



Dallas County Pioneer Association
Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
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From the President



Dallas Story

Greetings, It is my sincere hope that you are well. Because I want everyone to stay that way I have canceled this quarters Board and General meeting. Hopefully we will be able to have the next quarter's meetings. Please remember to wash your hands frequently and stay home unless you really have to be out and then wear a mask. Since most of us are in the high risk category we need to be careful! If any member has any needs please let a Board member know. Here is an interesting



Doc Holliday Finds New Work In Dallas

In the 1870s, the Dallas State Fair & Exposition, a precursor of the State Fair of Texas, gave an award for "best set of gold teeth" to a young dentist newly arrived from St. Louis named John Henry "Doc" Holliday. At first, the award was a boon for Doc Holliday's new dental practice, which was located on Elm Street, just east of Market Street. But business suffered when Doc's coughing fits tipped patients to his tuberculosis.

Holliday looked for a new profession, and he found one in the Julian Bogelís Saloon. At the time, it was estimated that Dallas was home to more than 100 professional gamblers. After being arrested for gambling in 1875, Doc moved on with his friend Wyatt Earp, eventually landing in Tombstone, Arizona. *Reprinted from D Magazine 2018*



So much for social distancing.

Best regards,
Jim Bookhout
President



This is Dottie, your friendly Facebook admin. ☐ I wanted to update you on what we have done. We are trying to move the Facebook Page over to the Group Page. The reason is this, when you post onto the Facebook page it does not post public and falls under a community tab, no one can see it there. The Facebook Group setting lets you post and share with the public group, visible to all.

Please Click [Facebook](#) to like the new Group, follow it and post to it. I think your family historical link to Dallas would be great to share. We will all get to know each other a little better that way since we do not get to see each other in June.

Thank you and we look forward to learning a bit of family history from all!
Dottie Durrett

St Paul United Methodist Church



St Paul United Methodist Church is one of the very oldest churches in Dallas. It was founded in the heart of what was to become a thriving African American community just outside the downtown business district. The community wrapped around downtown from west to north, encompassing the old State Thomas neighborhood to Deep Ellum.

According to the church [website](#), it began in 1865 as a mission of the Wesley Church in New Orleans, Louisiana when freedmen from the south joined its congregation. Its first structure was located at its present location, 1816 Routh Street. It served as a school for the community in the 1870s by being the location of a school for African American children and also was the location for the school that became Huston-Tillotson College in Austin.

Construction of the current brick sanctuary began in 1913 on a design attributed to William Sidney Pittman, Dallas's first African American architect. Pittman worked for a number of years in Dallas and designed many buildings including the Knights of Pythias Temple. Looking at St. Paul's building, one can see the different colors of brick. According to the church's website, parishioners contributed funds and materials, including bricks, as the building was completed over the next ten to fifteen years. One floor including what is now the basement, was probably completed around 1922 with the other floors being completed around 1927. It is designed in the Collegiate Gothic Revival style.

The current structure has served the community for almost one hundred years now. It received a Dallas Landmark designation in 1982 and an official Texas Historical Marker in 2013. It received its listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service on December 27, 2016



Unfortunately we will not be having a meeting this quarter because of the virus. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting in September

Silent Auction

We had fun at our last meeting raising funds for our organization through a silent auction of some treasures among our DCPA possessions. Here is list of some quality books pertinent fo Dallas history that will be available through silent auction the next time we meet. Think about which ones you'd like as an addition to your library.

- *Dallas: Then and Now*, by Ken Fitzgerald - spectacular black-add-white photos contrasted with color photos of the same scene today
 - *The Eyes of Texas: The Lone Star State* as seen by her artists
 - *From High on the Hilltop*. Marshall Terry's History of SMU
 - *Big D: Triumphs and Troubles of an American Super City in the 20th Century* by D. Payne
 - *Land Is the Cry: Warren Angus Ferris, Pioneer Texas Surveyor and Founder of Dallas County*, by Suzanne Starling
 - *The Orphan Chronicles*: Buckner Home Alumni Association
 - *Dapper Days of Dallas*, by Ted Dealey
 - *Rotary Club of Dallas: 1911-2011*
 - *Painting Texas History to 1900*
 - *The Park Cities: A Photo History*, by Diane Galloway
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Welcome to the new normal!!

The officers and members of the assocaition hope you are staying safe and healthy and hopefully in the not overly distant future we will be meeting again with another great speaker and more fun with our friends and members who support this great organization.

If you haven't already paid your dues for this year please bring your dues to the meeting or make your payments to:

Dallas County Pioneer Association
PO Box 12496
Dallas, TX 75225

Back in 1920...

