

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Formreceived JAN 14 1985  
date enteredSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name Chappell Hill MRA

historic Historic Resources of Chappell Hill, Texas

and/or common N/A

## 2. Location

Bounded by Washington (N), Church (E),  
street & number Main (W) & Providence (S) sts. (see continuation sheet) N/A not for publication

city, town Chappell Hill N/A vicinity of

state Texas code 048 county Washington code 477

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple resource nomination	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: library

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership (see continuation sheet)

street &amp; number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street &amp; number

city, town Brenham state Texas

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title see continuation sheet has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state



## 7. Description

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☒ good  
☒ fair

☒ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☒ moved date N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Chappell Hill Multiple Resource Nomination is comprised of ~~nine~~ <sup>9</sup> individual structures representing several architectural types and periods, as well as a single historic district featuring both commercial and residential buildings which border on Main Street. One object, the Chappell Hill Female College Bell, is also being nominated in conjunction with a 20th century public school. Additional individual properties consist of residences, a church, and a library building. With the exception of the 1927 brick school building, these structures were all constructed of wood between 1850 and 1911. Also chronicling Chappell Hill's historic and economic development during this period are 33 buildings in the Main Street Historic District, ranging from the 1850 Greek Revival Stagecoach Inn (National Register) to a modest vernacular bungalow adaptation from the 1920s. Commercial buildings are of wood frame and brick with simple detailing, except for a single sandstone structure. Several residences within the multiple resource area evolved structurally and represent two main periods of construction. The relatively small area encompassed by the multiple-resource boundary contains approximately 41 acres. Its borders are delineated on the north by Washington Street, an historic street which no longer exists, Church Street on the east; Main Street on the west; and Providence Street on the south.

### The Natural And Man-Made Character And Appearance Of The Chappell Hill Multiple-Resource Area

The small town of Chappell Hill, with its delightfully rural character, is located near the center of the most highly industrialized and populous part of the state. Situated in the middle of a triangle formed by the three cities of Houston, Waco, and Austin, its center consists of approximately 33 commercial buildings and residences fronting Main Street between F.M. Road 2447 (Chestnut Street) and U.S. Highway 290. A few residences north of F.M. Road 2447 along Main Street are also included. The proposed boundary of the multiple-resource area encompasses approximately eight blocks of the city, and includes virtually the entire historic residential section to the east bounded roughly by Chestnut, Church, and Providence streets.

Streets in the downtown, as well as the adjacent residential area, are laid on a regular grid plan and, with the exception of Cedar Street which makes a jog at the creek, run almost in the cardinal directions. Except for Sycamore Street along the rear of the commercial buildings (on the west side of Main Street between F.M. Road 2447 and Cedar Street), streets within the city generally meet at right angles. The roughly rectangular area encompassed by Chappell Hill's multiple-resource boundary comprises approximately 41 acres and is situated on land elevated some 300 feet above sea level. There is little relief within the town itself, the highest point being 300 feet and the lowest 270 feet.

The surface of the general area around this small farming community is composed of overlapping formations that dip in the direction of the Gulf of Mexico, which is about 100 miles away. Located approximately four miles east of the Brazos River, this region's topography is characterized by rolling to gently rolling and dissected terrain about 20 miles wide. Chappell Hill is situated on the edge of the Gulf Coastal Plain where the upland land gives way to the Brazos River bottom of varying width. The terrain of the eastern county is more or less dissected along this break between the upland and bottomland.



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Numerous stream courses surrounding the town are fringed with large and old deciduous trees and a discontinuous natural levee of sand and silt. During flood periods, streams frequently overflow their banks outside the town and inundate wide areas of bottomland, so that natural knolls are the only land above water. Perhaps for this reason these locations were repeatedly chosen by the Indians as places of habitation.

Geographically located in the southeastern extreme of Washington County, Chappell Hill is part of the Oak Forest and Prairie Vegetation region of Texas, with post oak and blackjack oak predominating. Interspersed with these trees are cottonwood, pecan, elm, live oak, and walnut. Early settlers were not only attracted to Chappell Hill by the rich alluvial bottom of the Brazos River, which is conducive to raising cotton, but also by the readily available cedar timber from which most early homes in the area were constructed. Unfortunately, this great abundance of cedar no longer exists. In addition to the various native deciduous trees lining Main Street and gracing the lawns of Chappell Hill's historic homes, many ornamentals were imported. Large and beautiful magnolias, for example, are to be found throughout the town. Local soils are well adapted to forage production, with pastures predominantly sown in Bermuda, Bahia, Kleingrass, and Bluestem. Winter forage crops include wheat, oats, barley, and rye grass for beef and dairy grazing.

The commercial center of the city, which consists of several blocks along Main Street, is comprised of both a dense grouping of one- and two-story brick and wood-frame vernacular commercial buildings, and of bordering groups of wood and brick residences on the north and south ends. This area is designated the Main Street Historic District.

Although several of the residences and commercial buildings have undergone modification, intrusions within the district are surprisingly minimal. Contributing further to the visual cohesiveness of the Main Street district are the uniform setbacks and lot widths, similarity of construction materials, and the numerous trees and sidewalks lining the relatively wide Main Street. Bordering the district on the west and south, respectively, are vacant lots or open fields, as well as a few modern residences and irreversibly deteriorated small structures built in the late 19th century.

The town's once densely developed and populated residential area east of the commercial center is currently characterized by several vacant lots. It consists of four long blocks whose bordering streets run east-west, and which intersect with Main Street at right angles. These elongated blocks contain a few 19th- and 20th-century residential structures, a single church, a public school, and a library building. Except for a few brick-veneer residences built in recent decades, houses are generally set back from the street and constructed of cedar and pine. Several of the individually nominated residences within this area are situated on their original huge lots, and display lush gardens or retain physical evidence of historic ones. A few of these historic frame houses with large tracts of land maintain a farm-like setting and impart a rural feeling to this part of the community. Several large old trees, such as pecans, sycamores, and live oaks, are still present in many of their original locations near residences. The most common flowering trees in the area are the crepe myrtle and dogwood.



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Vacant lots, which once featured a wide variety of historic residences, were recently filled in the 1960s and 1970s with several stylistically compatible, mid- to later 19th-century residences from the Chappell Hill vicinity, neighboring towns, and surrounding counties. For the most part, they are concentrated in the southern half of the section between Cedar and Providence streets, and some still await appropriate rehabilitation and landscaping. Although little or no new construction has taken place to the east or west of town, sparse and new residential developments have occurred one-half mile beyond the northern edge of the multiple-resource area, and a modern subdivision on the southern end has been in its planning stages for several years. Further south, across U.S. Highway 290, commercial development has produced a few restaurants and gas stations. There is virtually no industrial activity today in the Chappell Hill vicinity, although cotton mills and gins, as well as the commercial "Depot Town", once existed on the south side of the highway near the railroad tracks, and less than one-half mile south of the town's central business district.

General Description Of The Physical Development Of The Multiple Resource Area With Representative Styles

The Chappell Hill multiple-resource area prior to initial settlement was dominated by a dense forest of cedar, pecan, oak, and various other trees. Native Indians present in the area were the Akokisa and related tribes, whose dwellings were probably some type of impermanent structure such as bear-skin tents.

Several early steam-powered sawmills on neighboring creeks, such as the Jackson Sawmill and the mill on Tunstall Branch, quickly provided the means to process the abundant cedar to build homes in the 1840s and 1850s. One of the best examples of these, the Isaac Applewhite House (#39), has survived to display the early methods of construction and use of native materials. It was constructed in 1852 by a Methodist minister and owner of a steam sawmill, Isaac Applewhite.

The earliest dwellings in the multiple-resource area were simple wood-frame rectangular houses and commercial buildings. At least two stores were operating near the intersection of Main and Chestnut streets prior to the sale of town lots in the fall of 1849. The first house in Chappell Hill was reportedly constructed by Jacob Haller on Main Street of cut cedar logs, and reportedly measured 16 feet square. Haller supposedly started selling goods out of the same house in which he lived.

As settlement and prosperity progressed, one- and two-story, mid-century building emerged in the classically inspired Greek Revival style. Chestnut Street and the streets adjacent to it were lined with homes of prominent early Chappell Hill educators, religious leaders, businessmen, and wealthy farmers. Characteristic of the earliest early house form were a wide central hallway running the length of the structure, rooms arranged on each side, end chimneys, and a projecting portico or porch. Several of the town's wealthiest citizens built large, two-story Greek Revival dwellings with pedimented porticoes and exquisitely detailed interiors. Unfortunately, with the exception of the Stagecoach Inn (#5, National Register) and the W. W. Browning House (National Register)



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which is outside the multiple-resource area, most do not survive. The Greek Revival Stage-coach Inn, with its low-pitched hipped roof, handsome Greek-key frieze, and three-bay single-story entrance porch, was reminiscent of English, Georgian or American architecture. A majority of 19th-century dwellings featured detached kitchens and cisterns. A turn-of-the-century historic photograph with a panoramic view of Chappell Hill shows of these early residences (photo #1).

Later, many structures evolved from a central-hall or dog-trot plan to a more popular turn-of-the-century late Victorian form. One such example, the Sterling Smith House (#37), is unique within the multiple-resource area, for it is the only surviving residence featuring modified Queen Anne detailing added to the original, basic form. Built by Marcus P. Munyan, one of the earliest Chappell Hill lumberman and builders, the J. R. Routt House (#38) was extended outward from a small rectangular structure. Late 19th-century additions by prolific local contractor J. W. Heartfield included a fanciful "gingerbread" wrap-around porch with spindles and several new rooms. The overall arrangement, interior plan, and late-Victorian detailing of many local residences reflect a vernacular treatment of the type and style, which might have been obtained from a builder's guide. Additional dwellings representing basically simple forms that were embellished after construction with fanciful late-Victorian details include the Haller (#4), Permelia Haynie (#3), and Isaac Applewhite (#39) houses. Both the Haynie and Haller houses contain chamfered bays and front galleries supported by turned columns with ornately carved brackets. The interior of the Haller House features a wide central hallway enhanced with an elaborate archway with cut-out scroll patterns.

Early commercial development on Main Street, in the 1850s, kept full pace with that in the adjacent residential neighborhood. With the exception of the original beams and support system of Buster's Drug Store, no early commercial buildings from this period still exist. Now a garage (#31), this drug store was reportedly one of the earliest buildings put up on Main Street, and its front remained intact as late as the 1930s.

From 1850 to the end of the century the commercial center at the intersection of two major roads continued to develop into a downtown. Relatively small wood-frame commercial buildings with metal or wooden-shingle gabled roofs disguised by wooden false fronts, exhibited a wide variety of stepped features. Prior to the first decade of the 20th century, most of these vernacular buildings, some of which exhibited stepped features (#25, #27) or angular forms (#25), lined the east side of Main Street. With the exception of emblems or identifying signs, these false fronts are plain and embellished with simple moldings. Prior to the Hurricane of 1900, the wooden false fronts, as well as brick cornices, of these buildings were taller with more varied stepped features. The wide gable end of another early wooden building, Lesser's Store (#8), is not obscured by a false front, but faces the street.

Masonry commercial buildings constructed during the second half of the 19th century were modest in scale, usually containing double French doors and commonly displaying double ornamental details of a simple sort, such as corbeled brick cornices. The decorative cornice of the Reinstein Store (#10) accents an otherwise straight-forward and handsome design, and illustrates a local desire for character.



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A few early-20th-century commercial buildings, including the Farmers State Bank (#9), Henry Schaer Store (#30) and the W. E. Schaer Store (#28), incorporated cast-iron support columns and pilasters at the first level. The 1865 J. P. Perkins Drug Store (#13), one of Chappell Hill's oldest commercial establishments, features an unusual early use of cast-iron ornamentation. Both its front and rear double entrances contain stylized, scroll, cast-iron lintels overhead (photo #33). Generally, early 20th-century commercial buildings are larger in scale than their 19th-century counterparts. Large glass panels are featured at the storefronts of several of these (#9, #12, and #14).

The physical appearance of the multiple-resource area was extensively changed between 1920 and 1940. Sidewalks, as well as Main Street, were paved for the first time, the regional distribution of electricity brought large power lines and poles into the community, and the automobile made its appearance. The Routt Ford Company was established, as well as a gasoline station on a downtown corner. During this period a commodious "modern" brick public school building was built on the southern edge of the multiple-resource boundary. The finest residences constructed were Colonial Revival in style with well-detailed interiors. Two of these, the J. J. Shaver House (#19) and the Toland Hotel (#24) were built by J. B. and J. W. Heartfield. The Shaver House reflects classical influence in its exterior and interior detailing. Of particular interest are the carved archway with pillars between the living room and entrance hall, the interior moldings with corner bull's-eye, and the finely carved stairway. In the 1920s and 1930s, a few bungalows made their appearance in the residential area.

Since 1940 there has been relatively little development in the multiple-resource area. Some existing buildings have been enlarged or renovated, however, and a few ranch houses have made their appearance. In the 1960s and 1970s, a number of residential vacant lots were filled with several stylistically compatible (largely vernacular Greek Revival) mid- to late-19th-century houses moved in from the general vicinity, neighboring towns, and from surrounding counties. These are not being considered here for National Register listing. For the most part, they are concentrated in the southern half of the residential section between Cedar and Providence streets. The two-story Greek Revival Ehlinger House, with pedimented portico and interior central hall, was moved from Ellinger, Fayette County, Texas, to Cedar Street in 1978. It is of note as the home of Charles Ehlinger, founder of the town of that name (but with different spelling).

Within the last two years, a number of commercial buildings in the downtown area have had a facelifting as part of a continuing revitalization program supported by the Chappell Hill Historical Society. Several historic houses have also been rehabilitated and refurbished in recent years.

Survey Method

In the fall of 1981, the Chappell Hill Historical Society entered into a contract with the Architecture Department of Texas A&M University to conduct a comprehensive survey of cultural resources in the Chappell Hill community. The survey (upon which this nomination is based) was headed by chairman of the department Professor G. Woodcock, and was conducted by graduate research assistant Sandra McIlwain.



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Every structure within the roughly eight-block survey area, the town proper, was inventoried and an in-depth study of all significant cultural, architectural, and historic resources conducted with individual eligibility as the main interest. This inventory was partial, however, since it did not include a comprehensive archeological survey of the area. In the 1950s, limited archeological excavations occurred and a few prehistoric sites, usually shell middens, were identified in the surrounding rural area outside the multiple-resource boundary. More recently, several small prehistoric sites located in an area of natural knolls near creek bottoms have been investigated by the University of Texas at Austin. During the fall of 1978, the only historic archeological site to be identified within the multiple-resource area (41WT15, located on the property of the Stagecoach Inn) (National Register, 1976), was excavated by a privately funded professional archeologist, Gerald K. Humphrey. Further exploration of the remains of this site, which was originally the main kitchen area of the inn, yielded important information concerning the construction and plan of the actual kitchen structure. Other properties within the multiple-resource area also demonstrate potential for historical archeological research.

Throughout the course of the survey, McIlwain talked to local residents and was greatly assisted by local historians Judy and Nath Winfield in the compilation of pertinent historical data and information from deed records. Invaluable assistance in documenting the village and its buildings was also rendered by Mrs. Milly Schaer and Sarah Brown, both of Chappell Hill, whose untiring efforts made the nomination possible. As fieldwork progressed, careful inspection of the entire multiple-resource area was conducted, and tentative evaluations were made by McIlwain of all the buildings to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the National Register. A total of nine individual properties have been selected, and the boundaries of an historic district proposed (herein).

In the fall of 1983, the Historical Society of Chappell Hill contracted with Barbara Nagel to conduct more extensive primary research and prepare a draft of the final National Register Nomination for the proposed multiple-resource area. Throughout this second phase of the project, more intensive historical research, architectural analysis, and personal interviews were conducted.



## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) (medicine)

**Specific dates**      see below      **Builder/Architect**      N/A

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The small town of Chappell Hill, Texas, contains many historic and architectural resources (including an historic district) which depict the development of this mid-19th-century rural community, economically influenced by agriculture. Several vernacular commercial businesses, houses, civic buildings, and churches are highly illustrative of the periods during which they were built, and are still used for their original purposes. Although not the finest examples of high-style architecture, they are typical of the wide variety of styles and tastes once popular in the Chappell Hill community. Those resources which evolved structurally over time also impart perspective to historic architectural preferences. Strategically located near the Brazos River and on a main travel route to Washington-on-the-Brazos, Chappell Hill has been recognized by eminent historians as an important educational and cultural center of early Washington County. Only Chappell Hill and Burton, a post-Civil War town located in the west part of Washington County, have survived as viable towns in this long-settled part of Stephen F. Austin's Colony.

### Historical Outline and Representative Structures

Chappell Hill was named for Robert Wooding Chappell who came to Texas with his family in 1838. Situated in the southeastern part of Washington County, the village is in a league of land originally granted to William Munson by the Mexican government. Robert Chappell, a former resident of Tennessee, who established a cotton plantation near the original town site, is credited with killing the last buffalo in Washington County in 1850. When civilization threatened his hunting grounds he simply took off for more remote places and eventually settled in Milam County, Texas, where he died.

Chappell's granddaughter, Mary Hargrove Haller, wife of Jacob Haller, carried forth the family tradition in the community. As one of the few women in Texas history known to be directly responsible for the founding and naming of a settlement, Mary initiated large-scale settlement of the town proper. On February 2, 1847, she purchased a block of 100 acres of land. Prior to the public sale of these lots, which began in 1849, the town tract was surveyed and subdivided into blocks, streets, and alleys, and was laid off in a regular grid pattern. This area became Chappell Hill proper, which was enlarged when incorporated in 1856.

A post office was established in November of 1847, with Jacob Haller appointed its first postmaster. The Deed Records of Washington County verify that there were at least two stores operating near the intersection of Main and Chestnut streets in Chappell Hill before the sale of lots in the fall of 1849. One store was owned by a Methodist minister and entrepreneur, Lorenzo D. Bragg, and the other by Terrell A. Jackson and John C. Wallis. The first house in Chappell Hill was reportedly constructed by Jacob Haller on Main Street of cut cedar logs and measured 16 feet square. Haller reported started selling goods from the house in which he lived.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheets)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property (see site continuation sheet)

Quadrangle name Chappell Hill, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References (see site continuation sheet)

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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(see continuation sheet)

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See continuation sheets)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Nagel (with Peter Flagg Maxson, Texas Historical Commission)

organization

date January 1984

street & number 213 W. 41st Street

telephone (512) 453-8873

city or town Austin

state Texas

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Lurtia J. J. J.*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 17 Dec. 1984

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*See Continuation Sheet for Listing*  
Keeper of the National Register

date

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



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An abundance of local cedar and hardwood provided lumber for homes, barns, and other buildings. The wood could be easily worked by the many sawmills operating in the area. The first mills were sash sawmills operated by water power, as early as 1840. By 1848, a steamdriven mill was in operation outside the Chappell Hill area. Happily, historic homes have survived to display early methods of construction and the use of native materials. One of the best examples is the Isaac Applewhite House ("House of Cedar"), constructed in 1852 by a Methodist minister who owned a steam sawmill (#39).

Chappell Hill was an agricultural community, with cotton the principal crop. Since the area encompassed some of the richest agricultural land in Texas, it began to draw settlers and colonists from southern states, where the soil fertility was depleting. A few of the educated and prominent settlers who contributed to the expansion of the community include the Chappells, Keesees, McDades, Routts, Haynies, Jacksons, Huberts, and Reavilles. Reflecting the heritage of these early settlers, a plantation system soon emerged with large tracts of workable land owned by a few wealthy planters. By 1860, 18 resident planters of Washington County owned more than \$100,000 in real and personal property. Eight (almost half) of these men, including W. W. Browning, Gabriel Felder, Terrell J. Jackson, John W. Lockhart, R. J. Swearingen, and Joseph Toland, resided in or near Chappell Hill. In July of 1859, Andrew Mitchell Keller, the stonemason who constructed Soule University, identified Chappell Hill in his personal diary as the "wealthiest settlement in Texas."

Most major plantations operated their own cotton gins prior to the Civil War. The fact that public gins were not yet widespread in Washington County made it necessary for some small farms to rely on larger operators for their ginning needs. Some attempts were made to diversify crops, by growing tobacco and rice, but cotton prevailed as the predominant agricultural product. Two of Chappell Hill's most prominent citizens, Dr. John W. Lockhart and Col. William W. Browning, owned plantations approximately one-half mile south of the town proper and outside the multiple-resource area. Dr. Lockhart, a physician and frequent host of Sam Houston, constructed his plantation house in 1850 of native wood on 1,000 acres with the help of slave labor. A large two-story Greek Revival house was built in 1856-1858 by Col. Browning, who at various times was financier and head of the Board of Trustees of Chappell Hill Female College, Soule University, and the Methodist Church. He was also one of the organizers and stockholders of the Washington County Railroad.

The problem of getting the cotton to market was unsatisfactorily met by either hauling it to Houston with oxen that tended to bog down, or by shipping it downstream to Galveston on steamboats prone to accidents. After several enterprising local planters aroused interest in a railroad project, the Washington County Railroad Company was granted a charter on February 2, 1856. Work was begun at Hempstead in 1857 by a company composed of Nathan King, Col. Browning and Chappell Hill planter Col. William M. Sledge. The line reached Chappell Hill in the summer of 1859 and was finished to its western terminus at Brenham a year and a half later. Colonel Sledge, who occupied one of the nominated properties in the multiple-resource area (#40; National Register), mortgaged one-half of his 600-acre cotton crop to finance a railroad bridge across the Brazos River.



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This rail line was purchased by the Houston and Texas Central system in 1869, and pushed through to Austin. Another early mode of transportation in Chappell Hill was the stage-coach. As early as 1852, a stage line operated from Austin to Houston three days a week via Chappell Hill; F. P. Sawyers mail stage ran from Houston to Waco in 1858.

Like many of the early towns in the state, Chappell Hill was a strongly religious community. The Methodist Church, one of the strongest influences in the overall development of the community, had its beginning in numerous camp meetings held at Cedar Creek and various other locations in the 1830s. Reverend Robert Alexander, who arrived in Texas at the beckoning of William B. Travis, was the main organizing force behind the early Methodists and thus responsible for the actual founding of the church in Chappell Hill in 1851. Alexander, who was among several Methodist leaders to live in the Isaac Applewhite House (#39), succeeded Dr. Martin Ruter as the minister responsible for the establishment of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Texas. The 1873 Providence Baptist Church (#22), which still stands in the Main Street Historic District, is successor to the old Providence Church founded in 1842 at old Jacksonville, a small community three miles north of Chappell Hill. A Presbyterian Church was organized in 1859 and a unusual two-story Greek Revival building was erected on the west side of Main Street. This was sold to the Chappell Hill Female College and eventually moved in 1886, to the campus where it served as the Music Hall. During the late 1880s a large number of Polish Catholics, who had moved into the area south of the multiple-resource area, organized St. Stanislaus Parish and constructed a church building in 1889; that congregation survives, but its early buildings do not.

As agricultural operations flourished in the 1850s and 1860s, Chappell Hill was rising into prominence as a great center of Methodism and education in Texas. The fine schools established in the early 1850s, and general preference for the Methodist faith, became a great attraction for many of the earlier settlers. For the most part, they had been well-educated in southern states and wanted to provide future generations with the benefit of a proper education. Many of the early wealthy planters and prominent preachers were Methodist and were instrumental in the establishment of two schools, as well as a strong Methodist Church (1851). The town's original Methodist building was destroyed in the Great Storm of 1900. The present Carpenter Gothic structure was completed in 1901 by Henry C. Brandt, a local cabinetmaker (#41).

Chappell Hill Male and Female Institute was organized in 1852. In the same year, it was reorganized and its name changed to Chappell Hill College. Soule University for boys was chartered on February 2, 1856, and constructed on land donated by Dr. R. J. Swearingen. At this time the male students moved to their new location. The female contingency of the Chappell Hill College continued to operate as the Chappell Hill Female College until 1912. The tower (#42) is the only remaining vestige of the third two-story 1873 College Building (built to replace a former structure destroyed by fire), and is being nominated in conjunction with the 20th-century Chappell Hill Public School, which now occupies the historic site of the college.



