



PRESERVATION IS PROGRESS



*Historic Homes
of Cleburne*

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in Save Old Cleburne's Historic Home Driving Tour. Cleburne offers a wide array of architecture in the homes of the city ranging from Victorian, Arts & Crafts, to Bungalow. The Historic Homes in Cleburne endure as a reminder of the architecture, grace and craftsmanship of a period when things were hard to come by and homes were built to last. They stand as a testament that things old and graceful from the past will always have a place in the present. These timeless treasures embrace visitors with a taste of Cleburne's history that is a living and valuable part of the city's future.

As you browse this booklet, and drive through the streets of Cleburne to view the many wonderful homes and special buildings showcased herein, we hope you will drift back in time with us to the turn of the century.

Cleburne was just a small country town then, and the pace of life and events were much slower than today. It was a time of penny candy, ice cream socials, handshakes and pleasantries as you strolled the streets to see the latest merchandise displayed in the store windows. The horse and buggy was still a popular mode of transportation. Attention to detail was a way of life, not a catch phrase. As you view the many unique structures, imagine yourself as the craftsman, working with only hand tools to create the vision of the homeowner. What would be your vision for the craftsman?

Today we must recognize and honor the talents of those people, as well as the craftsmen and homeowners who have followed them in the upkeep of homes. In Cleburne, we are fortunate to have many homeowners and craftsmen who wish to preserve these fine structures and their efforts are what you see today. Our goal is to preserve and educate, so that you, your children, their children, and theirs will be able to see the historical significance of these structures as we look to the future, knowing the past is ours to keep.

Save Old Cleburne wishes to thank all those that have helped with the preservation of Cleburne's Old Homes and Downtown Buildings. You are making a difference one structure at a time.

Thank you to the Layland Museum for the Historical information used in these pages.

We would also like to thank Cleburne Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau in supporting Save Old Cleburne and their contribution for this publication.

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Cleburne History

Cleburne was founded following the Civil War during the height of the Chisholm Trail Cattle Drives. Many of the founders of the town served under their beloved General Patrick Cleburne and the decision was made to honor him by naming the town after their fallen commander. The town grew rapidly and soon became a thriving community. The railroad came to Cleburne and a new industry boomed. The Santa Fe Rail Yard and Shops provided many jobs in the area. Many homes were built during these early years and several of them remain today. These homes belonged to some of the most influential people in the area in the early 1900's.

(Examples of these homes will be found within the pages of this book.)

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#1



Layland Museum 201 N. Caddo

This handsome Greek Revival structure was built in 1904-1905. Steward W. Smith and Malcolm Moore were the architects of this building and Emil J. Zimmerman and Horace McCoy of Cleburne served as the contractors. The cornerstone was laid on January 6, 1904 and the building was formally opened on May 25, 1905 as the Cleburne Carnegie Library. It served as the public library for more than 70 years until the library was moved to 302 West Henderson Street.

In 1978 the Johnson County Historical Commission and the local volunteers acquired the old structure for the establishment of a museum. The museum was opened with a collection of historical objects from the family of William Joseph Layland, that were kept in the unused second floor theater. When these were moved downstairs the museum was officially opened. The Layland Museum has been a proud occupant of the Carnegie building for over 30 years.

The solid masonry building features a three part plan with a projecting central pediment section framed by coupled Corinthian columns. A brick trimmed corbel parapet cap is featured above a metal cornice that encircles the building and flows into the central pediment. The metal cornice features egg and dart as well as dental moldings and a built-in gutter. The lower floor windows on the front and side facades are set under a Palladian-arched transom, while the facades are broken into bays with brick pilasters and columns.

This is one of the city's most historically significant structures.



City Hall
10 N. Robinson (Original Post Office)

The Cleburne City Hall is one of the few Neo-Classical Revival structures built in Cleburne, and is the only survivor. The building was built during 1911-1912 as the culmination of a five year campaign to procure a Federal Post Office for Cleburne. In May of 1908, \$70,000 was appropriated to purchase the site and build a structure. An additional \$70,000 was appropriated in 1911 to complete construction.

When the new post office was built in 1991 at 201 Faircrest Dr. to serve the growing needs of the area, the old post office building was left empty. In 1995-1996 the old post office was renovated and converted to the Cleburne City Hall as a City Main Street Project under the Texas Historical Commission for the Preservation of Historic Structures.

The impressive building stands as an example of the value of retaining this legacy of the past through historic preservation.

