds) Seelye, aka Franklin Thompson, is noted for writing a book about her service as a man in the federal army, 1861-63.

After the last charter expired in 1947, the superintendent's widow and her housekeeper tried to maintain the cemetery, but they did not have the resources needed. By the 1970s, it was badly overgrown. Concerned Citizens for Washington Cemetery Care (CCWCC) was founded in 1977, cleared away the jungle-like growth, and cared for the cemetery over the next 22 years. In 1997, CCWCC became the first group in Texas legally granted the authority to "restore, operate, and maintain a historic cemetery" under a 1995 Texas law; that authority was transferred to adjacent Glenwood Cemetery in 1999.

Damascus Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3211 Center St. at Court, Houston

Marker Text: This congregation traces its history to 1866, when the Rev. I. S. Campbell was sent by the National Baptist Convention to organize African American churches in Texas immediately after the Civil War. Assisted by Joseph Smalley, Campbell organized Damascus Missionary Baptist Church to serve residents of the West End and Chaneyville neighborhoods, part of Houston's Sixth Ward.

The Rev. Louis Hansburg served as first pastor of the new church, which met in the home of Phillis Wheatley until a sanctuary was built at Center and Leverkusen streets. By 1899 the congregation was meeting in a building at Center and Court streets; by 1902 it had moved across the street to 1109 Court Street. Destroyed by a storm in 1915, the church was rebuilt and dedicated in 1918. Moving to this location in 1924, the congregation erected a new structure in 1939.

Throughout its history, Damascus Missionary Baptist Church has served the community with missionary, worship, educational, and civic outreach programs. Some church members represent families who have been associated with the congregation for as many as six generations. (1992)

Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1407 Valentine Street at Ruthven, Houston

Marker Text: Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church has served as a vital spiritual and community institution in the Fourth Ward since the congregation's organization in 1915. The church has always met in the historic Freedmen's Town District, founded by former slaves after emancipation. As the Freedmen's Town District grew, churches became vital institutions, serving as centers of social, educational, political, economic, cultural and religious life in the community.

Mt. Carmel originally organized as Nelson's Chapel Baptist Church. The congregation changed its name to Zion Rock Baptist Church between 1918 and 1921 before first being called Mt. Carmel in response to a sermon in 1921. In 1937, members named the Rev. Robert T. Bingham as pastor. He ministered here until 1952, guiding the church through a time of growth and change. In 1940, members

constructed a new building, largely through the pastor's efforts. He provided much of the new facility's lumber from his personal east Texas lumberyard.

Since its organization, Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church has aided the community in significant ways. Members started a food pantry, offered counseling to those in need and provided space for weddings, funerals and public meetings, as well as for worship services of other churches.

Today, as one of few remaining historic churches in the Freedmen's Town District, Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church continues to serve as an important spiritual and civic leader in Houston's Fourth Ward. (2007)

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ
Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3115 Blodgett, Houston

Marker Text: The Reverend G. B. M. Turner and educator E. O. Smith organized Pilgrim Congregational Church, Houston's first African American congregational church, in the Freedmen's Town Community in 1904. Early services were held in Turner's home.

Permanent structures were built on Matthews at Victor in 1907 and on Wilson at Cleveland in 1914. After a 1936 fire, the church met in temporary quarters for several years. Since most members then resided in the Third Ward, the congregation built a new church on Live Oak at Berry Street in 1942. The church's name was changed to Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ in 1957 as a result of the denominational merger of the congregational Christian churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The growing church purchased property at 3115 Blodgett Street in 1965; the first services were held at this site on March 23, 1974.

Several early members left their impact in the fields of education, labor and civil rights by establishing organizations such as the Colored Carnegie Library (1909) and the local chapter of the NAACP (1918). Houston Independent School District (HISD) schools were named for E. O. Smith, G. B. M. Turner and T. R. Chatham; the HISD Administration Building is named for Hattie Mae White, the first African American HISD board member. John D. Moore served as pastor from 1936 until 1973. Pilgrim church has impacted the community through outreach programs such as scouting, food for the hungry, a thrift shop and a community center. Today, the church continues to honor the courageous African captives of the 1839 "Amistad Event" and their Congregationalist defenders. (2009)

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
Precinct:____ , 714 Detering Street, Houston

Marker Text: This African American congregation predates the purchase of this lot in 1902. The first known pastor was Rev. Elijah Crooms. Members met under a brush arbor until the first wooden church, featuring twin bell towers and a special seating area for children, was built in 1918. Baptisms took place in nearby Buffalo Bayou until a baptismal pool was added to the church in the 1950s, along with other improvements. The original building was demolished and a new church was dedicated in 1965. New programs, such as a radio show and a bus to bring members to church, attracted new membership. St. Luke Missionary Baptist church has been a beacon in the community through more than a century of social and economic change. (2013)