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Soule University, named in honor of Bishop Joshua Soule of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was an imposing three-story structure built of local sandstone and measuring 56 by 84 feet. The University's Department of Medicine became the pilot medical project for the entire state, and also the basis and foundation for the later Texas Medical College and Hospital, now the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. The Civil War had an adverse effect on Soule University, as the call for troops depleted the number of able men that were capable of attending school. The university was converted to a military hospital by the Confederate government shortly after secession. Despite sporadic attempts at revival after the war, little success was achieved, and in 1873 Soule University was merged with Georgetown's Southwestern University. Soule continued in operation as a college of Southwestern until 1889. The building was torn down in 1911.

The late 1840s and 1850s witnessed a large influx of people to the Chappell Hill vicinity due, in part, to the fertile lands, and also to the reputation of the town as a law-abiding and civilized educational center. Incorporation in 1856 resulted in a growth spurt which continued up to the yellow fever epidemic of 1867. The population peaked first during the boom years before the Civil War, when it reached 600. Several stylish one- and two-story residences were built by wealthy landowners and the town's enterprising businessmen on both Main Street and in the adjacent residential neighborhood. Perhaps the most ambitious of these which still remains is the two-story Greek Revival Stagecoach Inn, constructed in 1850 by the founder of Chappell Hill (#5). Several other residences representing this formative period, most of which are located at the north end of the Main Street Historic District, include the Haller (#4), Permelia Haynie (#3), Julia Booth (#2), Casper Witteborg (#34), and Julius Yanch Houses (#36). Also representing this boom period are two early residences on Chestnut Street which evolved structurally over time--the Sterling Smith House (#37) and the J. R. Routt House (#38).

With the exception of the original beams and support system of Buster's Drug Store, no commercial buildings from this early period exist. Currently transformed into a garage (#31), the drug store was reportedly one of the earliest buildings constructed on Main Street, and remained intact as late as the 1930s. The original structure was built by Marcus P. Munyan and featured a plain false-front gable.

Historic archeological investigations have occurred on the site of Stagecoach Inn (#5) to recover information on which to base a reconstruction of the detached kitchen that initially served the structure. Similar detached outbuildings and cisterns once associated with several early residences within the multiple resource area no longer remain, although their foundations probably exist below the surface of the ground. Current residents of many of these properties have also found historic debris and artifacts. Some large cisterns survive intact beneath the first floors of several commercial buildings on the west side of Main Street, and at the rear entrances of a few houses. Additional archeological excavations within the multiple-resource area would undoubtedly yield considerable historic information and artifacts.

Growth after the Civil War was virtually halted by the yellow fever epidemic of 1867 which decimated the population of Chappell Hill and Washington County. Entire families were wiped out and many others left town permanently. After the Civil War, also, the work force declined so rapidly that farmers in the region had to make major



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changes in their operations. The Washington County Emigration Society was subsequently formed, and agents were dispatched to Germany in search of farm families willing to come to Texas to cultivate the land. Approximately 250 farmers made the journey, and once they were settled, proved thrifty and productive at the task of raising cotton. Problems soon arose, however, when these German settlers wanted to purchase land of their own. Upon realizing they could not purchase land from the wealthy planters, they relocated to farms in the western part of the county. After this, most of the large estates began to be broken up and sold in portions. The era of the totally independent farmers cultivating for family needs was replaced large-scale farming for profit.

Although Chappell Hill's early prosperity and growth were somewhat slowed by the Civil War, the effects of Reconstruction had less of an impact here than in other Texas towns, as is evidenced by the construction of two of Chappell Hill's most substantial commercial buildings, the 1865 J. P. Perkins Drug Store (#13), (which exhibits an early use of metal in its stylized scroll cast-iron lintels) and the 1869 Rock Store, Chappell Hill's only stone commercial building, (#11). An active town council executed many physical improvements within the town, and in 1866 commissioned a system of wooden sidewalks downtown and in the residential neighborhood.

A robust economic climate and general prosperity continued from the Reconstruction Period through the 1890s, producing many brick and wood-frame commercial buildings. Structures representing this stage in the town's development are the W. R. Reinstein Store (#10), the Brazos Star (#25), the S. F. Thornhill Building (#27), and Lesser's Store (#8). The clapboard and board-and-batten Brazos Star, formerly the McDermott Saloon, continuously housed a drinking establishment, complete with its original furnishings, until a few years ago. In the 1890s, many residences evolved structurally, receiving popular eclectic Victorian additions. Even more buildings received stylistic facelifts after the Great Storm of 1900.

A second population peak and period of expansion and prosperity began in the early 1900s, before World War I. A favorable business climate resulted in a building boom featuring the employment of cast iron on the storefronts of commercial buildings. Although stylistically simple, representative commercial buildings from this era were larger and mirrored a more sophisticated taste. Several of these business establishments, which were financed by fortunes from agriculture, professions, and industry, include the Campbell's S & B Drug Store (#12), the Henry Schaer Store (#30), the Old Post Office (#14), the Jake Winfield Store (#17), and the W. E. Schaer Store and Masonic Lodge (#28). The town's wealth necessitated the organization of the town's first and only bank, the Farmer's State Bank (#9), constructed in 1907. Also during this period, four noteworthy Colonial Revival buildings were erected by local builder J. W. Heartfield--the Chappell Hill Circulating Library (#45), Toland House Hotel (#24), and King Felder House (#44). These reflect not only the superb craftsmanship of their architect, but also the prosperity of the town's residents in the early 20th century.



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Building construction was slowed somewhat in the 1920s, although one of the first paved roads in Washington County was constructed in Chappell Hill in 1921. The town's reputation as a great educational center was reinforced by the construction in 1927 of the main educational building for the Chappell Hill Independent School District (#43) on the site of the Chappell Hill Female College, which had recently closed. Constructed by Austin contractor, Frank Barron, and designed by prominent Page Brothers Architects of Austin, the brick school building was an architecturally outstanding educational facility in Washington County at the time it was built. In the late 1920s, the Depression was mirrored locally in a decrease in available jobs and population (from 1000 to 500). Debt-ridden residents were forced to demolish or abandon many larger historic homes they could no longer afford.

Since World War II, there has been relatively little development in the multiple-resource area. Prior to the war, in 1936, Chappell Hill's population had reached 1,221, with farming as the principal industry. During this period the town still retained its historic import as a trading and shipping point. In more recent years a few ranch houses have made their appearance in the established residential neighborhood, and two new subdivisions of suburban housing have appeared, about two miles north and south of the present limits of the city. Another widespread trend which has affected the overall physical character of the multiple-resource area since the 1960s is the moving in of a large number of historic residential structures (middle late 19th century) from surrounding towns and rural sections, which have later been rehabilitated. Although they are interspersed throughout the multiple-resource area, most are situated near its southern boundary along Providence Street and are not under consideration for National Register listing.

An increase in population in the past three decades is the direct result of an influx of Houstonians who have purchased properties as weekend homes and permanent residences. Two important changes in the past few years which have occurred in Washington County and been reflected in Chappell Hill's development are the ownership of land by out-of-county absentee residents and the change from row-crop farming to forage production for beef, dairy, and horses. Cotton is a prime example of the change in production agriculture. In 1930, there were 95,300 acres planted in cotton, while in 1981, only 272 acres were planted. Currently the Chappell Hill area and Washington County are gaining national attention as one of the top horse-producing and training centers in the country.

Preservation activities within the multiple-resource area have been initiated and supported by the active Chappell Hill Historical Society, founded in 1964 for the purpose of restoring and preserving the Chappell Hill Library (#45). As work progressed and interest grew, other buildings and items of local historic value were included to save for posterity. A new interest in downtown revitalization has been encouraged within the private and business sectors and many restoration projects have been completed in the city, including historic residences and buildings within the historic district (Rock Store #11, Farmers State Bank #9, Jack Winfield Store #17, Julius Yanch House #36, the Stagecoach Inn #5, and the Jessie Crockett House #20).



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GENERAL DISCUSSION OF AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCEExploration and Settlement

Early settlement of the multiple-resource area represents a pattern typical of many small Washington County pioneer towns which flourished in the mid-19th century. Crucial to the organization and overall economic development of the region, the establishment of the town of Chappell Hill as one of the most important centers of Methodism and education in Texas in the 1850s initiated a period of expansion and increased settlement by pioneers predominantly from southern states. Chappell Hill was recognized early as the cultural and educational center of the area that was Stephen F. Austin's colony. Prior to this and the removal of the Indians, early farmers had established modest homesteads at the outskirts of the present town along New Year's Creek and major travel routes. A site on New Year's Creek near Chappell Hill was also the point of arrival for the first settlers of Austin's colony. Large-scale settlement of the town proper did not occur until the original town site, purchased by Mary Hargrove Haller, was surveyed into lots in 1849. As one of the few women in Texas history directly responsible for the founding and naming of a town, Mary Haller also initiated increased settlement of the outlying region. Her grandfather, Robert Wooding Chappell, reportedly maintained a store and "trading post" at the place where the town was established prior to 1849. In addition, Washington County Deed Records indicate that there were at least two other stores operating in Chappell Hill during this period. (Example of buildings from the early 1850s including the Haller House #4 and the Stagecoach Inn #5).

Architecture

Chappell Hill's overall historical development and early position as the cultural and educational center of the newly established state is reflected in the evolution of wood and brick vernacular architecture in the commercial center, and by both modest and sophisticated houses on Main Street and in the adjacent residential neighborhood. A full range of local architectural types and styles, including Greek Revival, Victorian Eclectic, modified Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival, is well represented by residential, commercial, religious, and civic buildings for the period between 1850 and 1930. Although the vernacularized architecture within the multiple-resource area represents national trends and many popular styles and features in small Texas towns, it reflects a distinctly local character and modest scale. Due both to the Great Storm of 1900 and changes in the architectural styles and tastes, several mid-19th-century houses have evolved structurally and have Victorian-influenced additions. A wide variety of structures, although not representative of the finest examples of high-style architecture, associated with numerous public-spirited and prominent citizens, and serves as tangible evidence of the historic past of this once-thriving community.

A considerable amount of construction, spurred on by a robust economic climate, produced many wooden and fine, substantial, brick, commercial buildings during the 1850s-1870s and the first decades of the 20th century. Reflecting imaginative styling and a fine quality of workmanship, the simple brick detailing employed during these periods is particularly noteworthy. A single commercial structure of sandstone rubble, built in 1869, still exists. With the advent of the railroad in 1859, easily transported, ornamental cast-iron cornices and thin columns placed between wide glass windows at the street level were popularized. Most of Chappell Hill's early 20th-century commercial



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buildings were large in scale and, like their predecessors, reflected the availability of local building materials such as brick. One of the most architecturally ambitious projects during this period was the Chappell Hill Public School Building, constructed in 1927 and designed by Page Brothers Architects.

Architectural development in the residential sections of Main Street and the adjacent neighborhood to the east kept full pace with that in the commercial center during these periods. Superb design and craftsmanship are reflected in eclectic vernacularized versions of nationally popular house forms (as might have been represented in builders' guides and pattern books). The middle to late 19th century, as well as the early 20th, produced an almost infinite variety of architectural features and house forms based on Greek Revival, modified Queen Anne, eclectic Victorian, and Colonial Revival styles. Although few of these exist as documentation of an earlier period, several early 20th-century Colonial Revival residences and brick commercial buildings constructed by J. W. Heartfield survive as important architectural forms. Of particular significance is the fact that a large number of commercial and residential interiors remain intact. In various individually listed buildings and those is the Main Street District.

Medicine

Several prominent physicians residing and practicing in Chappell Hill between 1850 and 1900 pioneered in the field of medicine. One of the most influential, Dr. Richard M. Swearingen, owned several lots on the east side of Main Street in the 1870s. He was a representative in the state legislature in 1853, and was appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes as a commissioner of experts to investigate the yellow-fever epidemic. This project was the beginning of the National Board of Health. In 1881 he was appointed State Health Officer under Governor Hogg.

Another prominent pioneer physician, Dr. William S. Rogers, was appointed Medical Examiner of Washington County after the Civil War, and taught clinical medicine at the Medical Branch of Soule University in Galveston until his death in 1887. It is significant for the study of medicine in Texas that Soule University's Department of Medicine became the pilot medical project for the entire state, and also the basis for the later Texas Medical College and Hospital (now the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston).

(William S. Rogers House #46)

Historic Archeology

Historic archeology investigations have occurred within the multiple-resource area on the site of the Stagecoach Inn (#5) in order to recover information on which to base a reconstruction of the detached kitchen that initially served the 1850 structure. The kitchen remains consisted of hearth, paved brick work area, and an activity area floor. Similar detached outbuildings and cisterns once associated with several early residences no longer remain, although their foundations probably exist below the surface of the ground. Many shards of pottery and other historical debris have been found on several



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properties and vacant lots throughout the years. Historic archeology would likely be an area of significance, eventually, if further work in that area is accomplished; for example, newspaper type has been found on a vacant lot north of Lesser's Store (#8), and rock foundations are visible along what was once Washington Street. Large stone cisterns are currently intact beneath the first floors of a few commercial buildings on the west side of Main Street (Reinstein Store #10, Perkins Drug Store #13, and Rock Store #11), as well as at the rear entrances of several houses (J.R. Routt House #38, Parmelia Haynie House #3, Haller House #4, Isaac Applewhite House #39, J. J. Shaver House #19, and the Baptist Parsonage #23). Vacant lots once associated with 19th-century residences also contain remains of cisterns.  
(Stagecoach Inn #5)

Education

Chappell Hill's early public schools and private educational institutions were focal points in the community and reflected an expanding population and a prosperous economic climate. Both were important statewide as renowned centers of higher learning which graduated many prominent figures. The two most renowned, the Chappell Hill Female College and Soule University, were established in the mid-19th century under the auspices of the Methodist Church. The Chappell Hill Male and Female Institute was organized in 1852. In the same year it was reorganized and its name changed to Chappell Hill College. Soule University for boys was chartered on February 2, 1856, and constructed on donated land bordering the multiple-resource area. The female contingency of the Chappell Hill College continued to operate as the Chappell Female College until 1912. Before it was razed in 1926, the college building housed the Chappell Hill public school. Soule University was an imposing three-story structure built of local sandstone and measuring 56 x 84 feet. The University's Department of Medicine became the pilot medical project for the entire state and also the basis and foundation for the latter Texas Medical College and Hospital, now the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Several other public schools flourished in Chappell Hill at various times. A private school was housed in the Haviescher Residence on Main Street between 1895 and 1904. The most notable 20th-century school was constructed by the Chappell Hill Independent School District in 1927 on the site of the former Female College. Architecturally significant at the time of its construction, the school building was equipped with an auditorium and all the "modern conveniences."

(Chappell Hill Public School #43 and Chappell Hill Female College Bell #42)

Commerce

The Chappell Hill commercial district has continuously served since 1854 as both the economic and governmental center for Chappell Hill and the outlying region. The business district was the heart of a community that supported the agricultural trade and thrived because of it. Chappell Hill's commercial origin was historically based on (cotton) plantation farming which was replaced after the Civil War by small farms and stock raising. Prior to the Civil War, the vigorous cotton trade made Washington County Texas' leading center for cotton production and export. After the arrival of the railroad



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in 1859, and on account of the town's proximity to the Brazos River, Chappell Hill was established as one of the county's chief retail, wholesale, and shipping centers. The resulting "boom" period of development was marked by building expansion, population growth, and commercial property. Various commercial establishments such as groceries, dry goods stores, drug stores, saloons, and hotels lined both sides of Main Street all the way to the depot end of town which catered to railroad employees and their families. Because of its central position between the three cities of Houston, Waco, and Austin, Chappell Hill soon emerged as a market center for an agricultural area devoted chiefly to cotton. Several of the town's businessmen owned and operated ferry businesses and cotton gins and warehouses. In 1936 Chappell Hill was still a thriving farming community which commanded a considerable trade from the surrounding country. By 1950, however, Burton's population had surpassed that of Chappell Hill, and that town became more important as a shipping point and market.

(Commercial buildings in Main Street Historic District.)

Religion

Like many of the early communities of the State, Chappell Hill was a strongly religious community. In the mid-19th century Chappell Hill became one of the most important centers of Methodism in Texas. The Methodist Church, one of the strongest influences in the overall development of the community (especially education), had its beginning in numerous camp meeting held at Cedar Creek and various other locations in the 1830s. Reverend Robert Alexander, who arrived as a missionary in Texas at the beckoning of William B. Travis, was the main organizing force behind the early Methodist. The Texas Conference of the Methodist Church was held in Chappell Hill five times between 1854 and 1878. The 1873 Providence Baptist Church, which still stands on Main Street, is successor to the old Baptist Church founded in 1842 at Jacksonville, A small community three miles north of Chappell Hill.

(Chappell Hill Methodist Episcopal Church #41, Providence Baptist Church #22, and Isaac Applewhite House #39)

Landscape Architecture

Landscape architecture within the multiple-resource area has traditionally reflected citizen's tastes and the overall character and appearance of the town throughout the successive stages of its development. Landscaping in the commercial center, early confined to clusters of trees lining Main Street, soon included informally landscaped yards in front of residences. A few mid-late-19th-century residences at the northern boundary of the district are set on a low rise and exhibit beautifully landscaped lawns with beds of multicolored spring bulbs and ornamental shrubs. One house features a brick retaining wall at the street line. In addition to the various native deciduous trees lining Main Street and gracing the lawns of Chappell Hill's historic homes, ornamentals were imported at one time. Many large, beautiful magnolias, for example, are to be found throughout the town. In the early 1900s, preferences for a more esthetic residential surrounding were reflected in the yards, which were changed from bare, fenced-in tracts to continuous lawns bordering on narrow streets. Several of the individual nominated residence within this area are situated on the original huge lots and display lush formal



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gardens or retain physical evidence of historic ones. A few of these historic wood-frame houses, surrounded by large tracts of land, maintain somewhat of a farm-like setting and impart a rural feeling to this part of the community. Many large old trees, such as pecans, sycamores, and live oaks, are still present in many of their original settings near residences. The most common flowering trees in the area are the crepe myrtle and dogwood. (The William S. Rogers House #46)



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CHOICE OF MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA, HISTORIC DISTRICT AND INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Initially, the multiple-resource study was to include a survey of the historical and architectural resources of an area which had comprised the original "100 acres" of the town's incorporated boundaries as defined in 1856. Both the National Register staff and survey team agreed that the scope of this area was too broad, and reduced it to correspond to the town proper which is approximately an eight-block area. Since there was no incorporated city limit, and since existing important structures were not known or suspected outside this delineated area, no other survey boundary was logical.

With the exception of the northern boundary and the west line of the district, the limit of the multiple-resource area is defined by the rear property lines of structures along an historic street line (Washington Street no longer exists), and incorporates a National Register property on the east and on the west as well as a few residences at the northwest end of the historic district.

Nine individual properties not included within an historic district were selected for nomination on the basis of National Register criteria, following extensive research and architectural evaluation. They represent virtually all of the remaining individual historic structures within this small community. In addition, a single historic district along Main Street, roughly bounded by Chestnut and Providence streets on the north and south, was selected for inclusion in the nomination. Encompassing a small and intact area of consistent historical and architectural development, the district is characterized by both residential and commercial structures with relatively few intrusions. Beyond the district's boundaries, modern residences are interspersed with insignificant structures or irreversibly deteriorated late 19th-century buildings.



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PRESERVATION-RESTORATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE MULTIPLE-RESOURCE AREA

The history of preservation activities within the Chappell Hill community is intricately linked to the establishment of the Chappell Hill Historical Society in 1964. In this year members of the long-inactive Library Association gathered together for the purpose of restoring and preserving the town's deteriorating library building of 1912. The Historical Society was immediately founded to accomplish this task and to help preserve other buildings, records, etc., that were of historical interest or value to the community.

The Chappell Hill Historical Society, which currently boasts 80 members, has played an active part in encouraging the restoration, preservation, and improvement of the town's structures by individual property owners. In addition to its role as the prime mover of restoration efforts in the community, the Historical Society itself has been responsible for the restoration and later occupation of two other important buildings, the 1869 Rock Store and the Chappell Hill Public School (#43) constructed in 1927. The latter currently functions as an historical museum and houses several important personal collections and historical memorabilia.

One of the most noteworthy preservation projects by an individual owner in the nominated area was the restoration of the important Greek Revival Stagecoach Inn, constructed in 1850 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Another National Register property, Waverly, had previously been restored in 1966. Several commercial buildings in the Main Street Historic District, such as the Farmer's State Bank, Brazos Star, Henry Schaer Store, W. F. Schaer Store, and the S. F. Thornhill Building, have also received face lifts within the past few years. A few restoration projects, such as the recently purchased Sterling Smith House, are currently in the planning stages, and the restoration of one structure, the W. S. Rogers House, now is in progress.

The Chappell Hill Historical Society, with local citizens and officials, have actively supported the preservation of their historic architectural features as well as the community's known archeological sites. Local citizens have initiated investigations and excavations of such sites, while the Historical Society played a crucial role in 1981 in preventing the construction of a huge transmission line which would have adversely affected the historical character of the area and/or resulted in the physical destruction of important historical and archeological sites.

Other activities which the Historical Society of Chappell Hill has been involved with include tours of historic homes and special fundraising events. The organization has also been instrumental in creating two folk-art stitchery murals portraying the history of the town.



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SUMMARY OF ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE CHAPPELL HILL VICINITY

The archeology of Washington County and the area surrounding Chappell Hill is poorly known. Several small prehistoric sites have been located approximately three to four miles from the town, but only at the Boggy Creek sites (such as 41WT 12) have large shell middens been found and a defined geographical area thoroughly excavated and investigated. A single historic archeological site (41WT 15) was excavated in the fall of 1976 on the property of the historic Stagecoach Inn (#5). Information was recovered on which to base a reconstruction of the detached kitchen that initially served the 1850 structure. The kitchen remains consisted of a hearth, paved brick work area, and an activity floor of unspecified function to the north along the east side of a building. Additional archeological investigations in the Chappell Hill area would undoubtedly yield considerable important historic and prehistoric information and artifacts.

An archeological survey of the Boggy Creek sites, which are designated Central Midden, South Knoll, and Creek, was initiated in July of 1955 when mention of it was made by Nathan L. Winfield, Jr., of Chappell Hill, Texas. These three midden sites are located a few yards west of Farm Road 1155 approximately four miles north of Chappell Hill. The stream course of Boggy Creek flows into the Brazos River about four miles away. Initial investigation of the area, aided by Dee Ann Suhm (now Story) and Rudolph C. Troike of the University of Texas, Austin, involved locating the main shell midden and testing and locating additional sites in the immediate area.

The information yielded from these sites, particular from the central midden, provided information on the sequence of human occupation along Boggy Creek and gave evidence that Indians had camped in this area. The local Akokisa Indians and related tribes depended upon hunting, fishing, and food gathering for their main subsistence. Throughout the period of occupation, the abundant use of shellfish as a food source is indicated by the large number of fresh-water mussell shells consistently found at some of the sites. Also deer bones point to the fact that this game animal was an important local source of food. Few milling tools were found at the Boggy Creek sites, suggesting that seeds were not commonly utilized. Presumably, a seasonal abundance of natural foods in the Boggy Creek area accounts for the repeated occupations of these sites over a considerable period of time.

Dart points and other artifacts attributable to the Archaic Stage were uncovered, as well as small amounts of pottery representing an transition from the Archaic to the Neo-American Stage. Pottery from the Central Midden appeared to be Goose Creek Plain and Goose Creek Incised. Other Lithic artifacts from the Boggy Creek sites included knives, heavy bifaces, choppers, scrapers, side-scrapers, graters, miscellaneous chipped flint fragments, and handstones.