#3



The Holy Comforter Episcopal Church 209 E. Wardville

The Holy Comforter Congregation in Cleburne possessed a small church building in 1871 when parish status was granted. By the early 1890's, the need arose for a new, larger structure. In March of 1893, the Reverend W.W. Patrick circulated a subscription list to raise \$5,000.00 to erect a new building. By May, the project was under way, the old building sold, and the present site chosen. W.H. Siferd was employed as the architect. On May 12th, the cornerstone was laid by the Reverend Alexander C. Garret, Bishop of Dallas, with a "large number of our citizens" in attendance. Among items placed in the cornerstone were: The Holy Bible, the book of Common Prayer, Hymnal, Journal of Jurisdiction, Spirit of Missions, The Living Church, The Dallas News, The Dublin Telephone, The Cleburne Chronicle, Tri-Weekly Enterprise, Johnson County Review, Cleburne Herald, the Tribune, Fort Worth Gazette, the names of the Bishop, Rector and vestry, the building committee, and the architect.

In 1905 a wing was built to house the parish hall, classrooms, and a two story rectory. It featured a low gable roof and a Gothic arched cloister running along the south side. The rectory eventually lost its second story when it was incorporated into the rebuilt parish house. Two phases of rebuilding have occurred: one in 1956, and the other in 1984-1985, virtually replacing the deteriorated structure.

This is a one story, frame gable roofed Carpenter Gothic Church building. It features steeply pitched roofs, and an elongated nave and transept. Paired or single lanced windows appear throughout the building. The exterior walls are clad in cypress clapboard siding, including gable ends. The west wall of the naïve contains a large tri-part Gothic arch window. A square belfry rises out of the naïve roof, with Victorian fretwork, and a pyramidal spire topped with a Latin cross. The main entry is through the narthex-a shallow projecting wing with a gable roof. The double doors are set in a Gothic arch with stained glass transom. A secondary entrance, to the east of the main one, opens into the south transept. This entrance is beneath a small gabled roof which boasts carved trim and scroll work. A small gothic arch transom crowns this entry as well.



508 S. Anglin

This large two story frame gable roofed house features exposed rafters and purloins, and shiplap siding. The gables contain triple sets of windows in a Palladian style with a taller central window and shutters. A one story entry is centered in the front of the house recessed into the main wall. It has classically styled columns. The original house was built in 1898 by John A. Anderson, a local carpenter and miller. This home was dramatically remodeled between 1918 and 1925.

The present Colonial Revival house stands as one of the best examples of this style in Cleburne, a style rather rare in the city when compared to the other early twentieth century styles.

#5



The Anglin Rose Bed & Breakfast 808 S. Anglin

This Queen Anne Style house, nestled among 200 year old trees, has changed little since its construction in 1892, and is proclaimed to be one of the best examples of Victorian architecture in the city.

The frame structure is a two and a half story house with hip and gable roof. The most decorative features include a 9x9 stained glass keyhole window and an octagonal second floor turret which contains four half moon windows.

The house was constructed for a successful grain dealer, John L. Cleveland who also owned real estate in the city, as well as a hardware store. His wife, Annie Cleveland, was very civic minded, being the organizer of the circle of King's daughters as well as heading the Red Cross Canteen during W.W.I. The Clevelands helped finance and construct the First Methodist Church.

The home stands as a reminder of the architecture, grace and craftsmanship of a period when things were hard to come by and built to last. The efforts made to restore and revive this historic Victorian home stands as a testament that things old and graceful from the past will always have a place in the present. This house is the first private residence in Cleburne to be listed as a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark.



201 N. Anglin

This structure stands as one of the most impressive Victorian era dwellings in the city. According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Cleburne, a one story house was built on this site between 1885 and 1888. Over the years the house changed shape and in 1898 a two story structure appears on the site. The Byrne Family history indicates that the house was built in 1897, which is partially confirmed by the 1900 city directory address listing of J.T. Byrne, chief dispatcher for the Santa Fe Rail Road. However, the two story structure of 1898 changes shape by 1904, then finally takes its present configuration by 1910. It is possible the circa 1885 one story house is also incorporated in the structure of this house.

This large ornate Victorian dwelling is one of the key structures on North Anglin. It is a two and a half story, frame, hip and gable roofed house with a boxed eave. The house features red cypress clapboard siding, with wood shingle in the gables. The main entry consists of a paneled wood door with lites, set under a transom. A large one story bay window with a hip roof is located on the south side of the south corner. The ornate one story porch sweeps across the front façade, then barely wraps around the south corner. The eaves of the porch are boxed, and are trimmed with detailed Victorian fretwork and railings located between the round, turned wooden columns. The wood floor of the porch is retained although the steps are concrete, and an unusual entry pediment is located on the front porch.

#17



203 N. Anglin

Much of the fabric of this building seems to date back to the 1889-1904 period. Sanborne Fire Insurance Maps indicate a small house was on this site in 1885. By 1894 the house had been replaced and remodeled again in 1898. This house took its present shape by 1904.