Aldine
Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 905 Aldine-Bender Road, Aldine

Marker Text: The railroad arrived in this area, first called Prairie Switch, in 1873. The Aldine Post Office was established in 1896; twenty-five to thirty families, most of Swedish descent, settled on

Aldine's fertile land. Here they grew such products as Satsuma oranges, pears and magnolia figs. In 1900 developer E. C. Robertson and his partner, F. W. Colby of Kansas, began to market parcels of land to out-of-state speculators, many of whom bought tracts sight unseen. A Presbyterian Church was organized from a Union Sabbath School in 1902, and the town began to grow. It soon boasted a hotel and general store, a two-room schoolhouse erected on this site in 1910, and a cemetery deeded for community use in 1911.

Aldine resident J. C. Carpenter operated a small fig cannery until 1914 or 1915 when the Carpenter Fig Company opened a cannery nearby. Reportedly one of the largest fig preserving plants in the U. S., it employed twenty-five to thirty people during the canning season. The fig industry died out from 1918 to 1920 because of freezes, blight and lack of sugar during World War I.

Dairy farms replaced fruit farms and the Magnolia Oil Company established a large crude oil pumping station in Aldine in 1923. The Aldine Railroad Depot shut down in 1931 or 1932, and the post office closed in January 1935. The community turned to automobiles for transportation. Farmers began marketing their wares in Houston. The town of Aldine gradually declined. In 1932 four area common school districts joined to form the Aldine Independent School District. Now a part of the metropolis of Houston, the townsite of Aldine remains only in the annals of Texas history. (1999)

Bellaire

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 7008 South Rice Avenue, Bellaire

Marker Text: William Wright Baldwin, president of the South End Land Company, founded Bellaire in 1908 on part of the 9,449-acre ranch once owned by William Marsh Rice, benefactor of Rice Institute (now Rice University). Baldwin surveyed the eastern 1,000 acres of the ranch into small truck farms, which he named Westmoreland Farms. He platted Bellaire in the middle of the farms to serve as an exclusive residential neighborhood and agricultural trading center. The project was separated from Houston by approximately six miles of prairie.

South End Land Company advertisements, targeted to Midwestern farmers, noted that Bellaire ("Good Air") was named for the area's Gulf breezes. The original townsite was bounded by Palmetto, First, Jessamine, and Sixth (now Ferris) streets. Bellaire Boulevard and an electric streetcar line connected Bellaire to Houston. The town was incorporated in 1918, and C. P. Younts served as first mayor. The post-war building boom in the late 1940s and early 1950s resulted in rapid population growth. Completely surrounded by the expanding city of Houston by 1949, Bellaire nevertheless retained its independence and its own city government. (1990)

Houston Heights

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1302 Heights Blvd., Houston

Marker Text: Representatives of the American Loan and Trust Company of Omaha, Nebraska, came to Houston in 1890 to scout locations for land development. Under the leadership of O. M. Carter, D. D. Cooley, and others, company directors purchased 1,756 acres of land northwest of Houston. They led efforts to electrify Houston's streetcar system in 1891 and extended the lines to their new community, named Houston Heights due to its elevation 23 feet above that of downtown Houston. Directors of the Omaha and South Texas Land Company, formed by American Loan and Trust in 1892, developed streets, sidewalks, and utility systems; built and marketed homes; and encouraged the establishment of business and industry in Houston Heights. The city of Houston Heights was incorporated in 1896, and W. G. Love served as first mayor. He was followed in that office by John A. Milroy, David Barker, Robert F. Isbell, and J. B. Marmion.

Seeking a broader tax base with which to support their public schools, voters of Houston Heights agreed to annexation by the city of Houston in 1918. Houston Heights grew rapidly in the 20th century,

but continued to maintain its unique identity. It remains a distinctive neighborhood with many historic structures. (1991)

Camp Logan

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, Arnot & Haskell St., in Memorial Park, Houston

Marker Text: Soon after the United States' entry into World War I in 1917, the U. S. Army established 34 training camps to prepare troops for warfare. Named for Gen. John A. Logan, Mexican War and Civil War veteran and U. S. Senator from Illinois, Camp Logan was established at this site on July 18, 1917. Encompassing 7,600 acres of land, it consisted of a main camp, auxiliary remount depot, rifle range, artillery range, and drill grounds.

During construction, members of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry (black troops commanded by white officers) were assigned to the camp as guards and were stationed about a mile to the east. The black soldiers' August 23, 1917, armed revolt in response to Houston's Jim Crow laws and police harassment resulted in the camp's most publicized incident, the "Houston Mutiny and Riot of 1917."

Troops receiving training at Camp Logan included the 33rd Division, composed of the Illinois National Guard, part of the 93rd Division, and other Regular Army units. Following training, they went on to serve in battle in France in 1918.