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Inventory of Recorded Archeological Sites in the Immediate Vicinity of Chappell Hill:

- 41WT15      Historic Anglo-European site excavated by G. K. Humphreys, 1976-1977, on property of 1850 Stagecoach Inn (National Register 1976).  
Original kitchen area was located and the remains explored with reconstruction in mind. Remains excellent.
- 41WT21      Remains of W. W. Browning House.
- 41WT22      New Year's Creek; Late prehistoric open camp. Surveyed 4-27-81. Test pit recommended to determine character and depth.
- 41WT7      New Year's Creek; middle to early Archaic burial site; Surveyed 11-19-71; further testing recommended.
- 41WT8      New Year's Creek; Neo-American; Surveyed 11-19-71. Pottery, arrow points. Pottery may be Goose Creek Plain and some Goose Creek Incised.
- 41WT9      New Year's Creek; Neo-American; Surveyed 11-19-71. Pottery, broken projectile points
- 41WT10      New Year's Creek; Neo-American; Surveyed 11-19-71; Pottery shards and broken projectile points.
- 41WT11      New Year's Creek; more than one occupation; Surveyed 11-19-71. Incised pottery, arrowheads.
- 41WT12      Boggy Creek sites (located approx. 3/4 miles southwest of confluence of New Year and Rocky creeks); 3 middens located on natural knolls; survey and excavation 1955. One knoll (2A) was completely excavated by the Texas Highway Department in the 1930s for dirt to fill county roads.
- 41WT13      New Year's Creek; Neo-American and Archaic shell midden; Surveyed 11-19-71; Pottery, knives.



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Interviews conducted by Barbara Nagel:

Thelma Crockett - November 1983, January, 1984.

Mr. and Mrs. Nath Winfield - January, 1984

Harry Lesser - November, 1983

Bernice Shaver - February, 1984

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Spencer - March, 1984.

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA

#37, PHOTOS 2,3

NAME: John Sterling Smith, Jr., House

DATE: 1855, 1910

ADDRESS: Chestnut Street

BLOCK/LOT: Lot #3 (See Verbal  
Boundary Description)

PRESENT OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Cron  
10807 Pepper Lane  
Houston, Texas 77079

ACREAGE: 1

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

CURRENT USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/764580/3337640

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Physical Condition: Fair

Dates of Alterations: 1910

The original L-shape part of this residence was constructed ca. 1855, while extensive additions and alterations made in 1910 resulted in the present asymmetrical 1½-story plan. The residence, which exhibits modified Queen Anne elements in its design, is constructed in cedar with clapboard siding. The front (north) elevation consists of an encircling porch supported by slightly tapered Doric columns and a projecting bay whose gable end contains a single square window. Rising from the tall hipped roof covered with composition shingles is an octagonal turret with a tent roof and a dormer with a gable roof. The turret contains 2/2 wooden windows in each face. The roof dormer has a pair of similar windows with fish-scale shingles appearing in the gable and pediment above them. A single gable-roof dormer also appears in the roofline at the rear.

There is a single front entry door with a transom above. Current windows, which are all 2/2, wooden, double-hung sash, replaced earlier 6/6 windows after 1910. The original wooden shutters remain and are operable. A projecting bay window is formed on the first floor directly below the turret. Two tall brick chimneys with corbeled caps pierce the roof. One of which is an end chimney, the other an interior chimney.

Noteworthy interior features include the grained pine flooring in the front hall and a simply carved mantelpiece located in the rear east room. At the main entrance is an open-well stairway with a paneled newel carved with scroll designs. The original 1855 structure contained a central hall with a room on each side and a rear ell extension to the east. The plan and entire appearance of the structure was changed drastically in 1910.

The only outbuilding on the property is a rectangular board-and-batten garage of uncertain date constructed with boards salvaged from an old barn demolished earlier on the property.



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**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1800-1899; 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Architecturally, this residence is significant as the only surviving example of this house form in the multiple-resource area and Chappell Hill vicinity. The basic form and asymmetrical arrangement is representative of a widespread phenomenon in residential architecture in Chappell Hill--evolution of the structure from a modified central-hall or dog-trot plan to a more popular turn-of-the-century form. Its overall arrangement, interior plan, and Queen Anne detailing reflect a vernacular treatment of the type and style, as might have been inspired by a builder's guide. The house retains its architectural integrity and has remained virtually unaltered since extensive modification in 1910.

The potential for historic archeological investigation exists on the property. The house's original cistern reportedly lies directly beneath the present kitchen and might yield artifacts and other valuable refuse. In addition, archeological exploration could possibly determine the location and use of outbuildings associated with the small original residence.

The Smith House is also important for its association with John Sterling Smith, Jr., a prominent citizen and influential factor in the economic development of Chappell Hill. He was a dominating force in connection with early 20th-century business and farming activities in the county. His father, John S. Smith, Sr., had developed an extensive area of land, and in 1874 acquired one of the most architecturally outstanding structures in the county, the old Colonel William Sledge homestead (HABS, 1936).

John Sterling Smith, Jr., was born on March 8, 1874, in the Colonel Sledge home three miles east of Chappell Hill; he attended Soule University and Blinn Moore College in Brenham. Besides his extensive farming interests, Mr. Smith engaged in the general mercantile business in Chappell Hill in 1904. In 1907 he was an influential factor in the organization of the Farmer's State Bank of Chappell Hill and was a member of the original Board of Directors. He served as president of the bank in 1912 and 1916. Mr. Smith's success as a prominent cattle raiser and landowner resulted in the enlargement and modification of his modest residence in 1910. When the alterations were completed, the house was considered one of the most attractive residences in Chappell Hill.

Situated on a large lot and low rise near the east end of Chestnut Street, the Smith House was a landmark in the residential neighborhood. There is physical evidence of a garden area with historic plantings to the southeast of the house.

The property remained in the original family from 1873 until 1983, when it was sold to Mr. M. H. Cron of Houston. The current owner plans to restore the residence to its 1910 state.



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**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas

**RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS:** Located in residential section on large lot and situated on a low rise; currently bordered on either side by vacant lots.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

All that lot or parcel of land in the town of Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas, known on the map of said town as Acres Lot #3, more particularly described as commencing on the South side of Chestnut Street at the intersection of Chestnut and Church Streets; thence with the South line of Chestnut Street 185 feet to a point which is the Northeast corner of this lot; thence South 210 feet; thence West 210 feet; thence North 210 feet to Chestnut Street; thence East along the South side of Chestnut Street 210 feet to the Northeast corner of this lot, containing 1 acre in a square form.



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#38, PHOTOS 4, 5

NAME: J. R. Routt House

DATE: Ca. 1853, 1898

ADDRESS: Chestnut Street

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description

PRESENT OWNER: Mrs. Thelma Crockett  
P.O. Box 14  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: 1.173

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

CURRENT USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/764610/3337660

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1867--original part of hall enclosed to form new room;  
original cottage moved to form rear of new house ca. 1900;  
1915, 1930s--rear porches enclosed; 1962--rear carport and  
modern bath added.

This large Victorian residence has an asymmetrical plan due to the numerous late-19th-century additions and structural changes. Although the original part of the house, built by local architect and builder Marcus P. Munyan, cannot be dated conclusively, it is supposed that it was constructed in the 1850s. This seems reasonable since Munyan bought the property in 1853, and adjacent houses which no longer exist were constructed in the early 1850s during the boom years of Chappell Hill. On May 18, 1866, a tract of land described as Munyan's homestead was sold to J. N. Thompsons, the original structure was a small, modest, four-room home of cedar.

After J. R. Routt purchased the small cottage in 1898, it was moved from the front of the lot to the rear and incorporated into the plan of a new and larger Victorian-style cottage. Between 1898 and 1900 large rooms were added, including a dining room, living room, a wide central hall, two large bedrooms, and large porches in the front and rear. The builder during this period was J. W. Heartfield, who built many local homes and commercial buildings around the turn-of-the-century. The two red-brick chimneys with corbeled caps, as well as the encircling front porch with late Victorian gingerbread trim, were added during this period.

The structure's south (front) facade is dominated by two projecting bays and an encircling porch featuring turned posts with knobs, scroll brackets, spindle- and spool-like balusters, and spindles along the porch frieze. The most distinguishing feature of the facade is the west chamfered bay (with clapboard and fish-scale siding) which displays a sunburst pattern and small vergeboard with cut-out patterns in the peak of its gable end. Exterior windows feature window heads with a jigsaw pattern. Composition shingles cover the entire gabled roof, while the encircling front gallery has a standing-seam metal cover in an unusual ogee configuration.



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Interior designs of the ornate mantelpieces, woodwork, and wainscoting in the hall and dining room reflect popular trends in the late 1890s. Ceilings throughout the house measure 11 feet in height, with the exception of the kitchen which is 12 feet. Cedar boards composing the floors of the original room are wide and irregular in size. Other notable features of the interior are wood-paneled double pocket doors, and windows with bull's-eye corner blocks.

Two carved front entrance doors of oak contain transoms, as do all the interior doors in the house. Above the front double window in the living room there is stained glass trim. Throughout the house, except in the kitchen, all windows are extra large with heavy plate glass in both sashes. The kitchen windows contain 6/6 lights; the door knobs and escutcheon key plates throughout the house are of ornamental metal, perhaps copper.

Early 20th-century alterations included the 1915 enclosure of one end of the back porch to accommodate a bathroom, and the enclosure in the 1930s of a latticed porch adjoining the kitchen to form a utility room. In 1962, Thelma R. Crockett, the current owner, added a covered patio or carport and a large bathroom at the rear of the house.

General repairs have been made to the house, which is in excellent condition. Its architectural integrity has not been affected by minor modern additions to the rear. The only outbuilding remaining on the property is a small board-and-batten garage. A cedar log corncrib, which was probably associated with the original structure, was recently torn down by the current owner. A cistern was originally associated with the first small structure.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1800 - 1899

Areas of Significance: Architecture

The Routt House is Chappell Hill's major extant example of a once-popular late Victorian house form featuring a decorative encircling porch with gingerbread presentations of this late-19th-century type were constructed on a large scale in both the central residential section and on Main Street by the town's prominent businessmen and successful farmers. This house is another good example in the residential neighborhood of the structurally evolved residence, which grew from a small central section to a more complex form during the late 19th century. It also reflects a common practice in the Chappell Hill community in the 19th century of moving houses or parts of houses. Due to its location on a low rise at the end of a street, and its close proximity to the similarly sited Sterling Smith House, the Routt House has become a landmark in the residential section. The lawn is informally landscaped and several large native pecan trees remain.

Historically, the property upon which the structure is situated is worthy of archaeological investigation. Buried evidence might well yield information pertaining to the location or outbuildings of the original structure and Munyan's early lumberyard, which was situated on a tract of land (1/7 acre) to the east of the present house. A cistern was also associated historically with the first structure.



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The Routt House is important, not only as the home of Marcus P. Munyon, one of Chappell Hill's earliest architects and builders, but also for its association with a prominent figure in the cotton industry, Jackson Roffe Routt. After attending school in Austin, Routt engaged in a profitable and widely-known cotton warehouse business at Chappell Hill with his partner William D. Crockett. In 1905, he was elected County Commissioner of Precinct No. 2, a position he held for many years. During this term he was instrumental in the promotion of road grading and bridge building. He was also an original stockholder of the bank. His brother, Joseph E., was one of the best-known figures in the ginning business in Washington County, and held a record for continuous service in this industry.

J. R. Routt's eldest daughter, Thelma R. Crockett, acquired the house in 1962 after the death of her parents and currently occupies the home.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas

**RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS:** House is set on a low rise at the end of Chestnut Street near its intersection with Church Street

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

A certain parcel of land lying in and situated in the town of Chappell Hill beginning at an iron pin in the north line of Chestnut Street in the southeast corner of the Mrs. Bessie Routt Thornhill lot; thence with the east line of said lot as fenced N 0°48' E, 324.20 feet to an iron pin and fence corner in the south line of the Harry Lesser tract; thence with said fenceline S 89° 18' E, 160.89 feet to an iron pin and fence corner at the northwest corner of the Toland Estate tract; thence with the west line of said tract as fenced S 1° 43' W, 319.71 feet to an iron pin in the north line of F. M. 1155; thence with said highway line S 89° 03' W, 156.66 feet to the point or place of beginning, containing 1.173 acres of land.



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#39, PHOTO 6

NAME: Isaac Applewhite House

DATE: 1852; ca. 1890

ADDRESS: Church Street

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description

PRESENT OWNER: Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Spencer  
P.O. Box 11  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: 1.5

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

CURRENT USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/764690/3337690

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1949 - 1958; 1959; 1963; 1980

The Applewhite House is one and one-half stories high and was constructed in 1852 of native cedar. Wooden beams used throughout the house are hand hewn and pegged. The plan consists of a central hall with two rooms on each side. The upstairs floor plan includes a wide central hall and one large bedroom on each side. A particularly noteworthy feature of the exterior is the decorative, late-19th-century, Eastlake-influenced front gallery which extends the entire length of the structure. This porch is supported by elaborate turned posts with knobs and modified scroll brackets. Spindles with movable and hand-made spool-like knobs along the porch frieze enhance the gracefulness of the porch. An additional decorative feature of the exterior is the carved vergeboard on the north end of the house.

An oversized dormer with a gable roof and pair of 4/4 windows dominates the roofline on the east front. A brick end-chimney, rising from the gable-roof on the south side of the house, served both the upstairs and downstairs rooms. An additional fireplace is located on the east kitchen wall. Composition shingles cover the roof's original cedar shingles.

Some original 9/6 and 6/6 light, double-hung, sash-type windows have been replaced over the years by similar custom-made modern windows where necessary. Several operable wooden shutters still exist. The paneled entrance contains an early screen door and is surrounded by sidelights and a transom. The simple design of the interior is reflected in the absence of trim around doors or windows, and by the original floors of thick cedar. Several rooms were paneled with modern plywood and beaded wainscoting in 1963.

The original section of the house, constructed in the 1850s, exhibited Greek Revival influence. A kitchen was originally detached from the main house, yet easily reached by by a covered walkway. Later a porch was built across the back of the house and a room and porch constructed, thereby enclosing the space between the kitchen and house. Between



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1889 and 1896, the south side of the house burned. The flooring in the southern rooms, which was rebuilt after the fire, still shows evidence of the devastation. It is probable that the six-foot gallery off the back of the house and the gingerbread front gallery were added during this period.

The next major structural change was made between 1949 and 1958. The wide interior hallway was narrowed to accommodate closets, which were added to the two downstairs south rooms. In 1949 a garage was built near the north end of the kitchen. At this time, also, the rear porch was enclosed for living space, and rear storage rooms were removed. The 1949 garage was constructed of wood from these two rooms. A doorway connecting this rear wing with the main house was replaced by a window. Further modifications to the house were executed by the Spencers, who purchased the property in 1958. They installed an upstairs bathroom at the west end of the hallway and extended the original line of the smaller roof dormer at the rear twenty feet. In 1980 the owners also added a rear screened porch. These changes are nonetheless relatively inconspicuous, and the house is in excellent condition and retains its historic integrity.

Outbuildings on the property include a small board-and-batten chicken house built in the 1940s and two modern portable buildings. A cistern is also located at the northwest corner of the house, adjacent to the modern kitchen. A single-story wood-frame structure and a wooden water tank and windmill originally were located on the rear of the property.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1800-1899

Areas of Significance: Architecture, religion

Architecturally, the Applewhite House is significant as a fine example of local, eclectic, residential design in the second half of the 19th century, and represents the evolution of preferences for architectural styles during this period. Architecturally unique in the Chappell Hill vicinity, this house, with its symmetrical central hall plan, molded cornice with returns, and central entrance with sidelights and transoms, reflects a transition from a vernacular form of the Greek Revival to a modified Victorian style. The front porch trim reflects Eastlake influences. Although several alterations have been made throughout the years to the structure's interior and exterior, the house retains its architectural integrity and historic fabric. The property features several characteristics of its turn-of-the-century landscaping, including an informally landscaped lawn around the house, a garden, and several large pecan trees.

Historic archeological potential exists for the property as regards establishing the presence and utilization of early outbuildings. Fragments of historic debris including china and metal have been found on the property by the current owner. The original cistern, which is still intact but filled in, could possibly yield important historical information.



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Constructed just three years after the sale of lots began in Chappell Hill in 1849, this structure is one of the earliest surviving houses in the historic residential section. Because of its close proximity to the Chappell Hill Female College and its association with early Methodist ministers, the Applewhite House played an important role in the early educational history of the town, functioning as a gathering place for receptions and other social events connected with the college.

The house is particularly significant for its association with several early settlers and religious leaders of the community; they include Isaac Applewhite, Allen Lewis of Galveston, and Robert Alexander. Isaac Applewhite was a minister, lawyer, and teacher whose hobby was carpentry. He utilized native cedar in the construction of his one-and-a-half-story dwelling known early as the "House of Cedar", this timber being readily available prior to the Civil War. Reverend Applewhite, who was widely known and respected as a Methodist-Episcopal lay leader and affiliate of Rutersville College, the first Methodist school in Texas, moved to Chappell Hill from Osyka, Mississippi, in 1852. It is known that Applewhite also owned and operated with his neighbor, F. J. Cooke, a steam sawmill and gristmill in Washington County from 1855 until 1857, when he released his share to Cooke. Applewhite was also an important force in influencing the citizens of Chappell Hill and Washington County to support plans for the construction of its first railroad.

On December 20, 1862, ownership of the house passed to Allen Lewis, who was prominent in the cotton industry in Galveston. Lewis was also a dedicated Methodist, who had taken a very active part in building the new Methodist church in Galveston. In 1877 the house was sold to Robert Alexander, one of the first Methodist missionaries to reach Texas. Reverend Alexander succeeded Dr. Martin Ruter as the minister responsible for the establishment of the Methodist-Episcopal Church in Texas. Alexander and his father-in-law, Reverend David Ayers, were friends of William B. Travis, who sometimes personally assisted the Methodist missionaries in their camp meetings.

Dr. Paul M. Raysor, the son of Peter A. Raysor, who was an important influence in the early civic and industrial development of Chappell Hill, purchased the house in 1889. It was probably during his ownership that the south end of the residence burned and the Eastlake front porch was added. Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Spencer of Houston purchased the house in 1958 as a weekend home. They moved to Chappell Hill permanently in 1964.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A lot of parcel of land in Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas. being all of Acres Lot #8 and the north half of Acres Lot #10 and described as beginning at the corner of Chestnut and Church streets; thence south along the east line of Church Street 241.5 feet; thence east 148.5 feet; thence south 30 feet; thence east 137.5 feet; thence north 271.5 feet to Chestnut Street; thence west along the south line of Chestnut Street 274.7 feet to the place of beginning, containing 1½ acres.



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#41, PHOTOS, 7,8

NAME: Chappell Hill Methodist Episcopal  
Church

DATE: 1901

ADDRESS: Church Street

BLOCK/LOT: (See Verbal Boundary  
Description)

PRESENT OWNER: United Methodist Church  
c/o Mrs. Lilian Smith, Secy.  
P.O. Box 35  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: 1

ORIGINAL USE: Church

CURRENT USE: Church

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, TX

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/764680/3337680

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Physical Condition: Excellent; roof in need of minor repair

Dates of Alterations: New Composition roof installed over wooden one, protective glass positioned over stained-glass windows in 1980s

The Methodist Church is a large Carpenter Gothic structure with pine clapboard siding and a hipped roof. The structure is dominated by two corner towers, each of which displays a pyramidal roof crowned by a finial, and which contains a double wooden entry door. The larger north tower has a louvered belfry with a skirt directly below. Tripartite intersecting tracery windows pierce the large wall areas on three sides. The lancet form is the salient feature of all the stained-glass windows and door entrances. The other single variety of window which occurs is the small circular portal appearing on the west front side of both corner towers, directly above the entrance doors.

The interior is distinguished by its handsome, wooden, decorative detailing and square floor plan. The interior space is totally finished in wood whose dark color contrasts with beaded edges articulate the ceiling. Several small vault-like arches are formed on the interior ceiling above windows where there are exterior gables ends. The wainscoting around the auditorium is also of wood. Further accentuating the interior are two pairs of oversized, pivoting, double doors with carved wooden panels and through which access is gained from the area within the two corner towers. Seating is in semi-circular form, with focus on the pulpit situated in the southeast corner. A Sunday School room extending the entire length of the east wall is separated from the main auditorium by a series of moveable coffered and paneled wooden doors with symmetrically molded trim and bull's-eye corner blocks. The interior of this east room is finished with plaster and dark-stained wooden molding with corner block that frames additional stained-glass windows.

Minimal additions to the structure include a new roof and protective glass covering over fragile stained-glass windows.



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**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Built to replace the original 1853 edifice destroyed in the 1900 Hurrican, this 20th-century Methodist Church has been associated with the beginnings of Methodism in Texas and recognized as a landmark in the Chappell Hill Community since its construction. The first church (and the 1901 structure) was built on land donated by the town's founder, Mary Haller.

The Methodist Church, one of the strongest influences in the overall development of the community (especially education), had its beginning in the numerous camp meetings held at Cedar Creek (approximately one mile north of Chappell Hill) in the 1830s. Reverend Robert Alexander, who arrived as a missionary in Texas at the beckoning of William B. Travis, was the main organizing force behind early Methodism in this community. A prominent citizen of the Republic of Texas, Alexander succeeded Dr. Martin Ruter as the minister responsible for the establishment of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Texas. Cedar Creek declined to be the location, and Methodist Church was moved to Chappell Hill and the first edifice built in the early 1850s. Many trustees of the Chappell Hill Methodist Church were earlier members of the Cedar Creek Church. Reflecting the statewide importance of this Methodist center, the Texas Conference of the Methodist Church was held in Chappell Hill five times between 1854 and 1878.

After the establishment of the church in Chappell Hill in the 1850s, the town soon gained prominence as an early center of Methodism and education. The subsequent establishment of two church-affiliated schools, the Chappell Hill Male and Female Institute in 1850 and Soule University in 1856, provided the impetus for the initial growth and settlement of Chappell Hill and the surrounding region. Now prominent as an early educational and religious center, the town attracted wealthy planters, religious leaders, and educated settlers from southern states.

The architectural style of the 1901 building is characteristic of other Carpenter Gothic Methodist churches in the state. Particularly noteworthy are the interesting applications of decorative wood trim to the interior. Wood for the building was procured from T. A. Mercer's lumberyard in Chappell Hill.

The builder of the structure was Heinrich C. Brandt, a local craftsman, cabinetmaker, and businessman who was born in Germany. He served a four-year apprenticeship to a "Scheiner" (joiner) in Buckeburg, where he received his journeyman's certificate on March 15, 1856. He worked for many years as a cabinetmaker and building contractor in Chappell Hill, and in 1874 he opened a general merchandise store. A few of his carpentry tools are on display at the museum.

The Methodist church is in excellent condition because of a continuing maintenance program and the concern of local citizens. The church is still active and weekly services are held.



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BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Marcum Plelan, History of the Expansion of Methodism in Texas, 1867-1902,  
Dallas, Texas 1937.

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks Files, Texas Historical Commission,  
Austin, Texas.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: (See Attached Sketch Map) - *not included*

A certain lot or parcel of land in Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas, and more fully described as beginning at the intersection of Poplar and Church streets which is the southwest corner of this lot; thence S  $89^{\circ} 00' 55''$ , 138 feet; thence N  $3^{\circ} 20' E$ , 6.40 feet; thence N  $59^{\circ} 46' 55'' E$ , 16.24 feet; thence S  $89^{\circ} 15' 28'' E$ , 37.83 feet; thence N  $2^{\circ} 41' W$ , 125 feet; thence S  $89^{\circ} 20' W$ , 201 feet to the east line of Church Street; thence with the east line of Church Street S  $0^{\circ} 21' E$ , 138 feet to the point of beginning.