This large, frame, two story house stands as a rather plain example of the Victorian houses at the turn of the century. It has a gable roof, wood shingles in the gables, and boxed eaves. The exterior wall is surfaced in clapboard. The doors are paneled wood, with lites, while the main entry is set under a transom. The door on the southeast corner is recessed under a second story, shed roofed projection, supported by wrought iron columns. Exterior evidence of extensive and very old remodeling abounds, with clapboard filled doors, smaller windows and additions found at every façade.



402 N. Anglin

According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, a house was built on this site between 1898-1904. It is believed that between 1904-1910 this house was heavily altered. The house's appearance indicated that the earlier house may have survived in a remodeled state.

In 1901 Joseph E. Gerard, an "engineer" lived in the house. Local lore says that Gerard was a Santa Fe locomotive engineer and was famous for dressing in a Santa Claus suit on Christmas Eve, and while on his regular train run from Cleburne to Purcell OK, he would throw candy and toys to the expectant children who lined the route. This behavior earned him the nickname of "Santa Fe Santa". He ran a regular trip on the historic Santa Fe #3417 steam engine which is now on display in Hulen Park. In 1907 a Joseph Gerard occupied the structure.

This one and a half story, frame hip roofed house features a hip and gable roof and boxed eaves. Clapboard siding is used on the exterior walls, while wood shingles are used in the gables. An ornate brick interior chimney is centrally located so that it projects through the peak of the hip roof, while a second is located at the rear of the house. The west façade has a simple gable, while the south façade is a jerkin head gable. The south façade entry is located under a recessed porch in the "ell" which is supported by wrought iron columns. The porch is trimmed by dental molding. A second entry on the west façade is located under a small hip roofed corner of what was once a wraparound porch.



406 N. Anglin

This house is a one story, frame, hip, and gable roofed house with composition shingles and boxed eaves. Exterior walls are decked with clapboard siding, gables are trimmed with wood shingles and one interior brick chimney is located in the center of the house. Windows are one over one, wooden units with wood surrounds. A bay window on the north side of the house features narrow windows on the sides and a square, stained glass window on the front of the bay. The front entry to the house consists of a paneled wood door with lites flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom. The hipped roofed porch covers the entire front façade, supported by round wood “Doric” columns resting on a concrete porch floor.



415 N. Anglin

This house was built in 1895 by F.M. Bisbee, the local General Superintendent of Tracks for the Santa Fe Railroad. In 1896 Bisbee was transferred out of Cleburne and he sold the house to Pat Cleburne Chambers, the son of Cleburne’s founder, B.J. Chambers. By 1901 Mrs. Minnie Chambers, a widow, occupied the house.

This marvelous one and a half story, hip roofed, shingle style house is one of Cleburne’s architectural treasures. The exterior wall surfaces are sheathed with wooden shingles. The eave’s are boxed and feature consoles regularly spaced all around the house. A large, low, round Richardson Turret is located on the northeast corner of the house. Fenestration on this house is complimented by wonderful stained glass windows as well as fish scale type wooden shingles. Four interior brick chimneys are located at strategic points, while the entire house rests on pier and beam foundations with a cut stone perimeter. The porch is recessed under the house’s main hip roof supported by tapered, round, wooden columns set on square stuccoed bases, which in turn rest on the wooden porch floor.



419 N. Anglin

This house was built in 1915 on the site of an older home which was erected before 1888. In 1915 a prominent local contractor and developer J.A. Wright bought the property and erected this house as his personal residence. The mechanics lien for this project called for a two story frame house with eleven rooms. A.L. Graham is listed as the contractor. The Wright family retained ownership of this house into the early 1980's.

This large, frame two story "foursquare" house features details common in pre-WWI Classical Revival era. The hip roofed house has a large hip roofed dormer above the front façade, and boxed eaves all around. The exterior walls are sheathed in shiplap siding. The main entry is a paneled wood door, surrounded by Greek Revival transom and side lites with leaded glass. A less elaborate entry is found on the second floor porch, with no side lites or transom. A massive two story porch on the front of the house contains most of the house's classical detail. On both floors the major load bearing elements are not thin Ionic columns but heavy, framed in wood panels which form a corner at each end of the porch as well as a large flat central column. Both porch floors are wooden, while the thin classical columns are linked by a wooden railing, except on the south half of the lower floor where the entry steps allow access to the porch. This house stands as a well preserved example, built by a master builder who simply applied a thin layer of "classical" features and details to set it apart from the more mundane samples of the style.