Pioneer Dallas Couple to Celebrate Golden Wedding
Dallas Morning News
Sunday, May 30, 1920

The golden anniversary of their wedding will be celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. James Allen McMurry at their home, 1305 Casey Street on Wednesday from r to 10 p. m....

They were married in 1870...and came to Dallas in December 1874...The two have seen Dallas grow from a river town, where the ferry brought most of the business to its present size. Mr. McMurey was a brick contractor and followed the work here until health forced him to retire. He helped to build the old Empire Milk and the old Merchants Exchange, now known as the Gaston Building, on Lamar and Commerce streets. He held the contract for the McLeod hotel on Main Street which was torn down to make way for the American Exchange National Bank. Previous to his marriage, Mr. McMurry served four years in the Confederate Army and three of them were with Gen. John M. Morgan. He was born in 1842 and Mrs. McMurry was born in 1852....

Death of Colonel Simpson

Dallas Morning News
Sunday, Jun 27, 1920

Colonel John N. Simpson, who died at his home in Dallas yesterday, was a high-minded and warm-hearted man who won the esteem of all who knew him and the affection of those who were admitted into the large circle of his friendship...There was a liftiness to his love of Texas which exalted the pride and patriotism of those who came under its influence. Colonel Simpson was banker, rancher and farmer, able in all those pursuits, but partial to those of rancher and farmer, and accordingly intensely interested in all things that promoted the advancement of those pursuits. He was one of the foremost "cowmen" of Texas, and from the pioneer days of that industry in this state. There was a time when his herds grazed from Texas to Montana and outnumbered those of any other man...He has been one of the makers of Texas, one whose energies and ambitions have contributed largely to the forces that have wrought its development...Colonel Simpson held his opinions with more than ordinary tenacity, and yet with a difference for opposing opinions which spoke at once the integrity of his mind and the sympathy of his heart.

Hundreds Pay Tribute to Colonel John N. Simpson

Dallas Morning News
Monday, Jun 28, 1920

Hundreds of Texans shared the sorrow of Dallas yesterday when at 6 p. m. beautiful and impressive services marked the close of the last chapter in the life of Colonel John Nicholas Simpson.

Silent tributes of flowers from all parts of the country, so vast that the atmosphere at the [4715] Highland Drive residence, where Dr. S. H. C. Burgin and the Very Rev. Harry T. Moore officiated, bespoke more than grief for the loss of the man and sincere affection for him.

At the grave in Oakland Cemetery, where the body was laid at rest, hundreds of persons who attended the funeral stood in mute sympathy.

Colonel Simpson was the last of the pioneer cattlemen of the West. He was interested in the State Fair of Texas, was an ardent admirer and friend of the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt ... his death Saturday followed a long illness.

Cemetery Report

by Kathy Ann Reid

Robinson Family Cemetery (behind 1019 Mobile, Dallas, Texas)

DCPA member and descendant of the Robinson family, Robbie Robinson, is concerned with the preservation of the Robinson Family Cemetery. The nearby Western Heights Church of Christ and the Western Heights Cemetery have historical markers and Mr. Robinson is preparing the paperwork for the cemetery's designation as a Historical Texas Cemetery. The designation is obtained from the Texas Historical Commission (see Texas Administrative Code Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 22 Rule §22.6). He said, "I am close to being finished and will try to get the application submitted in the next few weeks...New construction seems to be engulfing the entire neighborhood so I anticipate construction will start on the other two lots adjoining the cemetery in the very near future."

At our visit to the Robinson Family Cemetery in February, Mr. Robinson noted that the east section of the fence (that had provided full enclosure of the cemetery) was gone. In April he had a clean-up crew working and they were allowed to tie on to a new wooden fence on the developed adjoining lot. Now that the cemetery is again fully fenced, his wish-list includes sufficient funds to install fencing more appropriate for a cemetery. The dimensions are approximately 26' X 52' X 24' X 52' and there is one gate. Tax deductible donations for this project will be gladly accepted into the Cemetery Fund.

Pioneer Days at the W. W. Glover Cemetery (behind 6508 Military Parkway, Dallas, Texas)

The first Saturday in May is normally the day for descendants of pioneers to meet at the W. W. Glover Cemetery for a picnic on the lawn of the cemetery. In years past the event was mainly for the benefit of the cemetery, but it turns out to be a good time for DCPA members to socialize. A great development is that the church building at 6508 Military Parkway is occupied and the fellowship hall is available for me to rent. This would provide for more comfortable accommodations in case of rainy or hot weather. Descendants of Beemans, Lagows and Hunnicutts will be planning the next meeting. Please join us in planning, if you feel so inclined.

Your Cemetery Committee is open to suggestions, new members and and friends.

[DCPA](#)