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#42/#43, PHOTOS 9,10,11,12,13

NAME: Chappell Hill Public School and Chappell Hill  
Hill Female College Bell

DATE: 1927/1873

ADDRESS: Poplar Street

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description

PRESENT OWNER: Chappell Hill Historical Society  
Mr. Robert Nebel, President  
P.O. Box 211  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: 1.961

CURRENT USE: Museum, educational,  
entertainment/bell

ORIGINAL USE: School/Bell

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/763660/3337380

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1982-aluminum windows replaced wooden sash ones

Designed by Page Bros. Architects and constructed by Austin contractor Frank Barron, the Chappell Hill Public School is a single-story brick structure which once functioned as the local school. The L-shape structure houses large classrooms, a spacious auditorium, and various storage and ancillary services. The backdrop of the stage in the auditorium is still intact. The building is typical of early 20th-century scholastic architecture with a Jacobean flair, including the crenelations around the parapet wall. The projecting front entrance resembles a castle or fortress entry with some Gothic detailing in the masonry work. Stone trim accentuates the north (front) facade at the main entrance in the form of a decorative elliptical archway with molded acanthus leaves and pinnacles atop corner pilasters. Above the archway are three panels containing quatrefoil motifs and an emblem, while the main entrance is bordered by urns resting on plinths. A stone belt course also extends around the perimeter of the building beneath the crenelated parapet wall.

The front entry consists of a multilight double door with transom above. A transomed double door at the rear contains a flat wooden canopy. Brick flat-arch windows are set in groups of five, and only recently have aluminum units replaced the original 6/6 wooden-sash windows. The ceilings of the interior and entrance way are of pressed metal with geometric and floral motifs bordered by egg-and-dart moldings.

A single wood-frame, board-and-batten outbuilding, once used as a storage room and pump house, exists on the property. Located next to the concrete sidewalk is a wooden sign with posts identifying the museum. Also located in front of the building is a concrete marker erected by the State of Texas in 1936, commemorating the site of the Chappell Hill Female College.

The Old Chappell Hill Female College Bell is situated on the site of the Chappell Hill Community Center and Museum, and is located on the original site of this historic college. The College Bell, which was cast in 1873 by the firm of McNeely and Kimberly



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Troy, New York, was housed in the cupola atop the large-scale, two-story, Greek Revival building which replaced an earlier structure destroyed by fire in the early 1870s. Mounted on its original works, the bell is in good repair. The lighted display case is constructed of wood and glass and contains a wooden-shingled pyramidal roof. The base upon which it rests was constructed of stones salvaged from the ruins of Soule University. A few feet west of the bell stands an official Texas Historic Marker.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Education; architecture

This building was constructed by a prominent architect in 1927 as the main educational building for the Chappell Hill Independent School District. Harvey L. Page, a partner in the firm of Page Brothers, moved his office from Washington, D.C., to San Antonio at the turn-of-the-century. Many domestic structures and important public buildings in Washington, D.C., and the Southwest are attributed to him.

In terms of education, this building is significant as the first new school built in the 20th century to accommodate students in the Chappell Hill Independent School District. Through its architecture, it reflects an up-to-date awareness of new approaches to public education in the fields of administration, instruction, and facilities. When built, it was a manifestation of "modern" or early 20th-century, educational architecture in Chappell Hill, which was dominated by 19th-century residences. The school was built on the original site of the Chappell Hill Female College, which operated from 1854 to 1912. The cornerstone for the brick building was laid on September 6, 1927, with ceremonies conducted by the Masons of Chappell Hill and Brenham.

The contract for the erection of the new school building was awarded to a well-known Austin contractor and brickmason, Frank R. Barron, whose bid was slightly in excess of \$30,000. Barron was also commissioned by the Brenham Independent School District at this time to build a "splendid" new high school. Although larger in scale than the school building at Chappell Hill, the Brenham High School was similar in style and detailing. These two public school buildings, which were equipped with all the modern conveniences and furnishings, were architecturally outstanding in Washington County at the time of their construction. It is significant, too, that a town the size of Chappell Hill, once a pioneer in education in the state, would construct such a commodious educational institution during this period. The erection of the building signified the educational progress of the Chappell Hill community in the early 20th century.

The 1927 educational facility continued in use as a school until 1966. The following year the building was leased to the Chappell Hill Historical Society. On December 8, 1976, the Society succeeded in procuring ownership of the school building. The old school currently functions as the town's community center and museum and exhibits documents, photographs, and other memorabilia depicting the historical development of Chappell Hill.



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The potential for historic archeological investigation exists on the site of the school building, which was previously the location of the Chappell Hill Female College's main building. Two other main buildings, one of which was destroyed by fire, were also in existence here. Archeological exploration would undoubtedly yield information about these buildings and verify the location of ancillary structures.

The College Bell, which is being nominated as an historic object, is the only remaining relic from the 1872 main building of the Chappell Hill Female College. Around 1943 the bell was rescued from a World War II Scrap Drive by Chappell Hill residents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schaer. Mr. Louie Winfield promptly built a frame for the bell and displayed it in the lobby of the Farmer's State Bank. In the 1960s the lighted case was moved to a vacant lot between Lesser's Store and the bank. When the bank built an annex on this lot in 1974, the bell was removed to its present location.

The old College Bell, the symbol of a leading 19th-century educational institution which pioneered in higher learning in Texas, is significant to the Chappell Hill community and the state.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Austin American-Statesman, February 29, 1952 (Obituary-Frank Barron).

Brenham Banner-Press, July 7, 1927.

Brenham Banner-Press, September 7, 1927.

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: Situated on large tract next to residential area and southwest of the Methodist Church. Located at the end of Church Street. Original site of Chappell Hill Female College

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

All of that certain tract or parcel of land lying in and being in Washington County, part of Wm. Munson league, A-90 beginning at an iron bar set at the intersection of the north line of Providence Street with the east line of Haller Street for the southwest corner of the original tract called 4 acres; thence along the east line of Haller Street for the west line of this tract N 0° 03' 40" E, 218.00 feet to an iron bar and N 45° 31' 19" E, 21.04 feet to an iron bar set on said street line at its present intersection with south line of Poplar Street being the northwest exterior corner of this tract; thence along a portion of the north line of said original tract being along the south side of Poplar Street and along a line being used for a south line of the United Methodist Church of Chappell Hill lot S 89° 00' 55" E, 347.89 feet to an iron bar set in the north deed line of the original tract called 4 acres and under an old fence for an interior corner; thence along the old fence N 3° 20' E, 6.40 feet to fence line angle N 59° 46' 55" E, 16.24 feet to a fence line and a south deed line of said Cegelski tract for a north line of this tract S 85° 28' 39" E, 242.63 feet to an iron bar set at a fence corner post found for the northeast corner of said original tract; thence along a portion of the



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fenced west line of said Cegelski tract being along a portion of fenced east line of said original tract called 4 acres for the east line of this tract S  $0^{\circ} 12' 40''$  W. 229.31 feet to an iron bar set at a fence corner in the southeast corner of this tract; thence along fenced line for a south line of this tract N  $87^{\circ} 41' 22''$  W, 265 feet to an iron bar set near a fence corner post; thence along a portion of a fence line S  $2^{\circ} 18' 38''$  W, 17 feet to an iron bar set at a corner or turn of the north line of Providence Street; thence along the north line of Providence Street N  $87^{\circ} 57' 43''$  W, 391.12 feet to place of beginning, containing 3.559 acres.

Washington County, Texas, Deed Book 350, page 751; 8 December 1976.

Less the Following Portion Sold:

Beginning at an iron bar and fence corner post at the southeast corner of said original 3.559 acres of which this tract is a part being the southeast corner of this tract; thence along the fenced line N  $87^{\circ} 41' 22''$  W, 265.00 feet to an iron bar set near a fence corner post being an interior corner of said original tract and of this tract; thence along a portion of the west line of the Simpson tract S  $2^{\circ} 18' 38''$  W, 17.00 feet to an iron bar set on said line for an exterior corner of this tract and of said original tract, being at the corner of turn of the north line of Providence Street; thence along the north line of said Providence Street N  $87^{\circ} 57' 43''$  W, 30.00 feet to an iron bar set on said street line for the southwest corner of this tract; thence leaving said street and along a line severing said original tract N  $0^{\circ} 31' 23''$  E, 239.61 feet to an iron bar at an interior corner of said original tract and an exterior corner of the United Methodist Church of Chappell Hill lot being under an old fence; thence along said old fence as follows: N  $3^{\circ} 20'$  E, 6.40 feet to a fence line angle N  $59^{\circ} 46' 55''$  E. 16.24 feet to a fence line angle and S  $89^{\circ} 15' 28''$  E, 37.83 feet to an iron bar at the base of a fence corner of said Cedelski 7.191 acre tract, being the most eastern southeast corner of said church lot; thence along an old fence and a south deed line of said Cegelski tract S  $85^{\circ} 28' 39''$  E, 242.63 feet to an iron bar at a fence corner post for the northeast corner of this tract and of said original tract being an interior corner of said Cegelski tract; thence along a portion of the fenced west line of said Cegelski tract S  $0^{\circ} 12' 40''$  W, 229.31 feet to the place of beginning and containing 1.598 acres of land.

Washington County, Texas, Deed Book 355, page 583, 11 July 1977.

Thus leaving the Chappell Hill Historical Society Community Center and Museum tract 1.961 acres of land.



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#44, PHOTOS 14,15

NAME: E. King Felder House

DATE: 1910

ADDRESS: Haller Street

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description

PRESENT OWNER: Mr. Roger Dresch  
P.O. Box 175  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: Approximately 1

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

CURRENT USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/763560/3337400

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Physical Condition: Good

Dates of Alterations: 1952 (composition roof)

Built by J. W. Heartfield for \$5,000, the King Felder House is a one-and-a-half story transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival frame residence with a combination roof covered with composition shingles. The front of the house is dominated by an attached encircling porch supported by slightly tapered Doric columns and a projecting gabled bay on the north end. This chamfered bay contains two scroll brackets at the eaves and a plain pediment with clapboard siding above. Rising from the main hipped part of the roof are two large dormers, each of which contains a single-sash window and hipped roof. Simple wooden surrounds face all windows. Oversized side lights and transom belong to the single entry that opens onto the main hallway. The modern transomed entrance door displays a fanciful diamond pattern. Windows in the front bay also contain leaded glass. Original 6/6-light, double-hung, wooden windows have recently been replaced by single-sash wood windows.

The interior of the structure is distinguished by the decoratively carved wooden features of the main hallway, which extends through the width of the house. Access to the stairway is through an elaborate wooden archway carved with scrolls, garlands, and with bead and real borders. The arch is supported by elaborately carved Corinthian columns resting on coffered paneled pedestals. The single outbuilding on the property is a small, modern clapboard garage with a gable roof constructed in 1956/1957, which should not be considered contributing. The exterior of the house has remained virtually unaltered, as evidenced by an historic photograph taken shortly after construction was completed.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture



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Architecturally, the King Felder residence is significant for its elaborately carved interior wooden detailing and because it is a good representation of an early 20th-century transitional house form. Only one other comparable example of this form, although not as refined, exists in Chappell Hill. Constructed by J. W. Heartfield in 1910, the present house is notable for its sound construction and fine workmanship. The original owner of the home also owned a large lumber yard and had access to some of the finest lumber in the area. All the construction is pegged, with square nails employed as necessary. The integrity of the structure's setting on its original landscaped large lot is rare. Only the fence has changed, from wooden picket to chain link. Large trees on the lot have been retained, while a new hedge lining the fence has been planted.

The residence is locally significant, too, for its association with the Felders, an early and prominent Chappell Hill family. Both Mattie Cooke and King Felder were descended from prominent pioneer families who came to the Chappell Hill area. J. H. Cocke, grandfather of Mattie Cocke, served as Customs Collector for the Republic of Texas before moving to Chappell Hill. King Felder was descended from the Chappell Hill family of prominent clergyman Jacob Matthews. After 1910 Edgar King Felder (1871 - 1952), together with his brother and father, Rufus King Felder, engaged in the hardware and lumber business under the name R. K. Felder and Sons. Lumber for some of the town's finest early 20th-century residences was furnished by their company. Rufus King Felder had managed the plantation of his mother, Mrs. Catherine Felder, in South Carolina until 1871, when he moved to Chappell Hill and purchased a tract of land on the Stevens League. The Felder family gradually amassed large land holdings as a result of their profitable agricultural, stockraising, and shipping endeavors. King Felder married Mattie Cocke in 1903 and built this fine house as their new residence. Two years after King Felder's death in 1952, his son Edgar sold the house to George Alexander, a rice farmer. Roger Dresch, the current owner, acquired the property in 1976. The house remains today as physical evidence of the prosperity Chappell Hill enjoyed at the turn-of-the-century.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Correspondence from Edgar Felder, son of E. King Felder, January 1984.

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

**RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS:** Residential neighborhood; situated on large corner lot between two streets.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

All that certain lot or parcel of land situated in the town of Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas, being described as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of the lot conveyed by M. W. Baker and Wife to Soule University; thence west 349 feet to the line of a lot formerly owned by W. A. Dorsitt; thence south with said line 235 feet to a street; thence east with the north line of said street 349 feet to corner; thence north 235 feet to the place of beginning.



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#45, PHOTO 16

NAME: Chappell Hill Circulating Library

DATE: 1912

ADDRESS: Cedar Street (Collete Street)

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description; Lot 4

PRESENT OWNER: Chappell Hill Historical Society  
Mr. Robert Nebel, President  
P.O. Box 211  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: Less than 1

ORIGINAL USE: Library

PRESENT USE: Library

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/763440/3337540

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1964 (restored)—carriage lights and door handle added; original porch wooden; new brick with mortar; wooden (cedar) shingles

Constructed by J. W. Heartfield in 1912, this small Colonial Revival Library building is basically square in plan (20 feet x 24 feet) with clapboard siding and corner-boards. There is a hipped roof with wooden shingles over the entire structure. The front elevation exhibits a semicircular portico supported by two Doric columns capped with oversized capital blocks, and two pilasters. The building's symmetrical arrangement is reinforced by its central entry door with transom and all single windows on each side. The interior is simple, has one room, and beaded board wainscoting extends around the perimeter. The badly deteriorated building was restored in 1964 and 1965 by the Chappell Hill Historical Society, its first restoration project. Later, in the 1970s, necessary repairs were made to the roof, columns, and windows. Due to the repeated deterioration of the wooden porch floor, a new brick-faced concrete porch floor was built. This new porch, which does not detract from the integrity of the structure, could easily be removed. Other minor changes include the installation of a new door handle and carriage lights on each side of the windows.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: architecture, education

This small but elegantly symmetrical structure is a landmark in Chappell Hill and evidence of the commitment of the town's residents to the educational process. The Circulating Library Association was formed in this early educational center in 1893, with 26 charter members, for the purpose of accepting an extensive collection of books donated by William Grayson Foote, Jr. This collection contained many of the books of his father who had been a Methodist minister and professor of mathematics at Soule University.



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The Library Association, which kept the collection in various locations throughout the years, was once housed in a one-story clapboard structure on the west side of Main Street north of Lesser's Store. The land on which the present library building was constructed was deeded in 1911 to the three directors of the Circulating Library Association, Mrs. Fannie A. Campbell, Mrs. Joe E. Routt, and Miss Nannie Adams. After 36 years of operation, the Library was closed in 1929, after which the building fell into disrepair. In 1964, the same year the Chappell Hill Historical Society was founded, descendants and friends of members of the long-inactive Library Association united for the purpose of restoring and preserving the Chappell Hill Library Building. Currently, each member of the Chappell Hill Historical Society possesses a key to the library. Shelves presently contain over 2500 volumes, ranging from rare books to histories, children's novels, and dramatic works. Throughout the years more books have been added through memorials, donations and purchases.

Architecturally, the library building is a rare example of a village library in Texas. Likewise, no similar small Colonial Revival architectural form for this purpose remains in the county. It is significant that such a small town known statewide as a prominent educational center, would choose to construct such a building for its public library.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

**RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS:** Originally situated to the east of Town Hall on College Street (now Cedar Street); currently set back from street in residential area; new shrubbery planted; new sidewalk constructed.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

(Part of Lot No. 4) Beginning at a stake in College Street (Cedar Street) and 40 feet east of the intersection of said College and Ravine Streets, then east with College Street 50 feet to corner; then north  $1/2^{\circ}$  west 100 feet to corner of Town Hall Lot; then with the eastern line of same south  $1/2^{\circ}$  east 100 feet to the beginning corner containing an area of 5000 square feet of land.



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#46, PHOTOS 17,18,19

NAME: William S. Rogers House

DATE: ca. 1860

ADDRESS: Cedar Street

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary  
Description

PRESENT OWNER: Mr. Jim Lather  
Mr. John Shaw  
P.O. Box 158  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: Less than 1

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

CURRENT USE: Residence

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/763370/3337620

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

Physical Condition: Restoration in progress - good

Dates of Alterations: ca. 1900--chimney added and interior room partition added;  
1983-1984-restoration.

The William S. Rogers House is a pioneer, wood-frame, vernacular building constructed in the 1860s; it consists of five bays with a central entrance surrounded by sidelights and a transom. The broad sweep of the gabled roof is broken only by a one-room ell addition on the rear which once contained a screened porch on the east side. The roof of the gallery extends across the entire south facade and is supported by four chamfered, square cedar posts. A simple cypress railing, which may not have been original to the house, surrounds the porch. A composition roof covers the original cedar shingles.

The structure contains 6/6 double-hung sash-type windows with original single panes of blown glass. A brick chimney on the west end of the house was added ca. 1900-1910, as was a partition in the end room of the interior. The interior plan originally contained two rooms on each side of a central hall. There is evidence that a side door on the east end of the main structure had previously been enclosed.

In 1983 the current owners, Jim Lather and John Shaw, initiated the restoration of the house and are now in the process of completing interior work. The rear screened-in porch was enclosed and deteriorated interior flooring replaced. With the exception of the front (south) facade, deteriorated exterior cedar boards were replaced with new ones. It was also necessary to replace the front porch flooring. During the course of the restoration project, the west chimney crumbled but may be rebuilt by the owners. The house will soon be painted with its historic colors, a light yellow with a blue porch ceiling.

Outbuildings on the property are a wood-frame barn dating from the 1920s and a cistern located at the northwest corner of the house. The Rogers House is situated off a curved section of Cedar Street on an informally landscaped large lot which retains some 19th- and early 20th-century plantings.



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The house is located near the center of an ample rectangular lot. Facing south toward Cedar Street, the house and its outbuildings to the rear are on the middle of three terraces which slope toward the ravine at the eastern end of the property. The upper (west) terrace has fully mature cedar and pecan trees and a row of altheas screening the street to the south. This area was apparently the flower garden of the homestead, and retains many early plantings. The eastern terrace had a vegetable garden and possibly an orchard in the northeastern corner of the property. Day lilies are found along the Cedar Street borders, and a row of altheas at the western edge of the house.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Period: 1800 - 1899

Areas of Significance: Architecture; landscape architecture

The William S. Rogers House, constructed in the 1860s is a prime example of pioneer vernacular architecture in the multiple-resource area. It is virtually the town's sole surviving unaltered example of this once prolific house type on its original site. Early 20th-century historic photographs reveal that several residential streets were once lined with similarly styled vernacular pioneer dwellings, but all have since disappeared.

The Rogers House is significant in local history as a representation of the kind of in-town dwellings owned and occupied by the professional class in the community: notably, two prominent pioneer doctors. The "Dr. Rogers' Lot" is significant as the homestead of a prominent early settler of Washington County, William S. Rogers, who began practicing medicine in Chappell Hill when the town was first established. His original practice had been conducted in the town of Old Washington.

William S. Rogers was born on December 22, 1822, at Patton's Hill, Alabama. He came to Washington County about 1840 where he took part in the defense of Texas against the Mexicans after the Battle of San Jacinto, and was a member of the troops from which the Mier expedition was organized. He continued to practice his profession at Chappell Hill until the Civil War, when he was appointed surgeon of the state militia. He was subsequently appointed medical examiner of Washington County.

After the war Dr. Rogers was a major force in combating the yellow-fever epidemic which devastated the town. An office practice and drug store were conducted by him at Chappell Hill until 1869, when he moved to Galveston to teach clinical medicine at the Medical Branch of Soule University. He continued to practice medicine in Galveston until his death on March 16, 1887. W. S. Rogers was the father of Dr. Joseph D. Rogers, also a prominent citizen, businessman, and wealthy landowner in Chappell Hill.

Subsequent owners of the property included G. G. Blake, mayor of Chappell Hill in 1880; Mrs. M. E. McDermott, a prominent landowner and businesswoman; and William Schwontkowski, a polish entrepreneur. The house served as rental property for many years. It was purchased in October 1982 by the current owners, Jim Lather and John Shaw.



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Significant in terms of landscape architecture, the lot was well-known locally for its landscaped grounds, featuring formal gardens and orchards. Native plants and various bulbs were planted in the yard, as well as crepe myrtles, roses, ligustiam, and altheas. Near the ravine on the east, the land featured three levels and a rock wall. While some early plant materials have been lost and newer plantings added, the grounds of the Rogers House retain their 19th-century ambience to a degree rarely found in Texas. The historic configuration of the property remains today, with defined flower and vegetable gardens, outbuildings, and mature trees. Popular 19th- and early 20th-century native and exotic plant materials are found about the property. Trees include pecan, cedar, and catalpa, and among the flowering plants are altheas, crepe myrtles, day lilies, and old roses.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

**RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS:** House is situated off a curved section of Cedar Street on a large lot (originally bordered by Ravine and Walnut streets) bordered on the east by a small creek.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

A certain lot or parcel in the town of Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas, fronting 160 feet on Cedar Street, thence running back north 132 feet along the east line of lots #31 and 32 as appears on the map of said town is part of the lot known on said plot as the "Rogers' Lot."



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NAME: Main Street Historic District

LOCATION: Approximately three blocks of Main Street between Providence Street on the south and Chestnut Street on the north. The district also includes ten residences on Main Street north of Chestnut Street.