#12

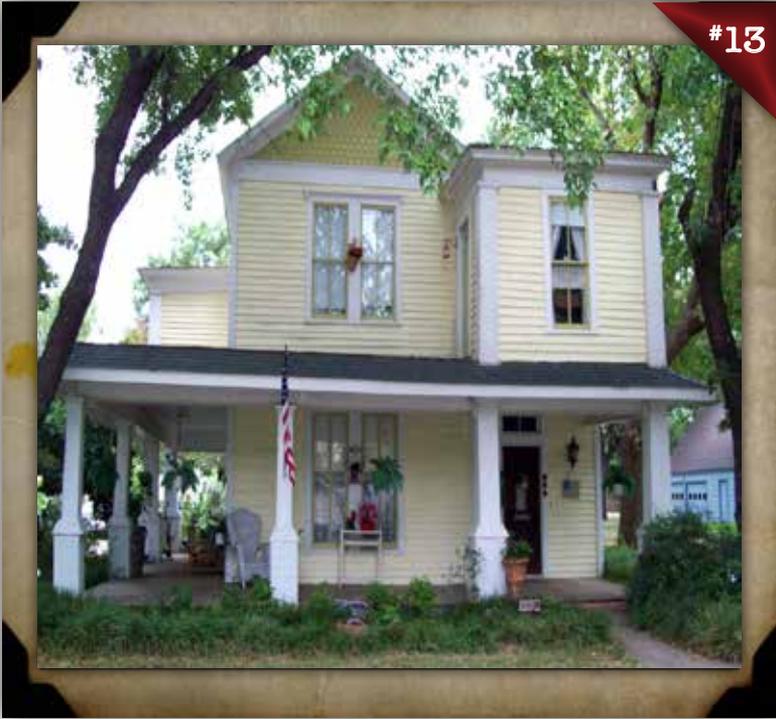


501 N. Anglin

This house is one of Cleburne's most historic and interesting structures. It may have been built as early as the mid 1870's. In 1888 the Sanborn fire insurance maps show a one and a half story house on this site, then between 1893 and 1898 the plan becomes that of a two story house. In all probability the older house was remodeled and a second story added between 1893 and 1898. The fact that the second story is shingled and the first floor bears clap board supports that chain of events. From the late 1890's to the late 1910's the house also featured a square tower with pyramidal cap which no longer survives.

Dr. George B. Colby, an early Cleburne physician resided in the home as early as 1891. In all likelihood Dr. Colby built this house. In 1900, Fred and Ida Hallet occupied the house. In 1990, Dan and Paulette Mullen remodeled the house by replacing the porches and gingerbread trim. The Mullen's sold the home and soon after the new owners experienced a great fire that was extremely damaging.

This two story, frame Victorian house is one of the more ornate houses from this era found on North Anglin. It is essentially an L-shaped house with a two story, open gallery filling the "ell". The house is gable roofed, and has boxed eaves and wooden shingles in the gables. The exterior walls consist of clapboard siding on the first floor and wooden shingles on the second. There are small rectangular stained glass windows in the gables. Small skirt roofs are found above the double sets of first floor windows on the gable ends of the house. Doorways are elaborate and numerous. Two entries are situated under the first floor gallery, both consist of very old wood panel doors with two vertical lites topped by a transom. One of these doors has a Victorian screen door. The second floor gallery also contains two entries, both with similar paneled doors but without transoms. The second floor doors also have the very old style screen doors. The two story gallery is the focal point for this house. It is a three sided hip roofed affair with the flat wooden floor of the second level forming the roof of the first floor gallery. The entire structure is supported by turned wooden columns linked by a simple wooden railings. The second floor also features fretwork which does not appear on the first floor.



505 N. Anglin

This house was built around 1890 by T.J. Herron and his wife, Marguerite. Mr. Herron owned a wholesale grocery business and was still in business in 1899. The home first appeared on the Sanborn fire insurance maps in 1893.

The house is a two story, frame, hip, and gable roof with some classical detailing. The house has wood shingles, boxed eaves and one interior brick chimney. Exterior walls are sheathed in clapboard while wooden shingles are used to fill the gables. Windows are wooden, two over two units with wood surrounds, installed as both single units and double sets. A second floor entry, with access to the second story veranda is identical to the first floor entry. The basic square house is enlivened by a two story gallery which covers about one third of the east side of the house then becomes a one story porch across the other two thirds of the front façade. It has a hipped skirt roof and boxed eaves supported by square tapered wooden columns set on low, square brick bases, all resting on a wooden porch.

#14



509 N. Anglin

This seven gabled Queen Anne shingle style home was first built in 1892 as a two bedroom cottage by John C. Conway, a local lumber merchant. He was also at one time the mayor of Cleburne, and was the developer of the “Market Square”. (The market square helped relieve the overcrowding caused by many teams of horses and wagons that surrounded the courthouse, and the throngs of people that would travel or come to view the hangings.)