Camp Logan closed on March 20, 1919. Part of the land later became Memorial Park, named in tribute to the soldiers who fought in Europe. (1992)

LH7 Ranch

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 573 Barker-Clodine Road, Barker

Marker Text: Emil Henry Marks (1881-1969), a descendant of Prussian immigrants, was orphaned at an early age and reared by his maternal grandparents in Addicks, Texas, and later by relatives in Pattison, Texas.

Marks registered the _H7 cattle brand in 1898. He married Maud May Smith in 1907. They raised longhorn cattle in Addicks and in 1917 relocated their expanding herd to a 640-acre ranch in Barker, Texas. By the early 1930s their herd had increased to 6,816 head of cattle and their grazing land had expanded to 36,000 acres.

A barbecue and rodeo held by Marks during spring roundup and branding activities in 1918 became such a popular annual event that he expanded the rodeo facilities and began charging admission. _H7 rodeos, a showplace for Marks' premier longhorn cattle, ended in 1950 after much of his Barker ranch was inundated by the creation of the Barker Flood Control Reservoir.

Marks helped found the South Texas Producers' Association (1931), Houston's Fat Stock Show and Rodeo (1932), the Salt Grass Trail Drive (1952), and the Texas Longhorn Breeders' Association of America (1964). In 1936 he broke ground for the San Jacinto _H7 oxen.

The heirs of Emil and Maud Marks continued to raise longhorn cattle and use the _H7 brand.

Mollie Bailey

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 3506 North Main at I-45, Houston

Marker Text: A native of Alabama, Mollie Arline Kirkland was married to James Augustus (Gus) Bailey in 1858. The son of a circus owner, Gus Bailey formed the Bailey Family Troupe with Mollie, his brother Alfred, and Mollie's sister Fanny. They traveled throughout Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas with their show until the beginning of the Civil War.

Gus and Alfred Bailey joined the Confederate Army in 1861 and became members of Hood's Texas Brigade. While Gus led the regimental band, Mollie traveled with them as a nurse and as a member of Hood's minstrels, entertaining the troops.

Gus and Mollie Bailey and their children continued to travel as entertainers after the war. In 1879 they bought a small circus and moved to Texas. Billed as "A Texas Show for Texas People," it became the Mollie A. Bailey Show following Gus' retirement. After his death in 1896 Mollie continued to operate the circus, a popular annual event in many towns. She was known as the "Circus Queen of the Southwest."

In 1906 Mollie married A. H. "Blackie" Hardesty, a circus employee. She continued to be known as Mollie Bailey, however, and ran the show until 1917. She died at St. Joseph's Infirmary in Houston on October 2, 1918. (1989)

John Sessums, Jr.

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3500 West Dallas, Houston

Marker Text: (ca. 1849-July 7, 1928) John Sessums, Jr., was the first - and during his lifetime, the only - African American member of the Houston Light Guard. Organized in 1873 as the first uniformed militia company in post-reconstruction Houston, the Houston Light Guard was an all-white, prestigious militia mobilized as needed to restore or maintain peace during crisis periods such as quarantines, labor strikes and political feuds. The guard, known for its dominance in military drill competitions from 1875 through 1889, later became one of the oldest National Guard companies in the state.

Sessums joined the guard during the late 1870s and served for over 50 years as its only drummer. By 1880 he also organized and commanded a drill company called the Davis Rifles. He later led several additional African American drill companies, including the Sheridan Guards, Scurry Rifles, Packard Zouaves and Lawlor Zouaves. Sessums also found time to serve as a mascot for the Houston Heralds baseball team in 1887 and to participate in "Afro-American" fairs and Juneteenth celebrations. Black residents of Houston could always depend on his drill companies to entertain them with their "attractive" maneuvers.

In 1910 former members of the company organized the "Houston Light Guard Veterans Association" and bestowed the title of "Perpetual Drummer" on "Captain" Sessums, who continued to lead drill teams in competition. In 1918, the veterans association voted to provide for his living expenses while he lived with a family in the Fifth Ward. Sessums died in Hermann Hospital - an all-white facility - surrounded by his fellow guardsmen. Almost 2,000 black and white citizens attended his funeral. (2009)

Hortense Sparks Malsch Ward

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 3506 North Main Street & I-45, Houston

Marker Text: (July 20, 1872 - December 5, 1944) Hortense Ward was born in 1872 in Matagorda County and was the eldest child of Frederick and M. Louise (LaBauve) Sparks. As a child, Hortense attended the Catholic Academy of Nazareth in Victoria and later taught school for a time in Edna. While in Edna she married Albert Malsch; the couple had three daughters, but the marriage ended in divorce in 1906. In 1909, Hortense married William Henry Ward in Houston. In 1910, Hortense Ward passed the Texas State Bar Examination and became one of the first female attorneys in Texas.