ACREAGE: Approximately 41 acres.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

The boundary of the Main Street Historic District is identified by the divided single black line on the accompanying sketch map of the multiple-resource area. Circumscribed by this boundary is a small, well-defined, and relatively intact commercial section bordered by a residential cluster at each end, on the north and south. Selected initially on the basis of consistent historic development, the district's boundaries delineate a cohesive area characterized by diversely styled, yet visually linked, residential and commercial structures. The historic district's western boundary coincides with the westernmost edge of the Chappell Hill multiple-resource area, beyond which exist three nonhistoric structures and vacant lots or open fields. Bordering the district on the east is the town's original residential section. Excluded from the district on the north and south are (respectively) modern residences and irreversibly deteriorated small late-19th-century intrusions. The western boundary has been extended at the northwest corner of Main and Chestnut streets to include a relocated mid-19th-century residence (#6). (See continuation sheet for district's verbal boundary description.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Period - 1850-1935

Areas of Significance - Historic Archeology, Architecture, Transportation, Commerce

CLASSIFICATION:

Category - Buildings

Ownership - Public, private

Public Acquisition - N/A

Status - Occupied, unoccupied

Accessible - Yes: Restricted, unrestricted

Present Use - Commercial, government, private residence, religious, vacant



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UTM REFERENCE:

OWNER OF PROPERTY:

1. Mr. Willie Vollert, Sr., P.O. Box 27, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
2. Johnny Gutierrez, Sr., P.O. Box 61, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
3. Mrs. Aline Winfield, P.O. Box 32, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
4. Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Polk, P. O. Drawer D, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
5. Elizabeth and Harvin C. Moore, P.O. Drawer D, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
6. Elizabeth and Harvin C. Moore, P.O. Drawer E, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
7. Mrs. F. H. Shaver, Est., P. O. Box 52, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
8. Mr. John Philip Lesser, P. O. Box 13, Chappell Hill, TX 77426
9. Farmers State Bank, President Mr. Gary Crocker, P.O. Drawer C, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
10. Mrs. Sadie R. Schaer, Est., P. O. Box 35, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
11. Chappell Hill Historical Society, President Mr. Robert Nebel, P.O. Box 211, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
12. Mrs. Bernice Shaver, P.O. Box 123, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
13. Mrs. Bernice Shaver, P.O. Box 123, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
14. Mrs. Bernice Shaver, P.O. Box 123, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
15. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McMeans, P.O. Box 202, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
16. Dorothy Ann and Milton Routt, P.O. Box 74, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
17. Mr. and Mrs. Morris Dillard, P.O. Box 126, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
18. Mr. Raymond H. Winkelmann, Jr., P.O. Drawer G, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
19. Mrs. Bernice Shaver, P.O. Box 123, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
20. Dr. Don C. and Jean Mitchell, #3 Hideway Circle, Houston, Tx
21. Mrs. Agnes Krolczyk, P.O. Box 29, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
22. Mr. Crockett Camp, 3601 Peregrine Falcon, Austin, Tx 78746



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OWNER OF PROPERTY (Continued)

23. Mr. Crockett Camp, 3601 Peregrine Falcon, Austin, Tx 78746
24. Mr. Winston Freeman, P.O. Box 199, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
25. Mrs. Mary Louise Young, P.O. Box 6, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
26. Alphonse Krolczyk, P.O. Box 48, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
27. Thomas A. Bullock, Jr., P.O. Box 184, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
28. Mrs. Sadie R. Schaer, Est., P.O. Box 35, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
29. Chappell Hill Fire Department, c/o Quinn Farwell, P.O. Box 133, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
30. Mr. Robert and Blanche Schaer, Est., c/o Mrs. Sudie Lu Stark, 708 East Tom Green St., Brenham, Tx 77833
31. Mr. Robert and Blanche Schaer, Est., c/o Mrs. Sudie Lu Stark, 708 East Tom Green St., Brenham, Tx 77833
32. Mr. Robert and Blanche Schaer, Est., c/o Mrs. Sudie Lu Stark, 708 East Tom Green St., Brenham, Tx 77833
33. Elizabeth and Harvin C. Moore, P.O. Drawer E, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
34. Mr. and Mrs. Philip R. Neuhaus, 407 Thame Lane, Houston, Tx
35. Elizabeth and Harvin C. Moore, P.O. Drawer E., Chappell Hill, Tx 77426
36. Mr. Charles E. Smith, Est., P.O. Box 178, Chappell Hill, Tx 77426



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DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES:

Contributing:

A majority of the buildings (approximately 75%) within the district are classified as contributing. This category includes structures which are over fifty years old, retain a sufficient amount of their physical and historical integrity, and are representative of middle to late 19th-century and early 20th-century vernacular commercial and residential architecture. Some of the buildings classified as contributing reveal a moderate amount of exterior alteration but retain a sufficient amount of their original character, principal design elements, scale, and materials to communicate the district's historic identity. Resources which structurally evolved over time belong to this classification. Rehabilitated historic buildings and a single mid-19th-century Greek-Revival residence relocated from Church Street are classified as contributing structures because of their compatibility with the overall historical and architectural character conveyed by the district.

Noncontributing:

Approximately 25% of buildings within the district are classified as noncontributing. Historic buildings whose architectural and historical integrity has been adversely affected by extensive alterations, reconstruction, or relocation have been grouped in this category. Additionally, contemporary structures less than fifty years old whose modern character and design disrupt the district's cohesive historical/architectural character and appearance have been classified as noncontributing.



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CHAPPELL HILL MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICTCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Inventory</u> #	<u>Photo</u> #	<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
William Vollert House	1	20	Main Street	1859, ca. 1880
Julia Booth House	2	21	Main Street	ca. 1859
Permelia Haynie House	3	22	Main Street	1850s
Haller House	4	23	Main Street	1850s, ca. 1900, 1940s
Stagecoach Inn	5	24	Northwest corner, Main & Chestnut Sts.	1850
Lesser's General Stroe	8	28	Main Street	ca. 1890
Farmers State Bank	9	29	Main Street	1907, 1981
W. R. Reinstein Store	10	30	Northwest corner Main & Cedar Sts.	1878
Rock Store	11	31	Southwest corner, Main & Cedar Sts.	1869
Campbell S & B Drug Store	12	32	Main Street	1911
J. P. Perkins Drug Store	13	33	Main Street	1865
Old Post Office	14		Main Street	1912
Jake Winfield Store	17	35	Main Street	1915
J. J. Shaver House	19	36	Main Street	1914
Jessie Crockett House	20	37	Main Street	ca. 1907
Lewin Routt House	21	38	Main Street	1920s
Providence Baptist	22	39	Northeast corner, Main & Providence Sts	1873
Providence Baptist Parsonage	23	40	Southeast corner, Main & Poplar Sts.	1855
The Toland House Hotel	24	41	Northeast corner, Main & Poplar Sts.	1912
The Brazos Star	25	42	Main Street	1880s
S. F. Thornhill Building	27	44	Southeast corner, Main & Cedar Sts.	ca. 1875



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<u>Name</u>	<u>Inventory</u> #	<u>Photo</u> #	<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
W. E. Schaer Store/Masonic Lodge	28	45	Main Street	1913
Henry Schaer Store	30	45,46	Main Street	1911
Garage	31	47	Main Street	1853, 1935
Julius Yanch House	36	52	Main Street	1854, ca. 1908, ca. 1935



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CHAPPELL HILL MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

NONCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Date</u>
Asenath O. Weems House	6	25	Chestnut Street	1866(Relocated)
Mildred Shaver Residence	7	26	Southwest corner, Main & Chestnut Sts.	1955
Old Burton Post Office	15	34	Main Street	1875 (moved)
U. S. Post Office	16		Main Street	1968
Trailer	18		Main Street	moved
Fire Station	29	45	Main Street	1974
Robert Schaer House	32	48	Southeast corner, Main & Chestnut Sts.	1935
Haviescher Residence	33	49	Northeast corner, Main & Chestnut Sts.	1870s, 1930s 1983
Casper Witteborg House	34	50	Main Street	1854, 1982
B. W. Goodson House	35	51	Main Street	ca. 1855 (moved)
Krolczyk Store	26	43	Main Street	1946



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MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Description:

The Main Street Historic District is comprised of thirty-six limestone, brick, and wood-frame buildings, including a 19th-century church and parsonage. The area consists of eight blocks fronting Main Street, with the outermost blocks at both ends of the street containing residential structures. The remaining blocks are composed of commercial establishments and public service buildings, such as the U.S. Post Office, the local fire station, and Farmers State Bank.

A majority of the twenty-five contributing buildings, some of which reflect two main building periods, were constructed between 1850 and 1915 and reflect the many variations in taste within that period. Architectural types are represented within the district range from modified Victorian cottages and well-designed, modest, brick commercial buildings to the mid-19th-century Greek Revival, a once prolific residential architectural form in Chappell Hill.

Buildings over fifty years old that is also in general conformity with the character of the district are classed as contributing. Such structures maintain a uniformity of construction materials, are compatible in style, proportion and design quality, and are either unaltered or only slightly changed.

Noncontributing structures are either date post 1935, are modern structures, or were considerably altered or reconstructed. This category also includes three moved-in structures (#6, #15, #35). These may have been sympathetically rehabilitation, but are not considered contributing because of their having been moved. A more objectionable intrusion, although less permanent, is a modern mobile-home trailer recently moved onto a vacant lot (#18). A 1920s residential bungalow was moved from this vacant lot onto Providence Street in the 1940s.

Approximately one-third of the district's buildings are residential and the remaining two-thirds primarily commercial. Over one half of the buildings are at least 100 years old. The majority of nonresidential buildings within the district have continuously functioned as commercial and retail establishments in modern times. Many of these are still owned by the original families or have just recently been sold.

Platted in a simple grid-iron pattern oriented north to south, the early commercial center of Chappell Hill originated in the mid-19th century along Main Street, immediately south of its intersection with Chestnut Street (F.M. Road 2447). Throughout the century the commercial center expanded approximately two blocks south on each side of Main and adjacent to residential structures and a church. Two fine hotels (5, #24) are situated at each end of the commercial section, on both the north and south. The historic character and visual cohesiveness of the district are reinforced by a system of concrete and wooden sidewalks, and by the numerous large pecan and sycamore trees lining Main Street. Contributing further to the visual cohesiveness, a few middle to late 19th-century residences at the northern boundary are set on a low rise on the west side of Main Street,



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and exhibit beautifully landscaped lawns with beds of multicolored spring bulbs and ornamental shrubs. One house features a brick retaining wall at the street line.

Primarily commercial in character, the district is identified by vernacular one-story wooden and brick commercial buildings, usually three or more bays wide. A single stone structure, the Rock Store (#11), was constructed in 1869 of thick native sandstone and massive hand-hewn and pegged pine timbers. The district's only two-story brick building is the W. E. Schaer Store/Masonic Lodge (#28) which was plastered at the second level and constructed in 1913. Its upper story has consistently functioned as a meeting hall for various fraternal lodges.

Predominantly on the east side of Main Street, a few modestly scaled, one-story, wood-framed commercial buildings are covered with metal or shingled gabled roofs. These roofs are disguised by false wooden fronts exhibiting either stepped features (#17, #25, #27) or an angular form (#25). The wooden facades of both #25 and #27 feature sets of double doors with moveable paneled windows.

Masonry commercial buildings are modest in scale, usually contain double French doors, and commonly display simple ornamental details such as the corbeled brick cornice of the Reinstein Store (#10).

A few mid-19th- and early 20th-century commercial buildings, including the J. P. Perkins Drug Store (#13), the Farmers State Bank (#9), the Henry Schaer Store (#30), and the W. E. Schaer Store (#28), incorporated cast-iron lintels, support columns, and pilasters at the first level. The 1865 J. P. Perkins Drug Store (#10), one of Chappell Hill's oldest commercial establishments, features an unusual early use of cast-iron ornamentation. Both its front and rear double entrances contain cast-iron lintels overhead with stylized scrolls (Photo 29). Generally, early 20th-century commercial buildings are larger in scale than their 19th-century counterparts. Store fronts with larger glass panels reflect the 20th-century demand for greater illumination of commercial buildings (#9, #12, #14).

Buildings in the district have been altered in varying degrees, and at least two have been destroyed by fire or moved, leaving gaps in the fabric along the west side of Main Street. One such space, adjacent to the Jake Winfield Store, is presently occupied by a mobile-home trailer. With the exception of the plaster facing which obscures the original brickwork of the Farmers State Bank's upper facade, few commercial buildings have undergone significant exterior alterations. Some wooden sidewalks have been rebuilt downtown, and awnings replaced and removed. The amount of change that has occurred in the district, however, has not altered the consistency of the streetscape through the years (photos #53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59).

Although walls have been altered through modern applications of plaster and paint, a surprising number of original commercial interiors remain virtually intact. The historic S & B Drug Store retains its interior shelves, furniture, and sliding ladder while the Old Post Office Building displays an original pressed-metal ceiling. Additional examples include the oak and brass teller's cage and ornate metal vault door of the Farmers State Bank (#9), the untouched interior of Lesser's Store (#8), and the skylight and intact railed office podium of the Henry Schaer Store (#30).



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Also represented within the district are a total of sixteen residences at the north and south ends, which have several architectural house types: Chappell Hill Greek Revival, Bungalow, Colonial Revival, Late Victorian, and Queen Anne. The district's residential areas maintain the visual cohesiveness reinforced by the commercial section, not only by repeated use of similar architectural styles and wood siding for the primary building material, but also by the use of uniform details such as simple gabled roofs, symmetrical facades, fish-scale shingled siding, transomed entrances with sidelights, and "ginger-bread" porches. Larger early 20th-century Colonial Revival examples are two stories with wrap-around columned porches and more complex roof systems (#19, #24).

The earliest residences, most of which exhibit two distinct building stages, are located at the northern end of the district, north of Chestnut Street (F. M. Road 2447). Two of these early cedar residences, the Haynie (#3) and Haller (#4) houses, incorporated Victorian additions at the turn-of-the-century. Unique within the district, and perhaps one of the oldest buildings in Chappell Hill, is the 1850 two-story Stagecoach Inn (#5) located in the northwest corner of Main and Chestnut streets (National Register of Historic Places, 1967). Its finely detailed Greek key frieze and sophisticated proportioning are outstanding in the district. Another early residence exhibiting Greek Revival influence with a symmetrical five-bay front and inset gallery with Doric columns, is the Julia Booth House (#2) constructed ca. 1859. Although deteriorated, the residence still retains its original but worn cedar stairway, as well as the upstairs attic rooms and flooring.

One of the district's most interesting and well-documented houses is the L-shaped Julius Yanch House (#36), constructed of cedar in 1854 by local builder Marcus Munyan. The original contract for this early residence indicates prices and contains a detailed description of its plan and construction materials. Two brick-veneer residences, one of which is dated 1935 and categorized as contributing, are located just south of the intersection of Main and Chestnut streets, where they replaced late 19th-century Victorian dwellings on prominent corner lots.

Numerous and simple variations of the bungalow are well-represented within the multiple-resource area, but represented by only a single example within the district: the Lewin Routt House, built in the 1920's (#21). Also situated within this primarily residential area at the south end of the district is the vernacular Greek Revival Providence Baptist Church and Parsonage (#22, #23). The interior of the church features two rooms at the rear, one of which contains an exquisitely carved and paneled door with chamfered edges.



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Verbal Boundary Description:

Begin at the northwest corner of lot #33 on the east side of Main Street (FM #1155) where the Main Street and a 30 ft. street intersect; thence east 100 ft. to the intersection of the 30 ft. street and an alley; thence south along the west boundary of said alley at 320 ft. intersect Chestnut Street; thence south 50 ft. across Chestnut Street to intersection of Chestnut Street and an alley; thence south 320 ft. along west boundary of said alley and Poplar Street; thence south 50 ft across Poplar Street to the intersection of Poplar Street and an alley; thence south 240 ft. along the west boundary of an alley to its intersection with Providence Street which is the southeast corner of lot #78; thence west 100 ft. along the south line of lot #78 and northline of Providence street to the intersection of Providence Street and Main Street; thence west 60 ft. across Main Street; thence south 80 ft. along the west side of Main Street to the southeast corner of lot #411 on the west side of Main Street; thence west 100 ft along the south boundary of lot #411; to the southwest corner of lot #411; thence north 200 ft. along the west line of lots #411, 410, 409, 408, 407 to northwest corner of lot #407 at its intersection with lot #406; thence west 100 ft. on south line of lot #406 to its southwest corners; thence north 120 ft. along the west line of lots #406, 405, and 404 to the northwest corner of lot #404; thence east 100 ft. along the north line of lot #404 to its intersection with lot #403; thence north along the west line of lots lying on the west side of Main Street 320 ft. to the northwest corner of lot #85 and the south side of Cedar Street; thence north 50 ft. across Cedar Street to the intersection of Cedar Street and an alley; thence north 320 ft. along the east boundary of the alley to its intersection with Chestnut Street; thence north 50 ft. across Chestnut Street; thence west 533 ft. along the north side of Chestnut Street; thence north 221 ft, along fence line to corner; thence east 505 ft. along fence line; thence north 596 ft. to the northwest corner of Vollert lot; thence east 120 ft along the north line of Vollert lot to its intersection with Main Street; thence south 474 ft. along the west line of Main Street; thence east 50 ft. across Main Street to place of beginning.



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Significance

Areas of Significance: architecture, transportation, commerce, archeology

The Main Street Historic District, comprised of both the Central Business District and two small residential sections, reflects the progressive stages of this agricultural town's economic and commercial development between 1850 and 1930. Crucial to the economic success of the cotton plantations and farms along the rich bottom lands of the Brazos River, the original commercial district of Chappell Hill functioned as an early railroad terminus and shipment center for southeast Washington County. Although a few individual buildings have been altered over time, and three structures moved in, the overall district retains its integrity and still effectively communicates its historic identity. A wide variety of vernacular structures, even though they do not represent the finest examples of high-style architecture, are associated with numerous public-spirited and prominent local citizens, and serve as tangible evidence of this once-thriving community's historic past.

The central business district in the original Chappell Hill town proper was a vital part of the economic and physical balance associated with the prosperity of small towns in the state. Throughout its development, the commercial section not only provided a place for business transactions, purchasing of everyday goods and services, and entertainment, but also served as an important political and religious center. Today the downtown area still provides these basic amenities, as well as serving as the symbol of a town that has survived attempts at modernization, decentralization, and the threat of extinction. Although its development is comparable to other early important towns of the Texas Republic, such as Washington-on-the-Brazos or Independence, Chappell Hill's Main Street is the only one of these still intact and in continuous commercial use in Washington County. As such, the Main Street Historic District is significant in the areas of historic archeology, architecture, commerce, and transportation.

Important in terms of community planning and development, the commercial center and adjacent residential neighborhoods represent the expansion of an important commercial cotton center in a town initially surveyed in 1847 and established within a grid-iron pattern oriented to the cardinal directions. The establishment of this simplified grid-iron system and commercial center at the intersection of the town's two major thoroughfares, F. M. Road 1155 and F. M. Road 2447, is typical of many early Texas communities. Residential development east of the commercial area retained this uniform rectangular pattern along its treed and fence-line streets. Blocks within this residential section were more elongated by comparison, although three streets which no longer exist once intersected them at right angles.

Landscape architecture in the district has traditionally reflected citizens' tastes and the overall character and appearance of the town throughout the successive stages of its development. Landscaping in the commercial center, early confined to clusters of trees lining Main Street, soon included informally landscaped front yards of residences.



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A few middle to late 19th-century residences at the northern boundary of the district are set on a low rise and exhibit beautifully landscaped lawns within beds of multicolored spring bulbs and ornamental shrubs. One house features a brick retaining wall at the street line.

Mary Hargrove Haller, one of the few known women in Texas history directly responsible for founding a town, purchased the 100-acre townsite on February 2, 1847, and subsequently commissioned a town survey and the plotting of town lots. Public sale of these lots began in 1849. According to the Deed Records of Washington County, there were at least two stores operating in Chappell Hill prior to this time. One store was owned by Methodist minister and entrepreneur Lorenzo D. Bragg, and the other by Terrell A. Jackson and John C. Wallis. Jacob Haller reportedly built the first house in Chappell Hill on Main Street using cut cedar logs.

In 1850 Mary Haller and her husband, Jacob, began building their large two-story frame house, the Stagecoach Inn, at the northwest corner of Main and Chestnut streets (#5, National Register). The Haller's Greek Revival home with its low-pitched hipped roof, handsome Greek key frieze, and three-bay single-story entrance porch, was one of the most architecturally distinguished structures in the county. Apart from its historical association with the founder of the town, the Stagecoach Inn is notable primarily for the sophistication of its detailing in a primarily rural town.

The property is significant, too, as the site of the district's only historic archaeological excavation. In the fall of 1976, a partial excavation was conducted at the rear of the structure, and information was recovered concerning the detached kitchen that initially served the 1850 structure. Kitchen remains consisted of a hearth or brick-paved work area, and an activity floor of unspecified function to the north along the east side of a building. Similar detached kitchens and other outbuildings and cisterns once associated with the district's early residences no longer remain, although their foundations probably exist below the surface of the ground. Large cisterns survive intact beneath the first floors of several commercial buildings on the west side of Main street (Reinstein Store #10, Perkins Drug Store #13, and Rock Store #11). Through the years many pottery shards and other historical debris have been found on several downtown properties and vacant lots. Newspaper type has been found on a vacant lot north of Lesser's Store (#8), and various artifacts uncovered at the rear of the Witteborg House (#34). Additional archeological investigations in the district would undoubtedly yield considerable historic information and artifacts.

In 1851 the Stagecoach Inn was acquired by Mrs. Charlotte Hargrove, the wife of Jacob Haller's father-in-law and business partner, W. D. Hargrove. As a strong supporter of the Methodist Church, Mrs. Hargrove opened her home as a boarding house for students when the Methodist Church sponsored Chappell Hill College, which was formed in 1852. The boarding house ("Hargrove House") continued to operate until 1859, when Mrs. Hargrove sold it to B. R. Thomas, a local attorney and merchant. The district was later associated with education between 1895 and 1904 because of the private school operated by Cary Keesee in the Haveischer House (#33), located on Main Street.



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Closely associated with the history of the Hargrove and Haller families in the mid-19th century are two houses to the north of the Inn: the Haller House (#4) which was later the home of local prominent doctor, W. R. Campbell, and the Permelia Haynie House (#3) built by John A. Haynie and Permelia Hargrove, the sister of Mary Haller. John A. Haynie was a distinguished Methodist preacher and son of Reverend John Haynie who was appointed the first Chaplain of the Republic of Texas by Sam Houston. Haynie was reportedly the first Protestant minister to preach a sermon in Travis County in 1839.

The Casper Witteborg House (#34), partially reconstructed, is located in this residential section north of the commercial center of F. M. Road 2447. It is an important product of the talented German craftsmen, woodworkers, and cabinetmakers who practiced here between 1854 and 1880 and who reinforced Chappell Hill's reputation as an early cultural center. German cabinetmakers, Casper Witteborg, and Johann Umland, who owned the property at various times, were commissioned by the wealthiest families of the community, to whom they sold their hand-crafted and exquisitely carved furniture. Surviving examples of their furniture not only exhibit a high degree of craftsmanship, but also show an awareness of current furniture styles. The sophistication of design and detail of Umland's carved beds represents a height not generally achieved by Texas craftsmen. Another German cabinetmaker, Henry C. Brandt, who crafted the interior woodwork of the Methodist Church, was associated with a structure on Main Street which later served as the Baptist parsonage (#23).

Production of the decorative arts in the district is well represented by Gustavus Adolphus Iankes, a talented jeweler, silversmith, and goldsmith who was reportedly attracted to the town by what he considered superior schools. Iankes, who maintained a shop on Main Street (lots 4 and 5) between 1853 and 1879, was the craftsman commissioned to make the ceremonial jewels for the Masonic Lodge after it was chartered in 1851. Made out of silver coins, these emblems worn by ceremony participants are still in use today in Chappell Hill. Several family heirlooms crafted by him were exhibited by the San Antonio Museum in 1973, and a few of his drafting instruments are displayed in the Chappell Hill Museum.

Chappell Hill has traditionally been an agricultural community with cotton as the principal crop. Planters were drawn to the fertile loam of the Brazos watershed after the founding of Stephen F. Austin's Colony. Chappell Hill's commercial center played an important role in the agricultural economy of the region, serving both as a major trading and shipping point as early as 1849. In the summer of 1867 the Town Council ordered a Market House built in the alley behind the drug store of Stone, Wilkes, and Stone. Although agricultural production and the economy were based solely on the cotton trade, some outlying farms in the Brazos bottomlands yielded a variety of crops including grains and fruits. Gardens producing a wide variety of vegetables and fruits were popular into the 20th century on Main Street and throughout the multiple-resource area. Large quantities of these crops found their way into the market through truck-farming business which operated from the commercial center and were supported by the Washington County Truck Growers Association.



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Although industrial activity was not centered on Main Street, several prominent citizens residing in the district were associated with the cotton industry. Among the most prominent was J. J. Shaver (#19), a director of the South Texas Cotton Mills and one-time president of the Farmer's State Bank. The Booth House (#2), situated at the north end of the district, is important for its historical association with an enterprising and prominent citizen, Jacob L. Harvey, who was involved in oil development in Texas as early as 1858.

The district's centralized and strategic position between the three larger market and population centers of Houston, Waco, and Austin rendered Chappell Hill an early transportation center. The town's main street (F. M. 1155) was also one of the early routes from San Felipe to Washington-on-the-Brazos. As early as 1852 a stage line operated from Austin to Houston three days a week via Chappell Hill, and another, F. P. Sawyer's Mail Stage, ran from Houston to Waco in 1859. The Stagecoach Inn (#5) became a communications center and stop for post riders and stagecoaches. Although there were many stage lines, it was not until the establishment of the railroad from Houston to Brenham, in large part instigated by the citizens of Chappell Hill, that the town developed into a thriving community. The Washington County Railroad was organized by Chappell Hill planters in 1856. Several of its original stockholders and commissioners, including James W. McDade and Terrell J. Jackson, owned property and commercial establishments on Main Street. At the time the railroad reached Chappell Hill in the summer of 1859, it represented one of only three major lines in the state.