In a period of four years, the home was expanded six times. The unique key-hole entry has an oversized front door with cut crystal glass. Notice the “eyebrow” window on the roof facing the street. The stained glass window in the octagon shaped parlor is original, as well as other stained glass throughout the home.

The only upstairs room is located over the kitchen and was originally used as the maid’s quarters. The long side porch was the scene of social gatherings, and parties when Mr. and Mrs. Conway owned the home. In 1894, Conway’s daughter, Gordon, was born in the home. She was the last collateral descendant of James Madison, the fourth President of the United States. Gordon Conway later became the fashion illustrator for Neiman Marcus, Vogue Harper’s Bazaar and Vanity Fair.



521 N. Anglin

This house was reportedly built by Civil War Confederate soldier, Mr. C.B. Stratton (City Directory 1899-1900). He was badly wounded but returned to Cleburne to build this house. The house was sold to J.S. Prince, who in turn sold it to J.C. Lees in 1913. The Lees sold the house to the Goldsmith family around 1917. W.H. Goldsmith was a cotton buyer who rose in stature and wealth over the years. He served as Mayor of Cleburne for three terms, 1924-1928 and 1936-1938. His family occupied the house from 1917 to 1940, although the current residents are the Culpepper family.

According to the Culpeppers, the house was dramatically remodeled by Goldsmith shortly after he moved in. This was in the period 1915-1920. The ornate Victorian details were stripped away, along with the circular verandah and its conical top. Even the part of the verandah supporting the projecting gable was removed. To replace this, Goldsmith built heavy, brick, lower floor porch supports and perimeter walls and a matching porte-cochere on the south side of the house. The biggest design problem was the projecting gable on the front. The second floor porch area under this gable was filled in, and part of the porch floor in front of the in area was removed. To support the gable, two massive, square brick columns were constructed. This house has significant local historical value, although the modifications do not help its architectural contribution.

Behind this residence is the original carriage house. This is a beautiful two story brick building and a must see. These structures were usually built in the more affluent areas.

#16



610 N. Anglin

In 1899, Frank and Louise Etter built a magnificent two story Queen Anne style house with seven gables. It is situated on a corner lot next to the old Etter family home at 615 N Anglin. A soft yellow paint was selected for the frame structure.

Frank Etter planned it on the central hall concept with up-to-date conveniences, such as indoor plumbing, electricity, and flues for the coal stoves. The house created admiration and excitement at the turn of the century.

The large master bedroom is set at an angle to the rest of the house and is situated above a wrap around veranda. It has been assumed that this room was designed in this manner to catch the summer breezes.

In 1904, the house was sold to J.E. Symons who served as a “master mechanic” and was the inventor of the first scheduling board for the Santa Fe Railroad. Mr. Symons appears in the city directory for four decades at this residence. Local lore says Mr. Symons sold the house to Pat Chambers, son of Col. B.J. Chambers.



614 N. Anglin

This large stick style “Victorian home” was built around 1879 by George Etter, also known as “Uncle George”. He and his wife, Clasindia (Clara), raised their five children in this beautiful home.

The Etter children were well known in the community and were occasionally the “talk of the town”. There was an account in The Cleburne Weekly Telegram dated June 31, 1882 noting the “scandalous” elopement, in detail, of George Etter’s daughter, Letha, to a Mr. Byrd and her friend, Lula Nash, to Mr. Bob Hodge. According to the newspaper account, “finding it impossible to gain the consent of the guardians of their sweethearts, the young gentlemen succeeded in inducing them to fly where no cruel state laws (*THE LADIES WERE UNDER AGE*) could intervene to separate true lovers. The ladies were picked up in a horse driven hack at the hedge just north of Mr. Etter’s residence where they had slipped out of a window. Later that day their matrimonial vows were taken overlooking the waters of the Red River. They returned to Cleburne on Saturday morning where many friends extended to them hearty welcome and congratulations”.

The newspaper article goes on to assure its readers that all participating members “are all of good families”.

At one time the house was divided into apartments and was in total disrepair. It was close to being condemned and torn down. Through years of hard work and labors of love by its owners, this home has been transformed back to almost its original state.

This home features high ceilings, wood moldings and floors, original fireplaces, and a beautiful tin ceiling. Two interior chimneys reside atop the main tongue and groove siding. The main entry of the home is rather elaborate, featuring a paneled wood door with lites and a transom.