She joined with her husband to form the law firm of Ward & Ward, becoming the first female attorney to practice in Houston. Hortense led the campaign for passage of the 1913 "Married Woman's Property Law" in the Texas Legislature. The law defined separate and community properties of a husband and wife and removed disabilities of a married woman to control her separate property. Ward achieved

many firsts during her career, including being the first Texas female attorney admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1915 and the first woman to register to vote in Harris County in 1918. In 1925, Gov. Pat Neff appointed Ward as special Chief Justice of a special all-woman Texas Supreme Court to hear a case involving the Woodmen of the World, because qualified male attorneys without ties to the organization could not be found. It would be 57 years before another female served on the court.

Ward retired from practicing law upon the 1939 death of her husband. She remained active in various ladies clubs and community organizations until her death in 1944.(2010)

Cooley School

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1600 block of Rutland, Houston

Marker Text: Soon after Houston Heights (The Heights) was founded in 1891, the new neighborhood's leaders turned their sights to providing schools for the children of the area. Community leaders Daniel Denton Cooley (1850-1933), affectionately known as the "Father of Houston Heights," and Helen Grace Winfield Cooley (1860-1916) believed in education's importance and financed the construction of the Heights' first school.

Cooley School opened in the fall of 1894 as a one-room school with an unfinished upstairs room, which was completed in 1896. Due to the Heights' remarkable growth, Cooley School was expanded to a six-room school in 1906 and to a sixteen-room school in 1912. Olle J. Lorehn (1864-1939), a prominent Houston Architect who designed Houston's first skyscraper and first apartment building, designed the 1912 expansion, enveloping the earlier construction in the new Georgian-style structure.

Cooley School began as a common school in County School District No. 25. In 1898, the municipality of Houston Heights and its independent school district took charge of the school eventually, the financial needs for the several Heights schools became too pressing for the community, leading to the consolidation of Houston Heights with the City of Houston in 1918; Cooley and the other Heights schools then became part of the Houston Independent School District (HISD).

The 1912 school building was destroyed by fire 1961. The school was rebuilt and opened the next year. Cooley School continued to operate as an elementary school until 1980, when it became an HISD administrative building. In 2010, the property was sold for residential development. (2013)

1919

Gov. John B. Connally, Jr. House

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 2411 River Oaks Blvd & Locke Lane, Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Houston architect Ernest L. Shult designed this Mid-century Modern house for his own residence in 1959. The home, sited on a triangular lot in the River Oaks neighborhood, is representative of contemporary style popular in the post-war years. The house has had alterations over the years including a two-story addition on the north side. Prominent features of the house include its asymmetrical façade, white stucco and unornamented exterior wall, multiple roof sections, portions of the front façade extending forward and varying in height, and a large expanse of windowless walls. John Connally, Jr. (1917-1993) and his wife, Idanell "Nellie" Connally (1919-2006) moved here in January 1969 after he served three terms as Governor of Texas. During his residence at this location, Connally was U. S. Secretary of the Treasury and campaigned for the U. S. Presidency in 1960. The couple sold the house in 1984.

John Connally, Jr. is known for his extensive career in politics. He was Secretary to Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson in 1939, served for several years as Johnson's aide, was Secretary of the Navy under President John F. Kennedy in 1961, and was elected Governor of Texas in 1962. When President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas on November 22, 1963, Connally, a passenger in the car, was shot and seriously wounded. Among his accomplishments as Governor were improvement in the areas of education, government, reform, historic preservation and the state's tourism industry. He joined Houston law firm Vinson, Elkins, Searls and Connally in February 1969 and became President Richard Nixon's Secretary of the Treasury in 1971. Governor and Mrs. Connally are buried at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

Houston's Deep-Water Port

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, Wayside & Clinton Drive, Gate 8, Houston

Marker Text: As early as the 1820s, ships began using Buffalo Bayou to connect Harrisburg, now part of Houston, to Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. As more people came to Houston, traffic and commerce along the bayou grew and the need for a deeper waterway became apparent. After Charles Stewart, U.S. Congressman from Houston, brought attention to the need for work along the bayou in the 1880s, U.S. Representative Joseph C. Hutcheson championed a bill allowing for the committee on rivers and harbors to survey the waterway. Congressman Thomas Ball led the delegation on the survey tour and they agreed that Houston was destined to be a seaport. The destruction of Galveston's port during the great storm of 1900 created increased pressure for a larger and safer inland deep-water port.