Chappell Hill's position as an important transportation and shipping point was reinforced with the establishment, reportedly, of one of the first paved road systems in the state. A system of paved cardinal roads throughout Washington County was initiated in 1921, along Chappell Hill's Main Street (State Highway 20). This road was the first of the project initiated and also represented something of an engineering feat at the time of its construction.

As one of the earliest established towns in Washington County, Chappell Hill was a main center of communication with the remainder of Texas. At the outbreak of the Civil War, most of the state's communications network centered in Chappell Hill and nearby Washington-on-the-Brazos. Telegraph reports of the Civil War's progress were relayed from Chappell Hill's Main Street office to the Capitol at Austin, which had no telegraph service at this time. Prior to the Civil War, the Stagecoach Inn (#5) had become an important center for mail delivery and message exchange, as well as a stop for stage coaches. Telephone service, as well as two newspapers, were also established in Chappell Hill at an early date.

The Chappell Hill business district was the heart of a community that thrived on account of the agricultural trade. As the crops prospered, so did the numerous business enterprises within the district. The local merchants catered to the particular needs of the local citizens, while other establishments catered to the traveler. Examples were the Stage Coach Inn (#5) and the Toland Hotel (#24) which was a hostelry until World War II.



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Early prosperity and growth within the commercial area was somewhat slowed by the Civil War, although the effects of Reconstruction had less of an impact here than in other Texas towns. It was soon after the war, in 1869, that the Rock Store (#11), Chappell Hill's only stone commercial building, was constructed. The J. P. Perkins Drug Store (#13), also built during this era by a prominent physician, exhibits an early use of metal in its stylized, scroll, cast-iron lintels above the front entrance.

Despite several fires in the commercial district, a robust economic climate and general prosperity during the 1870s and 1880s produced many brick and wood-frame commercial buildings. Commercial establishments in operation on Main Street between 1884 and 1896 included nine general stores, three groceries, five physicians, two saloons, and a hardware store, barber, druggist, blacksmith, carriage repairer, shoemaker, and dress-maker. Buildings housing commercial establishments during this period were W. R. Rein-stein Store (#10), the Brazos Star (#25), and the Thornhill Building (#27). The wood-frame Brazos Star, formerly the McDermott Saloon, continuously housed a drinking establishment until a few years ago.

Commercial buildings from the first decades of the 20th century exist to chronicle the development of an even more prosperous commercial era in Chappell Hill. Several brick commercial establishments were built during this period to house drug stores (Campbells S & B Drug Store, #12), general stores (Henry Schaer's Store, #30), groceries (W. E. Schaer Store, #28), and a bank (Farmer's State Bank, #9). A favorable business climate during this period resulted in the employment of thin, cast-iron, support columns and pilasters on several store-fronts.

It is significant for the overall integrity of the district that a number of commercial and residential buildings, such as Lesser Store (#8), Campbells S & B Drug Store (#12), Farmer's State Bank (#9), and Shaver House (#19), retain the original character of their interiors. The antique vault door with elaborate cast-iron architrave and fine oak and brass teller's cage of the Farmer's State Bank (#9), as well as the wooden stair-case and interior of the Shaver House (#19), are noteworthy.

Mirroring the simplicity of the district's vernacular commercial buildings, the early 20th-century residences at the south end of the district represent local variations in architectural styles. Two significant Colonial Revival structures, the J. J. Shaver House (#19) and the Toland House Hotel (#24), were constructed by local contractors J. W. and J. B. Heartfield. Stylistically, the Jessie Crockett House (#20) is a small modified Victorian Cottage which reflects a date of construction earlier than 1907. It represents a once-popular house form in Chappell Hill which probably continued to be built into the 20th century.

Religious institutions played a vital role in the historical development of the Main Street Historic District. Although the Providence Baptist Church (#22) had its origin in Jacksonville, in 1842, the present Greek Revival church building was built at the southern end of the district in 1873 on the former site of St. Luke Episcopal Church. This church is typical of Protestant churches built at a much earlier date in the north-east and, as such, represents a significant survival in Texas. An additional and unusual two-story Greek Revival Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1860 on lots fronting the



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west side of Main Street and now occupied by the Jessie Crockett (#20) and Lewin Routt (#21) houses. After membership declined, the church was sold and moved to Chappell Hill Female College for use as a music hall.

In the latter part of the 19th century Polish emigrants arrived in the eastern part of Washington County, with the largest number settling in the Chappell Hill vicinity. Here, in 1898, they built a large Catholic Church and established several commercial business. The "Texas State Gazetteer and Business Directory" for 1914-15 indicates that approximately a quarter of the commercial establishments operating in Chappell Hill during this period were run by citizens of Polish descent. Among those located on Main Street were R. Malinowski, who had a grocery in the Rock Store (#11), and Albert Kaminsky, who ran the Brazos Star (#25).

Perhaps one of the most prominent Polish businessmen in Chappell Hill was William Schwontkosky, who was associated with lot 2 on Main Street in 1873 and a business at the south end of the street outside the district boundary. A large Polish population still resides in the community. German immigration to Washington County in the second half of the 19th century also influenced the development of the commercial downtown. One of the most important German settlers in Washington County, Captain Frederick William Schuerenberg, first resided in Chappell Hill in the 1840s, and engaged in blacksmithing until the outbreak of the Civil War. In the latter part of the 19th century, three German settlers, Henry Schaer, P. Lesser, and W. Reinstein, established businesses on Main Street which were focal points in the community (#30, #8, #10).

Many fraternal orders and literary societies thrived in Chappell Hill from the mid-19th to early 20th century, and played an important part in the cultural and social history of the downtown center. Most fraternal lodges were housed in strategically located buildings on Main Street. Sterling Hall, originally on the site of the Reinstein Store (#10), was the meeting place for the Knights of Pythias in 1876. The most important and first of these fraternal organizations, the Hubert Masonic Lodge, was chartered on January 24, 1951, and has survived to the present day. In the first decades of the 20th century this lodge met in the second story of the W. E. Schaer Store (#28) which also housed offices. Prominent citizens who were early members of the Masonic Lodge include Charles E. Travis, son of William B. Travis; William S. Rogers, pioneer physician; and J. W. McDade, Texas State Senator and Sheriff of Washington County.

As residents, prominent professors, physicians, politicians, and wealthy landowners influenced the character of the downtown center of Chappell Hill in the 19th century. Many of them, who were also veterans of the Battle of San Jacinto, owned land or maintained businesses on Main Street. One of the most influential, Dr. Richard M. Swearingen, owned several lots on the east side of Main Street in the 1870s. He was Representative in the State Legislature in 1853, and was appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes as commissioner of experts to investigate the yellow-fever epidemic. This project was the beginning of the National Board of Health. In 1881 he was appointed State Health Officer under Governor Hogg. William March Rice, the founder of Rice University, originally owned a store on the southeast corner of Main and Chestnut streets (Lot 17, the present location of the Robert Schaer House, #27). A noted U.S. Congressman in the Wilson Administration, James P. Buchanan owned lots 402 and 403 (#18) in 1897. The dam across the Colorado River on Lake Buchanan is named after him.



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Inventory Of Building In Chappell Hill Main Street Historic District

Information includes map reference number which corresponds to inventory number; the historic name, if known; address; date or period construction; classification within district; brief physical description.

1. William Vollert House - Main Street; 1859, ca. 1880. Contributing. One-story, L-shaped, wood-frame vernacular residential structure with north-projecting end gable. Late 19th-century house may have evolved from earlier symmetrical rectangular-plan structure. Clapboard siding and gabled roof of corrugated metal. Small attached porch at front, supported by wooden posts and partially enclosed at bottom with clapboard siding. Board-and-batten shed porch extension at rear. 4/4 wooden sash windows with plain trim. Gable ends enhanced with straight sawn-shingle pattern. Physical condition of structure fair to poor. Out-buildings on property include two garages, one with three bays, the other with a standing-seam metal roof.

2. Julia Booth House - Main Street; 1859. Contributing.

Single-story/rectangular, cedar wood-frame vernacular residential structure exhibiting Greek Revival influence in its styling. Symmetrical five-bay front with inset gallery extending across length and supported by six slightly tapered Doric columns. Projecting molded cornice with architrave below. Central single entrance door with transoms. Original 6/6 wooden-sash windows replaced with modern aluminum ones. Rear shed extension features original 6/6 windows and corrugated metal roof. Clapboard siding and composition gable roof. Fireplace removed from south room. Wooden lathing exposed on north wall of central hallway. Massive cedar stairway intact. Physical condition of exterior, as well as interior, fair to poor. Old barn with corrugated metal roof at rear of property. House owned by single family from 1886 to 1966.

3. Permelia Haynie House - Main Street; 1850's, ca. 1900, ca. 1940's. Contributing.

One-story house built with native cedar, hand-hewn and locally sawn. The current house form, which was adapted to a late Victorian style, evolved around an original small frame house constructed in the 1850s. Frame partially of pine with cypress siding. 4/4 wooden-sash windows and a single entrance door with transom. Gabled roof with composition shingles. L-shape plan has front gallery supported by turned posts with stylized scroll brackets. Porch frieze contains row of spindles with knobs. Chamfered bay on north end, as well as front gallery, added ca. 1900. In 1910 present kitchen plumbing and bath installed. Original detached kitchen of rough cedar boards situated 20 feet west of house, was demolished ca. 1945. During the 1940s, south room, asbestos siding, and bar-board in gable end added. An underground cistern constructed of local brick originally located north of house.

4. Jacob Haller House - Main Street; 1853, ca. 1900, ca. 1973. Contributing.

Like the Haynie House, original part of structure built in the 1850s with late Victorian detailing added ca. 1900. One-story residence constructed with hand-hewn cedar framing, clapboard siding. Chamfered bay with fan brackets at corner and fishscale shingles in gable end. Front gallery supported by turned columns with scroll brackets. Porch frieze contains row of slat-like bars. Gable roof covered with wooden shingles. Single entry door with cut-glass panel surrounded by sidelights and transom. Current owners made some changes to the house after they purchased it in 1967. The original chimney on the south side was removed and the interior restored in the 1940s. Standing-seam metal roof garage added in 1970s. The interior features windows with Bull's-eye



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corner boards and a central hall archway with fanciful scroll designs. Original detached kitchen at northwest corner torn down in 1945. Large north wing added ca. 1975. Concrete patio added at rear, as well as bath.

5. Stagecoach Inn (Hargrove House) NRHP - Northwest corner, intersection of Main and Chestnut Streets; 1850. Contributing.

Two-story, frame Greek Revival structure with a finely detailed Greek key frieze and sophisticated proportioning of the cornice and fenestration. Architecturally, structure is the most significant in historic district, and, at time of construction was one of the most architecturally distinguished structures in Washington County. 6/6 light, single-hung sash windows with four at each level. Wood-paneled entrance door with multilight transom and sidelights bordered by fluted pilasters. One-bay single-story, balustraded portico with deck at upper level. Low pitched hipped roof. Unusual front entrance hall at main entrance contains a staircase with a tapered newel post and square-slat balustrade. Originally structure had a detached, cedar clapboard rear kitchen. House restored in 1976. Modern outbuildings on the property include three-bay, wood-frame, Greek Revival influence garage built in 1982, a barn and frame square building, used as an office. In 1976 the historic Asenath O. Weems House was relocated to the west of the Inn facing Chestnut Street. Placed on National Register of Historic Places in 1976; HABS, 1936. Property contains historic archeological site associated with original kitchen (41WT15).

6. Asenath O. Weems House - Chestnut Street; 1866 (moved from original site in 1976). Noncontributing.

One-story Greek Revival, L-shape house with columned front gallery, symmetrical plan, well detailed trim and mantels, and classical proportions. Central hallway with two rooms on either side. Gabled roof terminated on each end by an exterior brick chimney. Narrow L-shaped back porch under an extension of the main roof. 6/6 double-hung sash windows. House restored in 1976/1977. Aluminum windows on front and east side replaced with wooden 6/6 windows matching original ones still in place. Damaged interior floors replaced with tongue-and-grooved pine boards. Exterior front door (not original to house) replaced with Greek Revival doorway with sidelights and transom. New entrance fit framing for original doorway which was still in place. Only auxiliary structure remaining on historic property was a cistern. In 1976 house moved from lot on Church Street, (Adjacent to the Applewhite House), to west of Stagecoach Inn. House faces south and is presently situated on the north side of Chestnut Street, which once contained other residences. Compatible with the district, but considered noncontributing because of its move. See 42B.

7. Mildred Shaver Residence - Southwest corner, intersection of Main and Chestnut Streets; 1955. Noncontributing.

One-story, mid-20th-century, brick-veneer residence with composition hipped roof. Recessed entry with paneled frontice pieces on each side of singled entry door. Large multipaned picture windows. Site of early store which was later converted to early Victorian cottage. This property has been owned by the same family since 1880. House designed by architect Travis Broesche.

8. Lesser's General Store - Main Street; ca. 1890. Contributing.

Single-story, three-bay, late 19th-century, vernacular commercial building with clapboard siding. Depth of original structure, built ca. 1890, was 20 feet. Additional 20 feet added in 1907 by J. W. Heartfield. In 1911 rear brick addition, featuring 2/2 windows with stone lintels, and service entry were constructed. Facade contains three double front entry doors with narrow glass panels. Flat wooden canopy with standing-seam metal roof is supported by four wooden posts. Wide gabled roof over entire



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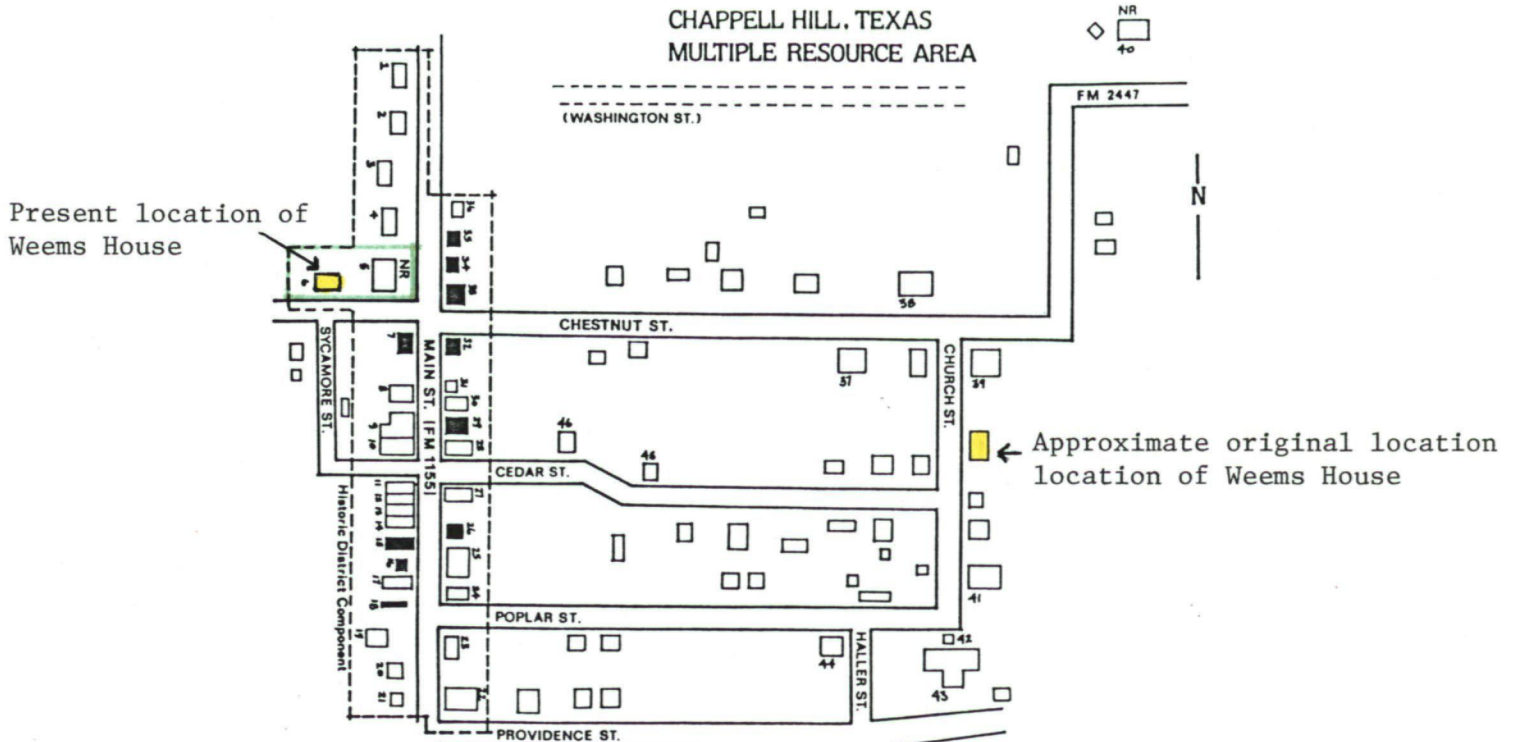
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Aseneth O. Weems House (Site #6) - original and present locations

The Weems House was originally located approximately one quarter mile east of its present location. It was sited on the east side of Church Street immediately south of the Applewhite House (Site #39 - individually nominated property). While a pasture is found behind (east) of the original site, the Weems House faced west and was part of a streetscape. That property is now occupied by a white brick, modern, suburban residence.

The Weems House is now located on the grounds of the historic Stagecoach Inn (National Register, 1976). The new site is at the edge of town in a more rural, estate-like setting. It faces south toward Chestnut Street.



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structure covered with corrugated metal. Both interior and exterior of building remain virtually unaltered. Building has always been used for general merchandising and has remained in Lesser family since 1896.

9. Farmer's State Bank - Main Street; 1907, 1981. Contributing.

One-story masonry commercial building displaying original cast-iron and wooden store front with large glass panels and transoms above. Central entrance contains characteristic French doors with narrow glass panels. Originally, cornice featured simple corbeled brickwork with a panel above. This crowning panel was destroyed by 1915 storm and never rebuilt. Plaster panel applied over corbeled brick cornice sometime before 1950s. Damaged by smoke in 1974 fire, interior was restored to original appearance. Dropped ceiling and paneled walls were gutted to reveal original ceiling and wall finish. New interior flooring installed. Awning with standing-seam metal roof supported by four square wooden posts replaced a flat canopy with thin iron posts in 1974. The elaborate interior oak and brass teller's cage and vault with cast-iron architecture are original. Brick north annex containing double casement windows with segmented relieving arches constructed in 1981 does not contribute.

10. W. R. Reinstein Store - Northwest corner, intersection of Main and Cedar streets; 1878. Contributing.

One-story, four-bay, masonry commercial building containing double French doors with narrow glass panels. Brick relieving arches span all four openings. There are no windows, except for a single one at rear. Cornice enhanced by decorative brick corbeling. Above cornice is stepped parapet with central panel. Curved corrugated, tin canopy appears in historic photograph dated ca. 1907, and may be original to the structure. Rear, double, wooden service entrance door. Stepped brick parapet wall at west end of south wall. Building has remained virtually unaltered since its construction. Original site of two-story wood-frame Sterling Hall. Cistern below floor at rear of structure. Building is still in original family.

11. Old Rock Store - Southwest corner, intersection of Main and Cedar streets; 1869. Contributing.

Single-story, four-bay, vernacular commercial building constructed of thick native sandstone walls and massive hand-hewn and pegged pine timbers. Front facade features symmetrical arrangement with two double doors and a single wooden shuttered window on each side. Single window and door on exposed side at rear. Double wooden service door on west rear elevation. Front awning over sidewalk covered with wooden shingles and supported by four pine posts. As evidenced by historic photos, facade was plastered in early 1900s. Interior ceiling and floors are 6" tongue-and-groove pine. Restoration of building begun in 1969 by the Chappell Hill Historical Society. Part of the interior flooring and exterior wall at the northwest corner replaced and repaired, respectively. Interior walls were finished with a smooth gypsum plaster. Tin awning replaced by wooden one based on historic photos. Chappell Hill's only stone building. Cistern located beneath structure. Many businesses conducted in building.

12. Campbell S & B Drug Store - Main Street; 1911. Contributing.

One-story, masonry, early 20th-century commercial building. One in a series of three row buildings, it replaced two small 19th-century wooden structures set back from street. Three structures connected by a continuous cedar-shingled wooden awning supported by wooden posts. Scalloped wooden skirting on front awning added in 1975. Front facade has double entry door with transom and a large glass and marble storefront. Three 16-light clerestory windows appear above main entrance with old screen door. This drug



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store is important for its association with Dr. W. R. Campbell, an early and prominent physician in Chappell Hill. Simply corbeled cornice crowns front parapet wall. Original interior, including furniture, shelves, and movable ladder, remains intact. Rear segmental arch windows with brick relieving arches.

13. J. P. Perkins Drug Store - Main Street; 1865. Contributing.

The middle in a series of three row buildings, this single-story masonry structure is one of Chappell Hill's oldest commercial establishments. Storefront is faced with brick and features a double entry door with multipaned glass panels. Front entrance features a stylized cast-iron lintel, while double wooden door at rear addition features identical cast-iron element and fanciful cut-glass panels. Cornice displays simple brick corbeling. Although commercial buildings on each side did not originally feature the scalloped canopy, a similarly styled one was a feature on the Perkins Drug Store as early as 1907. Modern canopy was added to building in 1975. Brick cistern intact below rear of store. Members of the Perkins family owned at least partial interest in the building until 1924.

14. Old Post Office - Main Street; 1912. Contributing.

Early 20th-century vernacular commercial building. Single-story masonry structure is the third in a series of three row buildings. It also contains continuous scalloped awning with cedar shingles and wooden posts. Front facade features single entrance door with large glass panel and a glass storefront with flat-arch transoms (obscured with wood). Interior pressed-metal ceiling. Served as local post office from 1915 to 1968. Post office boxes now housed in museum.

15. Old Burton Post Office - Main Street; ca. 1875 (moved from original site in 1977)  
Noncontributing.

Single-story, wood-frame, board-and-batten vernacular commercial building. Rectangular plan with double entrance door and wooden, 6/6, double-hung sash windows. Two additional double doors on southside. Modern awning with standing-seam metal roof and wooden posts extends around building on east and south sides. Wooden decking and steps on porch. Gabled roof covered with corrugated metal. Building relocated from Burton, Texas, 1977.

16. U. S. Post Office- Main Street; 1968. Noncontributing.

Very small, single-story, modern brick public building. Single aluminum front entrance door and window. Cedar siding along roof eave. Wrought-iron fence surrounds building.

17. Jack Winfield Store - Main Street; 1915. Contributing.

One-story, frame, early 20th-century vernacular commercial building with stepped false front crowned with simple molding. Rectangular plan with corrugated metal roof. Wooden overhang with standing-seam metal roof is supported by three wooden posts. Symmetrically placed, central, double (front) entry doors and clerestory windows above line of overhang. Clapboard siding on front facade is painted. Overhanging canopy altered. Interior rehabilitated. Site of earlier store.

18. Trailer - Main Street; 1984. Noncontributing.

Modern metal mobile-home trailer moved to vacant lot in spring of 1984. Lot is site of former 1920s house relocated to Providence Street in 1940s.

19. J. J. Shaver Residence - Main Street; 1914. Contributing.

Constructed by a local contractor J. B. Heartfield in 1914, this two-story, asymmetrical, Colonial Revival residence reflects classical influence in its detailing. Wide encircling front porch is supported by Ionic columns resting on brick piers. Wooden-slat balustrade encloses porch. Pedimented porch entrance leads to single front entry door in projecting bay. Corresponding projecting pediment with elliptical arch



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window and pair of tall, brick, end chimneys rise from composition hip roof. Windows appear in pairs, except on lower floor where there is a set of triple windows. Exterior is of clapboard siding with cornerboards. Projecting cornice with paired wooden brackets. Screened porch at rear of house. Interior features decoratively carved and paired square columns resting on paneled tables and a handsome staircase. Minimal changes, including the installation of a rear bathroom and central air and heating systems, have rendered the house virtually unaltered. Detached metal carport added in front in 1976, and is noncontributing.