#18



615 N. Anglin

This is a wonderful example of French Second Empire Style, a type very rare in Cleburne. It is a two story house with a mansard roof and boxed eaves. One exterior chimney is situated at the rear of the house. Exterior wall surfaces are clad in clapboard siding on the first floor and fish scale shingles on the second floor.

This marvelous house was built sometime before 1895 (since this particular style was popular in the 1870's and 1880's, this house may date back into the 1880's or very early 1890's) by P.J. Norwood, a prominent local banker and insurance agent who first arrived in Cleburne around 1880. P.J. Norwood died in 1900 and by 1901 his widow was living at 1008 S. Main with her son S. B. Norwood.

It is alleged that P.J. Norwood embezzled money from the bank boxes one weekend. Norwood was said to be very short, and only the lower bank boxes were emptied. After many years the insurance company paid for some of the loss.



619 N. Anglin

This elaborate residence is one of Cleburne's best preserved and more significant houses.

The house was built in the late 1880's by John W. Floore Sr. a prominent Cleburne citizen. When Floore moved to Cleburne in 1883 (at age 32) he was already an established merchant. Moving from Tyler, Floore arrived as a partner in the Hand, Allen, and Floore private bank. This bank ultimately became the National Bank of Cleburne. Floore married Florence Childress in 1883. He broadened his portfolio over the years, investing in real estate and opening an insurance agency.

Although little specific information about the construction of the house has turned up, circumstantial evidence indicated a construction date of 1885. It is certain that the house existed in 1892 and that remodeling occurred in 1893 and 1904. This house served as the residence of the prominent family until 1912, when Florence Childress Floore won the property in a divorce settlement. She continued to reside in the house into the 1940's. Reportedly, she was the first woman to be appointed to the Texas Prison Board and was active in the woman's right to vote movement. She was also the president of the Texas Magazine Club which encouraged the railroads to stay in Cleburne and build a two story depot. She encouraged General J.A. Hulen to donate 14 acres of T&BV property in 1932 for a city park and the Workers Progress Administration to install the rock walls on Buffalo Creek to help with the flood waters.

#20



719 N. Anglin

This house was built during the second half of 1880 for Campbell Dickson, the owner of Dickson Hardware and Furniture Company, and a prominent local leader. Dickson was born in New York, and first traveled to Missouri in 1858 with a herd of sheep, and established Hill County. During the Civil War, Dickson served as a member of the Company I Ninth New York Calvary, enlisting as private and mustering out as a Captain.

After the war, Dickson left New York for Pennsylvania where he speculated in the oil business. He then moved on to farming and stock raising in Iowa. Dickson lived in Iowa from 1866 to 1867. He then returned to Cleburne to enter the hardware business. By the 1890's Dickson Hardware and Furniture Company was a leading firm in Cleburne. He served as director of the National Bank of Cleburne, and was a prominent Republican Party leader in the state of Texas. Dickson was instrumental in bringing the railroads, water works, and the Carnegie Building to Cleburne.



723 N. Anglin

This Queen Anne style house is a frame, gable roofed house with boxes eaves. The house contains two and a half stories encompassing approximately 7,000 square feet. The house features several porches, including a circular porch under the turret, a gabled porch over the entryway to the porch, and a porte-cochere on the northwest corner of the house. All the porches feature elaborate turned wood columns and Victorian gingerbread trim, fretwork, balustrades and brackets. Two small second story porches flank the turret. The house is built upon a massive stone foundation. The original conical top was from the McCart home in Ft Worth. It has since been replaced with a new one.

The house was built by C.W. Mertz, a prominent early Cleburne banker, real estate entrepreneur, insurance broker and civic leader. Mertz arrived in Cleburne in 1881 or 1882 from Paris, Texas where he had organized a Farmers and Merchants Bank, that became the First National Bank of Cleburne in 1889. Mertz built his residence after moving the old house across the street to 730 N Anglin. The house was completed in 1894, and occupied by Mertz and his family for at least a decade. Mertz still lived here in 1900, but had moved by 1907, probably making the move around 1904 or 1905.

Reportedly, Mertz built the house with towers to remind him of the castles in Germany. He was the first one to fence in his 2,800 acre ranch which set off a great range war and eventually cut off the cattle drives on the Chisholm Trail, which spurred the development of Rail-Heads at Abilene and Fort Worth. He also introduced Johnson Grass to the area. The large Bois d'arc trees with their thorny branches inspired Joseph Glidden to invent barbed wire. The house was purchased by Ben Leach in 1970, for \$5,000 and totally restored after it had been vacant and vandalized for many years.