During the early 1900s, Thomas Ball tried to convince Congress to support fully a deepwater port for Houston. Business and civic leaders joined forces in 1909, allowing Ball to propose the "Houston Plan," in which local constituents offered to pay half the cost of the deep-water dredging. Congress accepted the offer and this cost-sharing agreement set a precedent for funding of future federal projects. Work began in 1912 and the 52-mile-long deep-water channel officially opened on November 10, 1914. By 1919, Houston was the second-largest spot cotton export port in the U.S., with exports growing exponentially each year during the 1920s. Business along the port grew, bringing new industries such as paper mills, motor fuel refineries and the first container terminal along the Texas gulf coast. Houston's deep-water port transformed a fledgling community into an internationally recognized center of commerce. (2013)

Bellaire Presbyterian Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 03, 5001 Bellaire Blvd. at 3rd Street, Bellaire

Marker Text: Bellaire residents founded the non-denominational Bellaire Union Congregational Church and Sunday School in 1911. Services and classes were held in the local school building and the town's streetcar terminal known as the "Pavilion."

In 1919 many members of Bellaire Union and others petitioned the First Presbyterian Church of Houston to establish a presence in the community. The Bellaire Mission was established on April 5, 1919, with the Rev. R. L. Jetton as pastor. Later that year the first church building was erected on land donated by D. T. Austin.

The Rev. Robert H. Bullock became the mission's first full-time pastor in 1940 and in 1942 a new brick sanctuary was dedicated. The mission became self-supporting in 1943 when the congregation became known as the "Bellaire Presbyterian Church." During the mid-1950s Bellaire Presbyterian helped establish several churches in the area. Membership in the congregation grew rapidly and in 1957 a new 1000-seat sanctuary was constructed at this site. The congregation reached 1,794 members by 1963. Bellaire Presbyterian has played an important role in the history of Bellaire and represents the oldest continuing congregation in the community. (1994)

Trinity Episcopal Church

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 3404 South Main St., Houston

RTHL Marker Text: Established in 1893, Trinity Episcopal Church acquired this site in 1910. Construction of the sanctuary, designed by architect Ralph Adams Cram, began in 1917 and was completed in 1919. Features of the Gothic revival structure include a basilica plan with an offset buttressed and pinnacled tower, and art glass windows. Five rectors of the parish became bishops in the Episcopal church. Trinity Church continues to serve a large active congregation.

Allen Ranch

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 101 South Richey, Houston

Marker Text: This busy commercial area was once part of the Allen Ranch, one of the oldest and largest ranches in southeast Texas. A portion of the land was granted to Morris Callahan in 1824 by Mexico and inherited by his niece Rebecca Jane Thomas (d. 1919), who married Samuel William Allen (1826-1888) in 1844. Allen bought additional land, including a 1300-acre tract belonging to his friend Governor Francis R. Lubbock, and began operation of a prosperous cattle ranch. He helped organize the firm of Allen & Poole to ship cattle to eastern and foreign markets.

Samuel Ezekiel Allen (1848-1913) took over operation of the ranch from his father in 1881. He and his wife Rosa Lum (d. 1931) built a large home near the junction of Buffalo Bayou and Sims Bayou (1 mi. N). Allen was a leading Houston businessman as well as a cattleman.

At the time he died, Allen's property included 13,000 acres in Harris County and 10,000 acres in Brazoria County. In 1917, Rosa Allen sold 700 acres to the Sinclair Oil Company (now Atlantic Richfield Corporation) as a refinery site. The remaining land was later divided for industrial, commercial, and

residential use. The ranch house was moved to Galveston Bay, where it became Camp Allen of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. (1976)

Camp Logan

Harris Co Comm Pct 04, Arnot & Haskell St., in Memorial Park, Houston

Marker Text: Soon after the United States' entry into World War I in 1917, the U. S. Army established 34 training camps to prepare troops for warfare. Named for Gen. John A. Logan, Mexican War and Civil War veteran and U. S. Senator from Illinois, Camp Logan was established at this site on July 18, 1917. Encompassing 7,600 acres of land, it consisted of a main camp, auxiliary remount depot, rifle range, artillery range, and drill grounds.

During construction, members of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry (black troops commanded by white officers) were assigned to the camp as guards and were stationed about a mile to the east. The black soldiers' August 23, 1917, armed revolt in response to Houston's Jim Crow laws and police harassment resulted in the camp's most publicized incident, the "Houston Mutiny and Riot of 1917."

Troops receiving training at Camp Logan included the 33rd Division, composed of the Illinois National Guard, part of the 93rd Division, and other Regular Army units. Following training, they went on to serve in battle in France in 1918. Camp Logan closed on March 20, 1919. Part of the land later became Memorial Park, named in tribute to the soldiers who fought in Europe. (1992)

Gustav August Forsgard

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2525 Washington Ave, Houston

Marker Text: Gustav (Gustaf, Gustave) August Samuelson (1832-1919) was one of 13 children born to Johannes Samuelson and Anna Petersdotter of Forserum, Sweden. At the age of 16, he emigrated from Sweden, arriving in Houston with a group of other Scandinavians on November 22, 1848. Two prominent Swedish Texans, Swante Mangus Swenson and Sir Swante Palm, met the group, which wintered at the Swenson farm in Fort Bend County. There, the men in the group worked the fields tending cotton and corn.