20. Jessie Crockett House - Main Street; ca. 1907. Contributing.

Although this modified Victorian cottage stylistically reflects an earlier date of construction, deed records support the early 20th century period. L-shape plan with chamfered bay extension featuring scroll brackets at corners and fishscale siding, even in gable end. Front gallery supported by turned posts with scroll brackets at frieze. Balustrade encloses porch. Lattice-like porch base. Single entry door and 2/2 wooden sash windows, some of which retain shutters. Gable roof with composition shingles. Windows and porch steps repaired and replaced as needed. Jessie Crockett was Chappell Hill's Postmaster for several years.

21. Lewin Routt House - Main Street; 1920s. Contributing.

Single-story Bungalow with hipped roof extending over porch and exposed rafter ends at eaves. Brick piers at outer corners of porch with wooden-slat balustrade. Graduated series of capped brick piers bordering staired entrance to porch. Clapboard siding and wide wooden border around openings on exterior. Paired aluminum windows on east (front) facade. Original site of early Presbyterian Church which was relocated in 1886.

22. Providence Baptist Church - Northeast corner, intersection of Main and Providence Streets; 1873. Contributing.

Vernacular Greek Revival frame church building, measuring 36 x 56 feet. The exterior has clapboard siding with cornerboards that are capped-like pilasters. Symmetrically arranged plan with five, wooden 6/6, double-hung, sash windows on sides and two paneled double doors on front (west) facade. Composition gable roof forms end pediments with molded cornice. Finialed spire atop a vented cupola with projecting cornice and capped pilasters rises from peak of gable roof at the west end. Weathervane crowns finialed spire. Both interior and exterior of church have remained unaltered. Interior has two rooms at rear, one of which contains an exquisitely carved paneled door with chamfered edges. Style is typical of Protestant churches built at a much earlier date in the northeast, representing a significant survival for Texas. The 1873 Providence Baptist Church is successor to the old Baptist church founded in 1842 at Jacksonville, a small community three miles north of Chappell Hill. It is also located on the site of an earlier Episcopal Church building.

23. Providence Baptist Parsonage - Southeast corner, intersection of Main and Popular streets; 1855. Contributing.

L-shape, wood-frame, vernacular residence with shed addition at rear reflects Greek Revival influence in its style and detailing. Symmetrically arranged five-bay front contains two 6/6 wood-sash windows on each side of a single-transomed entrance door with sidelights. Transom bar has been obscured with paint. 12/8 windows appear at rear. Later board-and-batten addition at rear contains 4/4 windows. Side front windows were originally shuttered. Small lean-to porch, supported by four turned posts



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National Park Service**

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date entered

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with scroll brackets at corners. Original wooden roof exists under composition shingles. Gable room is terminated at eaves with molded wooden mantle in south front room. Building in poor physical conditions. Outbuildings include a cistern and early wood-frame barn. An early woodworker residing on the property, J. R. Gallow, had a steam engine, boiler, turning lathe, and tools.

24. The Toland House Hotel - Northeast corner, intersection Main and Poplar streets; 1912. Contributing

Constructed by J. W. Heartfield in 1912, this two-story, L-shaped, Colonial Revival hotel is characterized by its encircling front porch supported by slightly tapered Doric columns. Single entrance door with louvered wooden screen door. Clapboard siding with cornerboards and wood-shingle hipped roof. Wooden-sash windows with operable shutters exhibit cornice window heads. Old wood-frame office building attached to rear as kitchen was Dr. O. L. Williams and (later) Dr. Toland's office. Building continued to operate as a hotel until Mary Toland's death in 1931. It then served as a private residence until it opened as a country inn in 1980. In 1983 it reverted back to a private residence.

25. The Brazos Star - Main Street; 1880s, ca. 1860's McDermott obtain liquor license in 1860's. Contributing.

Single-story, double wood-frame, vernacular commercial building. Although reportedly built in the 1860s, building possibly belongs to the 1808s period. False front consists of stepped-panel feature of boards and battens on the south side and angled clapboard form on the north. Plain false fronts embellished with simple moldings. Side walls, as well as the front facade of one, are covered with board-and-batten siding. Originally structures with simple false-fronted gable ends incorporating rectangular panels and stepped features and connecting wooden sidewalks. Angled feature on false front of Brazos Star was unique on Main Street. Canopy extension with wooden shingles supported by five wooden posts. Continuous pattern in railing. Double entry doors with moveable windows and single window with vertical board shutters. Historically functioned as a saloon and served as such as late as 1968. Rear additions in 1911/1912. On south side of building, shed extension originally was a horse stable. Building restored in 1968/1969 with exterior painting and addition of railing.

26. Krolczyk Store - Main Street; 1946. Noncontributing.

Single-story, wooden, vernacular, commercial building of the middle 20th century situated on site of former 1850s Paint Shop. Built in 1946 with materials from old grocery store. Facade displays modern glass door stepped false-front gable capped with metal. Small shed porch with corrugated metal roof is supported by wooden posts. Owned from 1886 to 1972 by the Carlisle family.

27. S. F. Thornhill Building - Southeast corner, intersection of Main and Cedar streets; ca. 1875. Contributing.

Single-story, wood-frame, vernacular commercial building with simple false-front gable end, incorporating a stepped form with a rectangular panel and simple molding. Wood-frame clapboard siding. Four wood-paneled double entry doors with moveable panels and lights appearing in two. Corrugated metal canopy over wooden deck in front of building. Board-and-batten siding of the north wall historically used as advertising billboard. Building restored in 1975 by present owner. Frame of building straightened, deteriorated boards and cornice molding on false-front gable end replaced.



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28. W. E. Schaer Store/Masonic Lodge - Northeast corner, intersection of Main and Cedar streets; 1913. Contributing.

Constructed by J. W. Heartfield in 1913, this two-story masonry commercial structure with plastered facade at second level. Wooden stairway on side rises to second story. Front facade with projecting corner pilasters with corbeled caps and cornice. All windows single-light, double-hung, sash type with plain sills. Corresponding lintels obscured. Three-bay front with double wooden entrance doors, transoms, and glass front enhanced by cast-iron posts. Double transomed service entry on south side. Graduated recessed wall at second level on north side. Only two-story commercial building on Main Street. Site of ten-pin alley conducted prior to 1854. Building housed grocery store first operated by Schaer and Williford. Later operated by W. E. Schaer until two years before his death in 1952. Still owned by original family.

29. Fire Station - Main Street; 1974. Noncontributing.

Single-story, double-garage, 20th century commercial building constructed with board-and-batten cedar siding. Metal garage doors. Small central angled feature at roofline. Panel identifying building has decorative light fixture directly below. Concrete block addition at rear. Building replaced earlier 19th-century wood-frame commercial structure and retains configuration of its original roofline, thus maintaining continuity of streetscape.

30. Henry Schaer Store - Main Street; 1911. Contributing.

One-story, masonry, vernacular, commercial structure featuring decorative brickwork at cornice and cast-iron and wooden storefront constructed by local contractor J. W. Heartfield. Five-bay facade exhibits two double with a projecting bay window on each side. Both transomed entrance doors and bordering store-front windows have large clerestory windows above. Brick cornice is decorated with simple corbeling and continuous dentil pattern. Brick beltcourse below frieze extends across front facade. Wooden canopy (which has been rebuilt) has standing-seam metal roof supported by six wooden posts. Box skylight is featured on interior, as well as beaded-board siding. Earlier store on site occupied by William M. Rice, founder of Rice Institute in Houston, in 1891. Building still in original family.

31. Garage - Main Street; 1853, 1935. Contributing.

Single-story, two-bay, wood-frame structure which, prior to conversion into a garage, was a commercial building originally known as Buster's Drug Store. Current structure features a single-end support column at midspan, wood paneling on the interior, and corrugated metal covering the side walls and gable roof of corrugated metal. Original wooden support system of 1854 building still intact. Reportedly one of the earliest buildings constructed on Main Street, the original structure was built by Marcus P. Munyon; a lien placed on the property by him provides an excellent architectural description. The small original structure featured a simple-stepped false-front gable end with plain molding, one pair of sash doors measuring 7 1/2 x 4 feet, one shuttered 12-light front window, a tongue-and-grooved floor, and weatherboard siding. An historic photograph of this building indicates that the window no longer appeared in front, and a section lower level next to main retail portion had been opened up as a garage or loading room. In the 1930s the store was converted into a open garage. The length was shortened at back and the the tongue-and-groove flooring removed. In 1884 Henry Schaer operated a bakery in the small building. The current structure is still owned by the Schaer family.



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32. Robert Schaer House - Southeast corner, intersection of Main and Chestnut streets; 1935. Noncontributing.

One-story brick, early 20th-century, vernacular residential structure located on large corner lot. L-shape plan with projecting bay at north end containing double entrance door with architrave trim. Corners of projecting room enhanced with large, squared, brick quoin relief pattern capped with projecting cornice return of eave. Single door with stepped surround appears at center of front facade. Paired windows with operable shutters and a single round one also featured on front. Gabled roof with composition shingles. Site of earlier Henry Schaer homestead. Outbuildings include small wood-frame "doll house" of unspecified date and a pump house. Site in 1850s of large warehouse moved in from Warrentown and destroyed by a tornado in 1852 (lot 17). Cabinet shop of John Umland also located on this property from 1861 to 1881 (lot 18). Architect was Travis Broesche.

33. Haviescher Residence - Northeast corner, intersection of Main and Chestnut streets; 1870s, 1983. Noncontributing.

One-story, L-shaped, wood frame residence. Inset porch supported by wooden posts. 2/2 wooden-sash windows and single-front entrance door. Weatherboard siding with cornice molding and returns at eaves. Gable roof with composition shingles. Additions at rear of house and concrete porch floor installed 1930 to 1934. In 1982 residence was painted and a tall wooden fence constructed, obscuring most of house from view. House has been hit by cars many times and a concrete porch built to keep cars out of bedroom. Cary Keesee conducted a private school at this house when she resided here 1895 - 1904.

34. Casper Witteborg House - Main Street; 1854, 1982. Noncontributing.

Small, one-story, wood-frame, vernacular residential structure with eclectic Greek Revival influence. Rectangular symmetrical plan with an early shed addition on east end and 6/6 windows on each side of front entrance door with sidelights and transoms. During extensive rehabilitation in 1982, pedimented portico with square columns replaced lean-to porch covered with corrugated iron. The location of the supposed original framing was visible on the main cornice. The size of porch was determined by post remains in ground. House originally contained two end chimneys; only one retained at north end, which was rebuilt. Also at this time rear porch reconstructed and deteriorated exterior and interior siding replaced. Most of the original cedar floor and framing still in place. Only one of the original cedar mantels remains.

35. B. W. Goodson House - Main Street; ca. 1855 (moved from original site in 1982). Noncontributing.

Two-story wood-frame vernacular, pioneer residence moved onto present lot from nearby rural setting in 1982. Single entry door; 4/4 wooden-sash windows. Corrugated metal gabled roof with shed extension at rear. Home of Chappell Hill's first mayor and early store owner, John Q. Wallis, who married B. W. Goodson's daughter. House is currently being restored. Moved in 1983 from approximately 1½ miles northwest of Chappell Hill.

36. Julius Yanch House - Main Street; 1854, ca. 1908, ca. 1935. Contributing.

One-story, L-shape, cedar, wood-frame, vernacular residential structure with projecting gable and bay at north end. Front porch features large turned posts with fan brackets and balustrade with fanciful curvilinear cut-out pattern. Rear brick chimney and underground cistern of limestone at rear entrance. Weatherboard siding with 6/6 windows surrounded with plain trim and architrave trim lintels. Gabled roof covered with stand-seam metal roof. Original contract for the construction of the house by



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Marcus Munyan for \$175 indicated that structure had 17 x 34 feet perimeter, three paneled doors, five windows, cedar-shingled roof, and a single 17-foot partition. Center west front of projecting bay originally contained a chimney bordered by single window. When 1930s fire destroyed chimney, present pair of windows added. Front porch with scroll brackets and posts, as well as projecting end bay, added to the original two-room dwelling sometime before 1911. Present balustrade and bath added in the 1960s. Also in 1960s, residence was leveled and repaired. A wooden rear patio deck has been installed in recent times. Only outbuilding on the property is a wooden storage building constructed in 1981.



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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Chappell Hill Multiple Resource Area  
State Washington County, Texas

Cover accept.

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |     |   |                                  |            |                                 |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 1.  | Main Street Historic District                                     | Substantive Review               | Keeper     | <u>Linda McClelland 5/15/85</u> |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 2.  | Applewhite, Isaac, House  | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 3.  | Chappell Hill Circulating Library                                 | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 4.  | Chappell Hill Methodist Episcopal Church                          | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 5.  | Chappell Hill Public School and Chappell Hill Female College Bell | Substantive Review               | Keeper     | <u>Linda McClelland 2/20/85</u> |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 6.  | Felder, E. King, House  | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 7.  | Rogers, William S., House   | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 8.  | Routt, J.R., House  | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 9.  | Smith, John Sterling, Jr. House                                   | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>Shelton Byers 2/20/85</u>    |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |
| 10. |   |                                  | Keeper     |                                 |
|     |   |                                  | Attest     |                                 |



*Cover*

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Chappell Hill MRA  
Washington County  
TEXAS

*Substantive Review*

JAN 14 1985

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: *2/4/85*

Date Due: *2/14/85 - 2/28/85*

Action: ☒ ACCEPT *2-20-85*

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Extremely thorough and well-documented cover form.  
Specific properties have been care-  
fully referenced throughout.*

Recom./Criteria *Accept*

Reviewer *McAleland*

Discipline *Arch. Hist.*

Date *2/20/85*

\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below  
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
		<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection



## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*







Historic Resources of Chappell Hill  
Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas

Historic Photo: Panoramic View of Chappell Hill  
Residential section

Photographer unknoww; 1909-1911, neg on  
file Texas Historical Commission

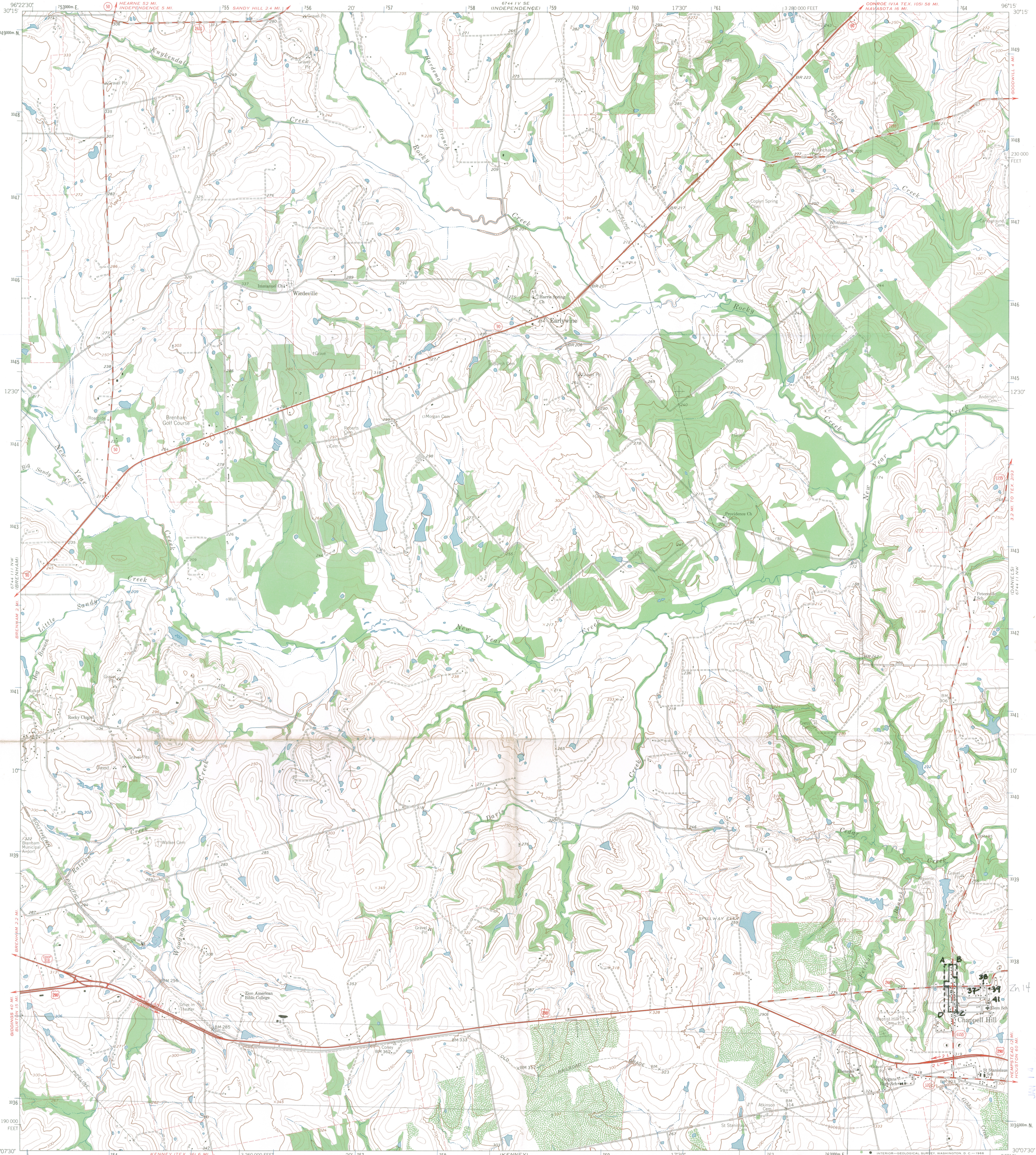
Camera facing southwest

photo 1 of 58



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CHAPPELL HILL QUADRANGLE  
TEXAS-WASHINGTON CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

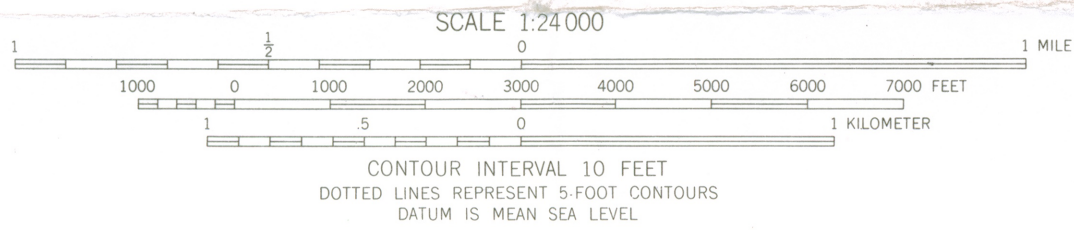
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1963

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, central zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 14, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

UTM GRID AND 1963 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



764 150  
764 325



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

3096-124

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

CHAPPELL HILL, TEX.

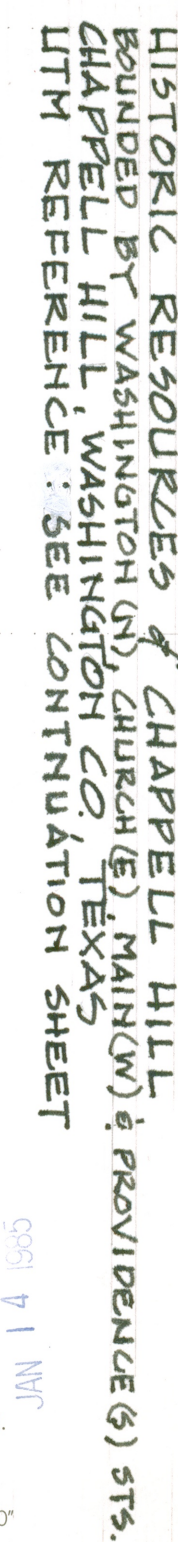
N3007.5-W9615.7.5

1963

AMS 6744 111 NE-SERIES V882

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CHAPPELL HILL  
BOUNDED BY WASHINGTON (N), LAUREL (E), MAIN (S) & PROVIDENCE (S) STS.  
CHAPPELL HILL, WASHINGTON CO., TEXAS  
UTM REFERENCE: SEE CONTINUATION SHEET





Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1963

AMS 6744 III NF-SERIES V882



(Jan. 1984)

National Register of Historic Places  
Texas Historical Commission

Information \_\_\_\_\_

date completed \_\_\_\_\_

reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_

Type all entries. All sections must be completed and all materials supplied.

for THC  
use

1. Name

historic Historic Resources of Chappell Hill, Texas

and/or common

2. Location

street & number

N/A not for publication

city, town Chappell Hill

vicinity of

state Texas

code 048

county Washington

code

3. Classification

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP

☒ building(s) ☐ public

☒ structure ☐ private

☒ site ☒ both

☒ object PUBLIC

ACQUISITION

☐ in process

☐ being considered

STATUS

☒ occupied

☐ unoccupied

☐ work in progress

ACCESSIBLE

☒ yes: restricted

☒ yes: unrestricted

☐ no

PRESENT USE

☐ agriculture

☒ commercial

☒ educational

☒ entertainment

☒ government

☐ industrial

☐ military

☒ museum

☐ park

☒ private residence

☒ religious

☐ scientific

☐ transportation

☒ vacant

☒ other: Library

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (See Continuation Sheet)

street & number

telephone

city, town

vicinity of

state & zip

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Brenham

state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See Continuation Sheet has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state



# CHAPPELL HILL, TEXAS MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA

NR  
40

FM 2447

N

(WASHINGTON ST.)

CHESTNUT ST.

CEDAR ST.

POPLAR ST.

PROVIDENCE ST.

CHURCH ST.

HALLER ST.

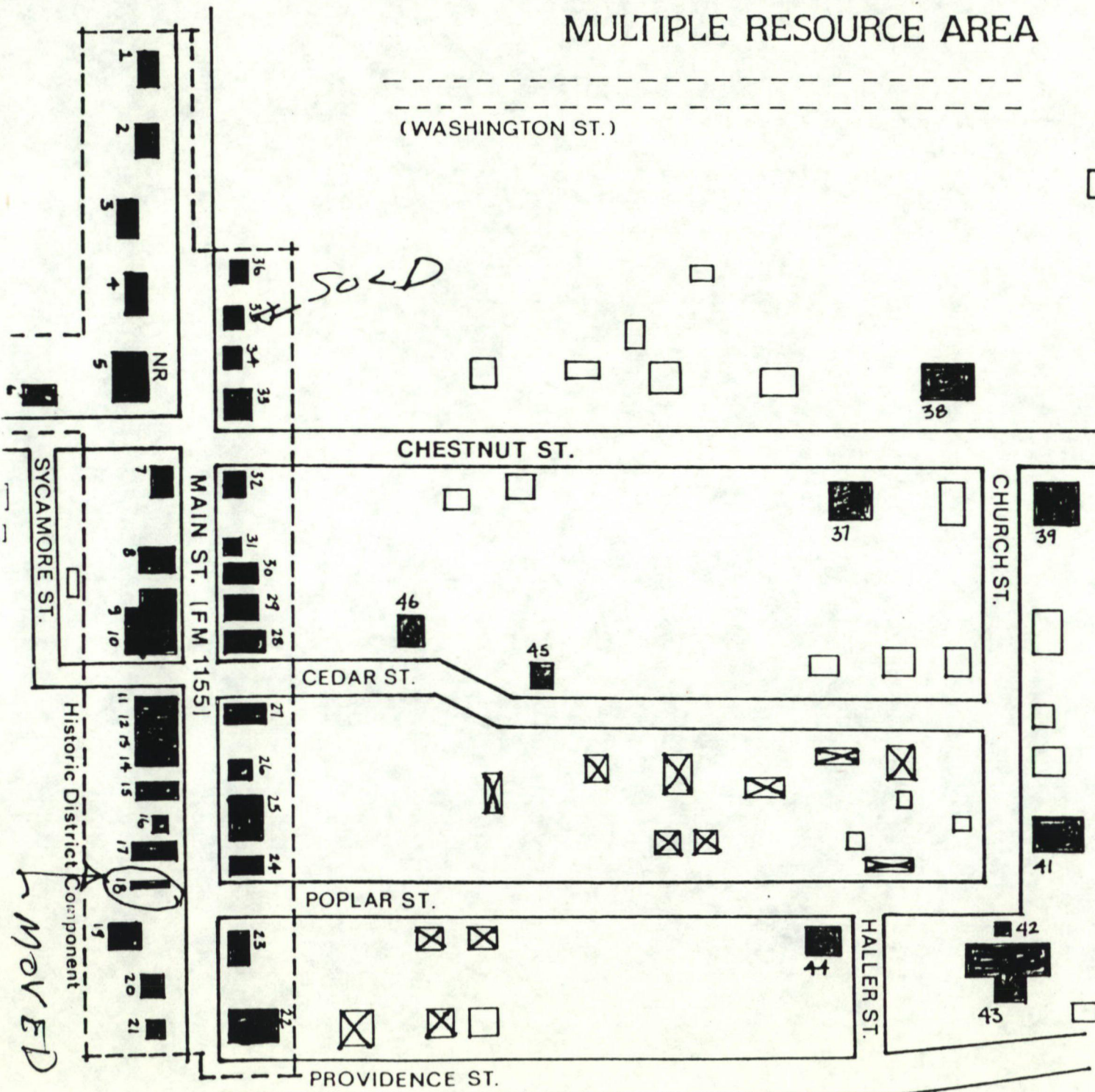
MAIN ST. (FM 1155)

SYCAMORE ST.