#22



730 N. Anglin

According to local historians, this house was built in 1881 by C.W. Mertz, and originally sat at 723 N. Anglin. It was moved across the street because Mrs. Mertz wanted a more Victorian home. Evidence of a water well where the kitchen would have been at 723 indicates this to be true because that well matches the footprint of this house in the present location. Evidence from the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps also indicates this move did take place. The house was heavily remodeled between 1904 and 1910, as the floor plan changes completely on the Sanborn maps. Public record indicates that the home was owned by a local physician during the early 1900's.

In 1907 Fred Wood lived at 730 N. Anglin and in 1909 the J.M. Ragsdale family lived at the address. Ragsdale was a prominent local business man and owner of the Cleburne Hardware Company. He was also a circuit judge who, according to documentation, granted the widow of a Confederate soldier his due pension.

Records indicate that in later years the house was used as a boarding house and later a private residence again. The last known occupants of the house were the Daniel Leach family. Oral records indicate that two of the Leach children were born in one of the upstairs bedrooms.

The house suffered from disrepair for many years before the Maurer family purchased it on the courthouse steps in 2004. Since that time the house has undergone extensive restoration and now represents both the history of Cleburne and the dedication of its new trustees to save our local landmarks.

#23



741 N. Anglin

This one story, framed hip and gable roofed house has composition shingles and boxed eaves. Tongue in groove wood siding is used on the exterior walls, while wood shingles are used in the gable end and on the two gabled dormers on the south side. Two exterior brick chimneys penetrate the roof. Windows are simple one over one wood units with wood surrounds.

The porch is in the "ell" of the house north of the projecting gable wing.

This house was built in 1904 -1905 to replace a house which burned in 1904. The house may be built on the original brick foundation that was owned by Mr. Prescott as early as 1893. An A.H. Roark lived in the house by 1907.

#24



933 N. Anglin

This is a Victorian Farmhouse style home with L shaped wrap around porch. This home was built around the 1890's, with its shiplap siding and fish scale detail still showing.

#25



935 N. Anglin

This house was built sometime before 1900 and was occupied by W.K Williamson in 1900. He was an assistant cashier at the Farm & Merchants bank in downtown Cleburne.

This large two story Victorian home has gone through several renovations. It has beautiful Victorian detail throughout. Stained glass transoms are used above some lower floor windows. A turret window upstairs gives this house an added feature. There are three doorways which give access to the front of the house. All are paneled wood with lites, set under transoms.



#26

720 N. Robinson

Built in the late 1800's, the first owners and the exact year of the home are unknown. All records were lost in the fire of the Johnson County Courthouse in 1912. This one story gabled roof house with clapboard siding has been lovingly restored. The home has two bedrooms, a living room, and a dining room that was originally a back porch. The house has been expanded over the years to include a country kitchen and his and her lobby rooms.

The backyard is a peaceful oasis of outdoor living. A water lily pond is filled with large goldfish and koi. An arbor in the side yard leads to the front. A gazebo sitting area is a perfect place to relax.

#27



809 N. Main

This two story Victorian Farmhouse was built in 1904 for the Mudge Family. It has beautiful dark woodwork, red pine floors and a matching set of arched French doors. This is a huge house with crown moldings, fireplaces, and a beautiful staircase taking you to the spacious upstairs rooms. The house has a hip and gable roof with composition shingles and tongue and groove siding.

#28



916 N. Main

Built in the late 1890's, this Victorian Style house was originally a one story house, with the upper level added before the turn of the century. The roof is hip and gabled, the exterior siding is five inch shiplap clapboard, and it still has the wonderful fish scale shingles in the traditional sunburst pattern. The house boasts its original wood floors, and the transom windows are still present.

#29



409 N. Buffalo

The “Little Old House on Buffalo Street” is a historical landmark in Cleburne. It is said to have been built between 1867-1868 when the county seat moved to this location. At that time Buffalo Street was the “road into town” and a short distance away from the Little House was the stagecoach stop and within “water-totin” distance to the town’s public well.

Professor W.F. Featherston built the home for his sister, Elizabeth Pat Featherston Doty. It originally had only 2 rooms, which you can see today with their 2 fireplaces. Fireplaces were used for warmth in the winter as well as cooking year-round. The city directory shows Mr. and Mrs. T.P. Kirkham living in the house in 1913.

Originally behind the house was the settler’s two room rock house, which was used before the frame house was built.

Now Save Old Cleburne and the Johnson County Historical Commission use the house for meetings and special events.

#30



501 N. Buffalo

This Victorian home was built in the 1880's. In 1892, R.L. Bartley lived in the house and was reportedly completing an addition to the house in September of that same year.

This is a large two and a half story, frame, hip and gable roof house with composition shingles and box eaves. The house sits on a corner, with south and east façades facing the street. A basic four square floor plan was altered by placing gable-roofed projecting wings on the southwest and northwest corners. Two interior brick chimneys are located in a central position. A variety of window treatments are used, including one over one and twelve over one windows.