Samuelson changed his last name to Forsgard for his native Forserum and the Swedish word Gard, meaning "home." Four of his brothers, Samuel Johan, Carl Oscar, Johannes Wilhelm and Claes Henning, followed Forsgard to the U.S. and adopted the same new name; all but Claes settled in Texas.

After a year of farm work, Forsgard returned to Houston and worked as a mercantile clerk for Shepherd and Burke. He also became part of Swenson's and Palm's informal Swedish immigration agency. Forsgard acted as a liaison between new immigrants and Swedes already living in Texas.

During the next several years, Forsgard attended school and pursued various business interests. During the Civil War, Forsgard served with Texas forces. His responsibilities included building fortifications near Galveston to defend against a possible Federal invasion. Forsgard wed Jennie Mary Lusk in 1866, and the couple had two children who survived to adulthood. Over the years, Forsgard was civically active and was a trustee of First Presbyterian Church, director of First National Bank and Master of Holland Masonic Lodge No. 1 of Houston. (2005)

Sons of the Republic of Texas

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 515 Allen Parkway at Bagby St., Houston

Marker Text: On April 10, 1893, under the guidance of Francis Marion Otis Fenn, a local lodge was organized in Richmond for the benefit of male descendants of Texas Revolution veterans. The Richmond group traveled to Houston a few days later, and on April 20, 1893, a statewide organization called the Sons of the Republic of Texas was formed with 56 members. W. A. Craddock of Brenham served as first president.

Although various reunions were held over the years, the organization fell inactive by World War I. In 1922, the Sons of the Republic reorganized in Houston and elected Andrew Jackson Houston, son of Gen. Sam Houston, as their president. Twelve of the 35 charter members had belonged to the 1893 organization. Male descendants of persons who had performed either civil or military service for Texas between 1820 and Jan. 1, 1846, were eligible for membership.

Since the 1922 organization, the Sons of the Republic have sought to cultivate state patriotism by encouraging the observance of holidays such as Texas Independence Day (March 2) and San Jacinto Day (April 21), and by preserving historical data associated with the Revolution and Republic. Members have established museums, erected monuments, and encouraged the study of Texas history.

Edward Mandell House

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 515 Rusk, Houston

Marker Text: (July 26, 1858 - March 28, 1938) Son of Houston businessman and Mayor Thomas W. House, was born in a two-story frame house at this site. He attended the Houston Academy and later continued his education in Virginia and at Cornell University. E. M. House married Loulie Hunter in 1881, and they were the parents of two daughters. In 1885 the family moved to Austin, and House became involved in Democratic party politics. He was instrumental in the election of four Texas governors - James S. Hogg, Charles A. Culberson, S. W. T. Lanham, and Joseph D. Sayers.

House gained national political prominence in 1912 when he was instrumental in the nomination of Woodrow Wilson for president. House became a trusted advisor to President Wilson, participating in foreign policy negotiations during and after World War I. He played a major part in drafting the Fourteen Points, Wilson's plan for ending the war, and was a delegate to the Paris Peace Conference in 1919.

House died in New York in 1938 and was buried in Houston's Glenwood Cemetery. Known as Colonel House for many years, he is remembered as one of the most politically influential people of Texas and the United States, although he never held elective office. (1989)

Louis Wiltz Kemp

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 214 Westmoreland Ave, Houston

Marker Text: (September 4, 1881 - November 15, 1956) A native of Cameron, Texas, Lou Kemp had a long career as an asphalt salesman and executive of the Texas Company (Texaco), but his passionate avocation, starting in 1920, was historical research. During the extensive travel required by his work, Kemp investigated and documented the facts of early Texas history in great detail. Upon discovering that the graves of many notable Texans were unmarked or neglected, he arranged for reinterment of more than 100 Texas heroes and statesmen in the Texas State Cemetery, where the roads were dedicated to Kemp in 1932.

Kemp became a Texas history expert, a tireless speaker and a prolific writer of books, articles and biographies (notably *The Heroes of San Jacinto* and *The Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence*). He was president of the Texas State Historical Association and an original member of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee (now Texas Historical Commission). He chaired the advisory board of Texas historians for the 1936 Texas Centennial, directing placement of more than 1,100 markers,

monuments, and buildings across Texas. An organizing trustee and long-time president of the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, he was instrumental in creating the San Jacinto Museum and monument, on which is carved Kemp's summary of the battle of San Jacinto.