Historic District Component

## LEGEND

- CONTRIBUTING
  - ✕ NON-CONTRIBUTING
  - RELOCATED STRUCTURES
  - INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES
- 1 INCH = Approx. 200 Ft.





# Chappell Hill

1. Abram Lee House Owner-Mr. William Vollert	Main St.	1859
2. Julia Booth House Owner-Johnny Gutierrez	Main St	ca 1850
3. Permelia Haynie House Owner- Mrs. Aline Winfield	Main St.	ca 1850
4. Haller House Owner- Mr & Mrs. Clark Polk	Main St.	ca 1850
5. Stagecoach Inn (NR) Owner-Mr & Mrs. Harvin C. Moore	Main & Chestnut Sts.	1850
6. Archibald O. Weems House Owner- Mr & Mrs. Harvin C. Moore	Chestnut St.	1866 (relocated)
7. F. H. Shaver House Owner- Mrs. F. H Shaver, Est.	Main & Chestnut Sts.	1955
8. Lesser's General Store Owner- Mr. John Philip Lesser	Main St.	ca 1890
9. Farmer State Bank President Mr. Gary Crocker	Main St.	1907
10. W. R. Reinstein Store Owner-Mrs. Sadie R Schaer, Est.	Main St.	1878
11. Rock Store Owner-Chappell Hill Hist. Society	Main St.	1860
12. Campbell S & B Drug Store Owner-Mrs. Bernice Shaver	Main St.	1911
13. J. P. Parkins Drug Store Owner-Mrs. Bernice Shaver	Main St.	1866
14. Old Post Office Owner-Mrs. Bernice Shaver	Main St	1912



15.	Old Burton Post Office Owner- Mr. W. A. Mc Means	Main St.	1875(moved)
16.	U. S. Post Office Owner- Mr. & Mrs. Milton Routt	Main St.	1968
17.	Jake Winfield Store Owner- Mr. & Mrs. Morris Dillard	Main St.	1915
19.	J. J. Shaver House Owner- Mrs. Cornelia Shaver	Main St.	1914
20.	Jessie Crockett House Owner- Dr. & Mrs. Don C Mitchell	Main St.	ca. 1907
21.	Lewin Routt House Owner-Mrs. Agnes Krolczyk	Main St.	ca. 1920
22.	Providence Baptist Church Owner- Mr. Crockett Camp	Main St.	1873
23.	Providence Baptist Parsonage Owner-Mr. Crockett Camp	Main St.	1855
24.	The Toland House Hotel Owner- Mr. Winston Freeman	Main & Poplar Sts	1912
25.	The Brazos Star Mrs. Mary L. Young	Main St	1860
26.	Krolczyk Store Owner- Mr. Alphonse Krolczyk	Main St.	1946
27.	S. F. Thornhill Building Owner- Mr. Thomas A Bullock, Jr.	Main & Cedar Sts	ca. 1875
28.	W. E. Schaer Store/Masonic Lodge Owner- Mrs. Sadie R. Schaer, Est.	Main St.	1913
29.	Chappell Hill Fire Department Owner-c/o Quinn Farwell, Sec.	Main St.	1974
30.	Henry Schaer Store Owner-Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schaer, Est.	Main St.	1935
31.	Buster Store-garage Owner-Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schaer, Est.	Main St.	1853
32.	Robert Schaer House Owner Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schaer, Est	Main	1935



- |     |  |                        |                    |
|-----|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| 33. | Haviescher House<br>Owner- Mr & Mrs. Harvin C. Moore                       | Main & Chestnut<br>Sts | ca.1870            |
| 34. | Casper Witteborg House<br>Owner-Mr. & Mrs. Philip R. Neuhaus               | Main St.               | 1854               |
| 35. | B. W. Goodson House<br>Owner- Mr. & Mrs. Harvin C. Moore                   | Main St.               | ca.1860<br>(moved) |
| 36. | Julius Yanch House<br>Owner- Mr. Charles E. Smith, Est.                    | Main St.               | ca.1854            |
| 37. | Sterling Smith House<br>Owner- Mr.& Mrs. M. H. Cron                        | Chestnut St.           | ca. 1855           |
| 38. | Jackson R. Routt House<br>Owner- Mrs Thelma Crockett                       | Chestnut St.           | 1853/54            |
| 39. | Isaac Applewhite House<br>Owner- Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Spencer                  | Church St.             | ca. 185            |
| 40. | Waverly(NR) Tunstall House<br>Owner- Mr. & Mrs. Paul Stockdale             | FM Road 2447           |                    |
| 41. | United Methodist Church<br>Owner- c/o Mrs Lillian Smith, Secy.             | Church St.             | 1901               |
| 42. | Chappell Hill Female College Bell<br>Owner- Chappell Hill Hist. Soc.       | Museum Grounds         | 1873               |
| 43. | Chappell Hill Community Center & Museum<br>Owner- Chappell Hill Hist. Soc. | Poplar St.             | 1927               |
| 44. | Edgar King Felder House<br>Owner- Mr. Roger Dresch                         | Haller St.             | 1910               |
| 45. | Chappell Hill Circulating Library<br>Owner- Chappell Hill Hist. Soc.       | Cedar St.              | 1912               |
| 46. | William S. Rogers House<br>Owner- Mr. Jim Lather- Mr. John Shaw            | Cedar St.              | 1860               |



The following is a list of a single object, individual properties, and buildings within Chappell Hill's historic district designated as Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. United Methodist Church	East side Church Street
2. Chappell Hill Female College Bell	Grounds of Chappell Hill Community Center and Museum
3. Isaac Applewhite House	Church Street at Chestnut Street
4. Permelia Haynie House	West side Main Street
5. Haller House	West side Main Street
6. Rock Store	Southwest corner, Sycamore and Main Streets
7. Providence Baptist Church	Northeast corner Providence and Main Streets
8. Julius Yanch House	East side Main Street
9. <del>Colonel William Sledge</del> <sup>TUNSTALL</sup> House	FM Road 2447

Other historic designations in the Chappell Hill vicinity include:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Colonel William Sledge House (John Smith House) HABS (TEX-25); 1936	Approx. 1 mile west of Chappell Hill
2. Chappell Hill Female College Site 1936 State Centennial Marker	Ground of Chappell Hill Community Center and Museum
3. Soule University Recorded Texas Historic Landmark	U.S. Highway 290
4. Dr. John Lockhart House Recorded Texas Historic Landmark	FM Road 1371



<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
5. W. W. Browning House National Register	Off FM 1371
6. Masonic Cemetery	Approx. 3/4 mile northwest of Chappell Hill



## REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (6)

A comprehensive survey of the town proper of Chappell Hill comprising approximately an eight-block area was conducted in 1982 by two graduate students in the Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University, under the direction of Chairman David Woodcock. It is this single all-encompassing survey upon which the Multiple Resource nomination is based.

Individual properties, as well as buildings in the Main Street Historic District, have previously been included in other inventories and historical listings, such as the Historic American Buildings Survey, University of Texas Archeological Research Lab inventory, National Register of Historic Places, and Recorded Texas Historic Landmark file.

Two structures in Chappell Hill's multiple resource area are already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. One of these, the stately Greek Revival Stagecoach Inn, is also listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey. In addition, an historic archeological site on its property has been excavated by Gerald K. Humphreys, Ph.D., and inventoried by the Texas Archeological Research Lab:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Stagecoach Inn*	Northwest corner, Main and Chestnut Streets.
2. <del>Colonel William Sledge</del> <sup>TUNSTALL</sup> House (Waverly)	FM Road 2447

\*HABS (TEX-24), 1936; University of Texas Archeological Research Lab Recorded Site no. 15 (41WT15).



## GENERAL DISCUSSION OF AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Exploration and Settlement

Early settlement of the multiple-resource area represents a pattern typical of many small Washington County pioneer towns which flourished in the mid-19th century. Crucial to the organization and overall economic development of the region, the establishment of the town of Chappell Hill as one of the most important centers of Methodism and education in Texas in the 1850's initiated a period of expansion and increased settlement by pioneers predominantly from southern states. Chappell Hill was recognized early as the cultural and educational center of this area that was Stephen F. Austin's colony. Prior to this and the removal of the Indians, early farmers had established modest homesteads at the outskirts of the present town along New Year's Creek and major travel routes. A site on New Year's Creek near Chappell Hill was also the point of arrival for the first settlers of Austin's Colony. Large-scale settlement of the town proper did not occur until the original town site, purchased by Mary Hargrove Haller, was surveyed into saleable lots in 1849. As one of the few women in Texas history directly responsible for the founding and naming of a town, Mary Haller also initiated increased settlement of the outlying region. Her grandfather, Robert Wooding Chappell, reportedly had maintained a store and "trading point" at the place where the town was established prior to 1849. In addition, Washington County Deed Records indicate that there were at least two other stores operating in Chappell Hill during this period.

### Architecture

Chappell Hill's overall historical development and early position as the cultural and educational center of the newly established state is reflected in the evolution of wood and brick vernacular architecture in the commercial center and both modest and sophisticated house forms on Main Street and in the adjacent residential neighborhood. A full range of local architectural types and styles, including Greek Revival, Victorian Eclectic, modified Queen-Anne, and Colonial Revival, is well-represented by residential, commercial, religious, and civic buildings in the period between 1850 and 1930. Although the vernacularized architecture within the multiple resource area represents national trends and many popular styles and features in small Texas towns, it reflects a distinctly local character and modest scale. Due to both the Great Storm of 1900 and changes in the architectural styles and tastes, several mid-19th century houses have evolved structurally with Victorian-influenced additions. A wide variety of structures, although not representative of the finest examples of high style architecture, are associated with numerous public-spirited prominent citizens, and serve as tangible evidence of this once thriving community's historic past.

A considerable amount of construction, spurred on by a robust economic climate, produced many wooden and fine substantial brick commercial buildings



during the 1850's-1870's and the first decades of the 20th century. Reflecting imaginative styling and a fine quality of workmanship, brick detailing employed during these periods, although simple, is particularly noteworthy. A single sandstone rubble commercial structure, built in 1869, still exists. With the advent of the railroad in 1859, easily transported, ornamental cast-iron cornices and thin columns placed between wide glass windows at the street level, were popularized. Most of Chappell Hill's early 20th century commercial buildings were larger in scale and, like their predecessors, reflected the availability of natural building materials, such as locally manufactured brick. One of the most architecturally ambitious projects during this period was the Chappell Hill Public School Building, constructed in 1927 and designed by Page Brothers Architects.

Architectural development in the residential sections of Main Street and the adjacent neighborhood to the east kept full pace with that in the commercial center during these periods. Superb design and craftsmanship are reflected in eclectic vernacularized versions of nationally popular house forms (as might have been represented in builders' guides and pattern books). The mid to late 19th century, as well as the early 20th, produced an infinite variety of architectural features and house forms based on Greek Revival, modified Queen Anne, eclectic victorian, and Colonial Revival Styles. Although few of these exist as documentation of an earlier period, several early 20th century Colonial Revival residences and brick commercial buildings constructed by J. W. Heartfield survive as important architectural forms. Of particular significance is the fact that a large number of commercial and residential interiors remain intact.

### Landscape Architecture

Landscape architecture within the multiple resource area has traditionally reflected citizens' tastes and the overall character and appearance of the town throughout the successive stages of its development. Landscaping in the commercial center, early confined to clusters of trees lining Main Street, soon included informally landscaped yards in front of residences. A few mid-late 19th century residences at the northern boundary of the district are set on a low rise and exhibit beautifully landscaped lawns with beds of multi-colored spring bulbs and ornamental shrubs. One house features a brick retaining wall at the street line. In addition to the various native deciduous trees lining Main Street and gracing the lawns of Chappell Hill's historic homes, ornamentals were imported at one time. Many large, beautiful magnolias, for example, are to be found throughout the town. In the early 1900's, preferences for a more aesthetic residential surrounding were reflected in front yards, which were transformed from bare, fenced-in tracts to continuous lawns bordering on narrow streets. Several of the individually nominated residences within this area are situated on their original huge lots and display lush formal gardens or retain physical evidence of historic ones. A few of these historic wood-frame houses, surrounded by large tracts of land, maintain somewhat of a farm-like setting and impart a rural feeling to this part of



the community. Many large old trees, such as pecans, sycamores, and live oaks, are still present in many of their original settings near residences. The most common flowering trees in the area are the crepe myrtle and dogwood.

### Community Planning and Development

Significant in terms of community planning and development, the commercial center and adjacent neighborhood represent the expansion of an important commercial cotton center in a town initially surveyed in 1849, and established within a gridiron pattern oriented to the cardinal points and connecting early roads. The establishment of this gridiron system and commercial center at the intersection of major thoroughfares and travel routes is typical of early Texas towns in the 19th century. Subsequent residential development east of the downtown commercial area retained this uniform grid pattern in elongated blocks. Blocks within the commercial downtown measured approximately 320 ft. in length and were divided by 20 ft. wide alleys. An active town council commissioned many improvements within the town proper, including a system of connecting wooden sidewalks through the city in 1866. With the incorporation of the town and the advent of the railroad in the late 1850's, the southern boundary of Chappell Hill was extended a few blocks and contained several stores, hotels, warehouses, and cotton gins. This "Depot Town" as well as the downtown businesses remained viable and grew substantially throughout the century.

### Historic Archeology

Historic archeological investigations have occurred within the multiple resource area on the site of the Stagecoach Inn (#5) for the purpose of recovering information on which to base a reconstruction of the detached kitchen that initially served the 1850 structure. The kitchen remains consisted of hearth, brick paved work area, and an activity area floor. Similar detached outbuildings and cisterns once associated with several early residences no longer remain, although their foundations probably exist below the surface of the ground. Many shards and other historical debris have been found on several properties and vacant lots throughout the years. Newspaper type has been found on a vacant lot north of Lesser's Store (#8) and rock foundations are visible along what was once Washington Street. Large stone cisterns are currently intact beneath the first floors of a few commercial buildings on the west side of Main Street (Reinstein Store, #10; Perkins Drug Store, #13; Rock Store, #11), as well as at the rear entrances of several houses (J.R. Routt House, #38; Parmelia Haynie House, #3; Haller House, #4; Isaac Applewhite House, #39; J. J. Shaver House, #19; Baptist Parsonage, #23). Vacant lots once associated with 19th century residences also contain remains of cisterns.



## Art

Several talented German craftsmen, woodworkers, and cabinetmakers, such as Casper Witteborg, Johann Umland, and Henry Brandt, practiced in Chappell Hill between 1854 and 1880 and reinforced Chappell Hill's reputation as an early cultural center. Casper Witteborg and Johann Umland, who both owned property on Main Street at various times, were commissioned by and sold their hand-crafted, exquisitely carved furniture to the wealthiest families of the community. Surviving examples of their furniture not only exhibit a high degree of craftsmanship, but also show an awareness of current furniture styles. The sophistication of design and detail of Umland's carved beds represents a height not generally achieved by Texas craftsmen (a bed of his made in 1861 for Terrell J. Jackson, a Washington County planter, may be seen at the Winedale Museum, Round Top). Another German cabinetmaker and businessman, Henry C. Brandt, was commissioned to build the United Methodist Church.

Production of the decorative arts in Chappell Hill is well represented by Gustavus Adolphus Iankes, a talented jeweler, silversmith, and goldsmith, who was reportedly attracted to the town by what he considered superior schools. Iankes, who maintained a shop on Main Street (lots 4 and 5) between 1853 and 1879, was the craftsman commissioned to make the ceremonial jewels for the Masonic Lodge after it was chartered in 1851. Made out of silver coins, these emblems worn by ceremony participants are still in use today in Chappell Hill. Several family heirlooms crafted by him were on exhibit in the San Antonio Museum in 1973, and a few of his drafting instruments are currently displayed in the Chappell Hill Museum.

## Commerce

The Chappell Hill commercial district has continuously served as both the economic and governmental center for Chappell Hill and the outlying region since 1854. The business district was the heart of a community that thrived from and also supported the agricultural trade. Chappell Hill's commercial origin was historically based on cotton plantation farming which was replaced after the Civil War by small farms and stock raising. Prior to the Civil War the vigorous cotton trade made Washington County Texas' leading center for cotton production and export. After the arrival of the railroad in 1859 and due to the town's proximity to the Brazos River, Chappell Hill was established as one of the county's chief retail, wholesale, and shipping centers. The resulting "boom" period of development was marked by building expansion, population growth, and commercial property. Various commercial establishments, such as grocery, dry goods and drug stores, saloons, and hotels lined both sides of Main Street to the depot end of town which catered to numerous railroad employees and their families. Due to its central position between the three cities of Houston, Waco, and Austin, Chappell Hill soon emerged as a market center for an agricultural area devoted chiefly to cotton. Several of the town's businessmen owned and operated ferry businesses and



cotton gins and warehouses. In 1936 Chappell Hill was still a thriving farming community which commanded a considerable trade from the surrounding country. By 1950, however, Burton's population had surpassed that of Chappell Hill and this town became more important as a shipping point and market.

### Industry

Early industrial activity centered along the railroad tracks and also reflected Chappell Hill's general prosperity and period of commercial expansion. During the late 19th and early 20th century large business complexes associated with the cotton industry, including the Schaer and Crockett Cotton Gin and Routt and Crockett Cotton Warehouse. Prior to the Civil War, plantations had their own gins which were powered by mules with a capacity of approximately four bales per day. There were few public gins in the county during this period. By 1900, steam gins with a capacity of 100 bales per day were commonplace throughout the county. In 1936 thirteen electrically operated gins were still in use for cotton production. Another major industry which flourished early in the vicinity was sawmill operations. An enterprising and prominent citizen of Chappell Hill, Jacob L. Harvey, was involved in local oil development efforts as early as 1858. The Chappell Hill area, as well as Washington County, has more recently gained national attention as one of the top horse producing and training centers in the country.

### Transportation

Chappell Hill's centralized and strategic position between the three larger market and population centers of Houston, Waco, and Austin, rendered the city an important early transportation center. The town's main street (IM 1155) was also one of the early routes from San Felipe to Washington-on-the-Brazos. As early as 1852, a stage line operated from Austin to Houston three days a week via Chappell Hill, and another, F.P. Sawyer's Mail Stage, ran from Houston to Waco in 1859. The Stagecoach Inn became a center for mail delivery, message exchange, and a stop for post riders and stage coaches. Although there were many stage lines, it was the advent of the railroad in 1859 that allowed Chappell Hill to develop into a thriving community. The railroad not only provided a broader market and larger populations for Chappell Hill, but also increased the city's commercial and industrial activities. Chappell Hill's position as a major early 20th century transportation center was reinforced with the establishment of reportedly one of the first paved road systems in the State. A system of paved cardinal roads throughout Washington County was initiated in 1921 in Chappell Hill along Main Street (State Highway 20). The road was the first of this project initiated and also represented somewhat of an engineering feat at the time of its construction.



## Communications

As one of the earliest established towns in Washington County, Chappell Hill was one of the main centers of communication with the remainder of Texas. At the outbreak of the Civil War, most of the State's communications network centered in Chappell Hill and nearby Washington-on-the-Brazos. Telegraph reports of the Civil War's progress were relayed from Chappell Hill to the Capitol at Austin, which had no telegraph service at this time. Prior to the Civil War, the Stagecoach Inn had become an important center for mail delivery and message exchange, as well as a stop for stage coaches. Telephone service was also installed at an early date in Chappell Hill.

## Agriculture

Chappell Hill has historically served as the principal trade center for the region's large cotton plantations and small farms producing a wide range of crops. After the founding of Austin's Colony, an influx of Anglo immigrants, particularly from the southern states, were irresistibly drawn to the fertile loam of the Brazos watershed. Reflecting the heritage of these early settlers, a plantation system soon developed, with a handful of wealthy landowners in control of large tracts of cultivated acreage. As early as 1859 Texas naturalist Gideon Linceum noted that practically all of the land around Chappell Hill was under fence and selling for \$35.00 per acre. Chappell Hill's commercial center played an important role in the agricultural economy of the region, serving as both a trading and shipping point (Chappell Hill was known as early as 1849 as a trading point). In the summer of 1867 the town council ordered a Market House built in the alley behind the drug store of Stone, Wilkes, and Stone. Although agricultural production and the economy were based largely on cotton trade, some outlying farms yielded a variety of crops, including grains and fruits. The advent of the boll weevil took its toll on agricultural production in the early 20th century. Gardens producing a wide variety of vegetables and fruits were popular well into the 20th century in the multiple-resource area. Large quantities of these crops found their way into the market through truck farming businesses which operated from the commercial center and received support from the Washington County Truck Grower's Association. By 1936, the area's principal industry was still farming, although some cattle raising was done on a small scale. A current trend in agricultural production has been the change from row crop farming to forage production for beef, dairy, and horses. Several dairy creameries have also been established in the area.

## Education

Chappell Hill's early public schools and private educational institutions were focal points in the community and reflected an expanding population and prosperous economic climate. Both were important state-wide as renowned centers of higher learning which graduated many prominent figures throughout



the State. The most important of these, the Chappell Hill Female College and Soule University were established in the mid-19th century under the auspices of the Methodist Church. The Chappell Hill Male and Female Institute was organized in 1852. In the same year, it was reorganized and its name changed to Chappell Hill College. Soule University for boys was chartered on February 2, 1856, and constructed on donated land bordering on the multiple resource area. The female contingency of the Chappell Hill College continued to operate as the Chappell Hill Female College until 1912. Before it was razed in 1926, the college building housed the Chappell Hill public school. Soule University was an imposing three-story structure built of local sandstone and measuring 56 x 84 feet. The University's Department of Medicine became the pilot medical project for the entire State and also the basis and foundation for the latter Texas Medical College and Hospital, now the University of Texas Medical College and Hospital, now the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Several other public schools flourished in Chappell Hill at various times. A private school was housed in the Haviescher Residence on Main Street between 1895 and 1904. The most notable 20th century school was constructed by the Chappell Hill Independent School District in 1927 on the site of the former Female College. Architecturally significant at the time of its construction, the school building was equipped with an auditorium and all the "modern conveniences".

### Religion

Like many of the early communities of the State, Chappell Hill was a strongly religious community. In the mid 19th century Chappell Hill became one of the most important centers of Methodism in Texas. The Methodist Church, one of the strongest influences in the overall development of the community (especially education), had its beginning in numerous camp meetings held at Cedar Creek and various other locations in the 1830's. Reverend Robert Alexander, who arrived as a missionary in Texas at the beckoning of William B. Travis, was the main organizing force behind the early Methodists. The Texas Conference of the Methodist Church was held in Chappell Hill five times between 1854 and 1878. The 1873 Providence Baptist Church, which still stands on Main Street, is successor to the old Baptist Church founded in 1842 at Jacksonville, a small community three miles north of Chappell Hill.