Kemp married Violet Volz in 1925, and they had three sons. He lived at 214 Westmoreland Avenue in Houston from 1919 until his death, amassing an extensive collection of books and records on Texas history. Kemp is buried in the Texas State Cemetery. Governor Price Daniel wrote, "Louis Wiltz Kemp ranks with the immortals of Texas history. To my knowledge, no other person did more during his lifetime to preserve the great heritage of Texas." (2013)

Belle Sherman Kendall

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 2525 Washington Ave, Houston

Marker Text: The daughter of Texas revolutionary war general Sidney Sherman and Catherine Isabell (Cox), Belle Sherman (1847-1919) was born in Harrisburg and married William E. Kendall in 1867. After making Houston her home in 1878, Belle S. Kendall became a noted civic leader. She was a founding member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Woman's Club of Houston. Under her leadership, the Woman's Club played a pivotal role in developing the Houston Public Library system. After securing funds from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie for the city's first public library building, Belle was honored at the cornerstone ceremony in 1902. In 1969 a branch library was named in her honor. (2001)

Maurice J. Sullivan

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, Southmore Blvd and Fannin St, Houston

Marker Text: Maurice J. Sullivan, son of Maurice and Margaret (Fitzsimons) Sullivan, was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He attended Detroit College (1901-1903) and studied structural and civil engineering at the University of Michigan (1904-1906). While working at engineering firms from 1909-1912, Sullivan taught himself architecture. He married Anne Winston and they had four sons and three daughters.

After moving to Houston in 1912, Sullivan was appointed City Architect by Mayor Baldwin Rice and took on numerous projects, including Dora B. Lantrip elementary school (1916). Known for being an eclectic architect who frequently worked in popular revival styles including Romanesque, Mediterranean, and Neo-Gothic, Sullivan opened his own practice in 1919, sharing an office with Birdsall P. Briscoe for 35 years. His ecclesiastical work is considered his most significant and includes the Villa de Matel Chapel (1923-28), Holy Rosary Church (1933), St. Anne Catholic Church (1940) and First Presbyterian Church (1949). Other prominent buildings include the Petroleum Building (now the Great Southwest building), which introduced the stepped-back skyscraper to Houston, Houston Negro Hospital (now Riverside Hospital), St. Thomas High School, Ripley House, and St. Mary's Seminary.

In 1922, Sullivan designed his family home at the corner of Southmore Boulevard and Fannin Street in the picturesque Manorial style, exemplifying the houses associated with 1920s and 1930s elite Texas residential neighborhoods. In 1924 and 1933, he served as president of the South Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Sullivan is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. In 1992 private citizens purchased the home for use as a commercial property.

St. Joseph Hospital

Harris Co Comm Pct 01, 1919 La Branch St at St. Joseph's Parkway, Houston

Marker Text: St. Joseph Hospital, Houston's first general hospital, opened in 1887 as St. Joseph's Infirmary. Six sisters from the congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, who came to Houston from St. Mary's Infirmary in Galveston, established the facility. Two years after its opening, Harris County officials asked the sisters to care for the county's indigent sick, which they continued to do until 1919. A new hospital built in 1894 accommodated the growing number of patients. Several months after opening, however, fire destroyed the new structure, killing two of the sisters. Another hospital, built on the present site, provided new facilities.

During the twentieth century, St. Joseph Hospital established its reputation as a leader in Texas health care. As a pioneer in the medical field, the hospital was among the earliest in the county or the state to: introduce pathology laboratory and x-ray equipment (1912); build a facility devoted to care for women and infants (1936); open a premature infant nursery (1943), coronary intensive care unit (1965) and community mental health center (1996); provide a neonatal transport service (1984); and offer laser lithotripsy for removal of ureteral stones (1987). The hospital has also made important contributions to education by opening the city's first school of nursing (1905) and a large surgical training laboratory (1980). The center was also noteworthy for its research and treatment of cancer.

St. Joseph Hospital served as a leader in the medical field by providing quality treatment for its patients. It also served as an important reminder of Houston's early role as a medical center. (2006)

Sam Houston High School

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 400 Irvington Blvd. at Tidwell Road, Houston

Marker Text: This school's lineage begins with one of the oldest schools in Houston. When Mayor James H. Stevens died in 1856, his bequest of \$5,000 and matching contributions founded the Houston Academy, with a brick school built on block 77 (bordered by Capitol, Caroline, Austin and Rusk Streets). In Dec. 1860, Gov. Sam Houston spoke against secession at the school; during the Civil War, the building became a Confederate military hospital. The city operated Houston Academy after 1877 and added grades eight through eleven. In 1879, Lucy Williams Brown became the first high school graduate. During the 1880s, the school then called the Clopper Institute and Houston Normal and High School achieved accreditation and began the first high school newspaper in Texas, the Aegis (still in publication). A large new building replaced the original schoolhouse in 1895; the name was changed to Houston High School and later Central High. A 1919 fire razed the school and a third building was completed in 1921.

Creation of the Houston I.S.D. and construction of three new high schools in the 1920s led to another name change to Sam Houston High School. In 1927, Verna Benton organized Texas' first all-girls marching drum and bugle corps, the Black Battalion (later the Houstonettes and the Tigerettes). The downtown school closed in 1952 and the building became school district offices. In 1955, a new high school built on Irvington Boulevard revived the name and traditions of Sam Houston High. Lyndon B. Johnson, who taught debate and public speaking at Sam Houston in 1930-31, made an education speech here on Nov. 2, 1964, the day before being elected to a full term as U.S. President. Later renamed the Sam Houston Math, Science & Technology Center, this institution has produced thousands of esteemed graduates, military veterans and young citizens of Houston. (2009)

Robert E. Lee High School

Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 1809 Market Street, Baytown

RTHL Marker Text: After a population increase due to the discovery of oil in 1908, local residents realized the need for permanent school facilities and formed the Goose Creek Independent School District in 1919, encompassing the cities of Goose Creek, Pelly, and Baytown and the Wooster community.

Prominent Houston architect Harry D. Payne designed a new school, which opened in fall 1928. The Art Deco-style building with classical elements is concrete-framed with a stucco veneer on a concrete foundation. Notable features include glazed terra cotta roof tiles, brick trimmed niches with urns, and classical finials.

Robert E. Lee High School, named due to the confederate general's popularity in the area, served as a senior high school for the entire district. Sited between Goose Creek-Baytown highway (now market street) and the Dayton-Goose Creek Railroad (now Union Pacific), the school was centrally located in the tri-cities, allowing it to unite them and become the heart of the area.

As a stated purpose of the school was to become the center of all community activities, various organizations and churches were allowed to use its facilities, and the auditorium became a popular venue for civic events. Another purpose was adult education; from 1934 to 1951, Lee Junior College held classes at night on the high school campus. Disaster struck on April 29, 1987, when a fire, later determined to be arson, engulfed the main building. Alumni and citizens insisted on restoration of the building to its original appearance. From the beginning, Robert E. Lee High School students have won numerous honors in both academics and athletics. Over the years, the school has expanded and modernized to consistently meet the highest standards and remain a first-class high school.

Wooster Common School No. 38 (Replacement)
Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 5117 North Main, Baytown

Marker Text: In 1891, Quincy Adams Wooster visited Texas from Iowa. He was so impressed with this area that he sold his farm and moved his family here. With his business partner, Willard D. Crow, Wooster bought thousands of acres along Scott's Bay. He had the town of Wooster surveyed and platted on January 20, 1893. During World War II, the population increased greatly due to the nearby Humble Oil & Refining Company and the Humble docks. In the 1950s, the City of Baytown annexed Wooster, then still a rural community. Hurricanes Carla (1961) and Alicia (1983), extensive subsidence, and industrial-use property acquisitions have removed most historic resources from Wooster.

The Wooster schoolhouse was built in 1894 on First Street near Market Street Road (later Arbor Street and Bayway Drive) on land donated by Junius Brown. It was designed by Q. A. Wooster and built by Wooster, Brown, and their sons and sons-in-law. Cypress was chosen for the frame and exterior siding and Longleaf Heart Pine for the interior. On April 9, 1895, Harris County Commissioners Court was petitioned to create School District No. 38, to include Scott's Bay and Lynchburg. Q. A. Wooster, Junius Brown, and John Wesley Crow were elected the first trustees. Serving seven grades, the school became part of the Goose Creek School District in 1919. The schoolhouse closed and reopened several times, and was moved in 1937 to the new David G. Burnet Elementary School and used as a classroom, cafeteria, and music room. The building was also used for Sunday School lessons and as a voting place. It closed as a school facility for the last time in 1980 and was moved in 1986 to Republic of Texas Plaza for use as a museum. As the oldest known existing one-room frame schoolhouse in Harris County, it continues to have educational and historical value to the community. (1990, 2012)

Wooster School
Harris Co Comm Pct 02, 5117 North Main, Baytown

Marker Text: Constructed in 1895-96 by Quincy Adams Wooster and Junius Brown, this building originally served as a schoolhouse and community gathering place for the Wooster community. It became a part of the Goose Creek School System in 1919. The structure was moved from its original site in 1937 to an adjacent lot on the same property and used as a classroom, cafeteria, and music room. It was closed as an educational facility for a final time in 1980. The building was acquired in 1986 by the Bay Area Heritage Society and moved here for use as a museum. (1990)