#31



503 N. Buffalo

Sanborne Fire Insurance Maps indicate that this house was built before 1904, and may well date to the 1890's. The area was not mapped in 1898, so the house could have been built earlier. The 1907 occupant, W.R. Gooch, was not listed in the 1901 city directory, so the house may have been built between 1901 and 1904, but there is no hard evidence of this to date.

This house is a one and a half story frame, hip and gable roofed house with composition shingles and box eaves. One brick interior chimney is located toward the center of the house. The exterior walls are clad in tongue and groove siding, with wood shingles in the gable ends. The windows are one over one and six over one wood units with wood surroundings.

One gable dormer is situated on the street-facing roof slope, while the porch is located in the "ell" of the house under a flat awning and main roof.

#32



505 N. Buffalo

This is a wonderful stone, petrified wood, and brick home. At this time we don't have its history but it is a beautiful home none the less.

#33



507 N. Buffalo

This is a one story hip and gable roofed house with a L shape front porch. It has a tongue and grooved exterior. The interior brick chimney is centrally located. It has small prairie style windows. It is believed to date to the late 1890's to 1900.

#34



508 N. Buffalo

Built in the late 1800's, this Colonial Farmhouse backs up to Buffalo Creek which runs through Cleburne. The home belonged to the Hazlett family for over 60 years. It was constructed of shiplap boards with wallpapering hung on the boards, which was not uncommon for the times.

This is a one and a half story, frame hip and gable roofed house with composition shingles and a box eave. It features a single gable dormer over the L shaped front porch.

Its décor is one of the favorites on Save Old Cleburne's Candlewalk as it is a cozy Cabin inside. It has thinking on the walls, original hardwood floors throughout, and original crown molding. It is a real gem.

#35



509 N. Buffalo

This is a one and a half story hip and gable roofed house with a L shape front porch. It has a tongue and grooved exterior. It is believed to date to the late 1890's to 1900.

#36



702 N. Buffalo

The lot this house sits on was purchased in 1878 by the Day family for \$71.00. According to the abstract, the house was built in 1890 by Absolom Day, owner of Day's Planing Mill. It sits on brick columns. Mr. Day arrived in Cleburne in 1872 from his native Brunswick, Canada. Upon his death on June 23, 1897, his wife, Sarah Elizabeth Day, inherited the house, living there until her death on January 15, 1911. C.W. Breech, who later became mayor of Cleburne, was married to Evangeline Day, one of the Day's daughters, in the front room of the house. Captain Day was a famous Confederate soldier in the Civil War and was also owner of the lot north of his house, the Cleburne Blacksmith Shop, and 2,560 acres of land in Crockett County.

This large 11 room, two story, carpenter style Victorian dwelling has a gable roof and box eaves. The main entry has a paneled wood door with beveled, leaded glass set under a small transom. Both porches are original to the house and still sport their original turned wooden columns.

Behind this property, and to the north about 199 yards is the famous baptism spring at Buffalo Bluffs on Buffalo Creek, that was last used when Henry Fugett was taken out of jail on request to be baptized by the preacher of the black Baptist Church, (Mt. Zion church is still used), Sheriff Long used a buggy and held Fugett's arm while he was submersed in the cold water. Fugett was hung the next day for murder.



736 N. Buffalo

This structure seems to date from late 1895, or early 1896. In February of 1896 the Daily Enterprise noted that Jim Williams residence on N. Buffalo was near completion. No Jim Williams appears in the 1901 city directory, but a James Williamson does, at 736 N. Buffalo. Mr. Williamson lived at this address well into the 1910's. Mr. Williamson was a well know pharmacist with a store at 101 E. Henderson. His father was a doctor, and had his office over the store. Mrs. Pearl Williamson was famous for her sweet-pea flowers that she furnished to the local florists.

This house is a beautiful Victorian Era home with its original fish scale eaves and Victorian fretwork on the porch. It features all original hardwood floors, original doors, and original fireplaces.



738 N. Buffalo

This house is a turn of the century 1890's home. Records show a mechanics lien to a J. Helsley in 1904. Mr.H.F. Oliver lived in the house for some time as well. This is a one story frame, hip and gable roofed home. It features a wonderful L shaped front porch supported by wooden columns set on a concrete floor. It is a beautiful home.

#39



209 S. Buffalo

The quaint Swiss Cottage at 209 S. Buffalo looks like it's out of a story book. It was built in 1929 by White Eagle Oil Company. One year later it was purchased by Magnolia Petroleum Company. Some early residents may remember making the trip to Mayor Moon's Service Station.

In 1959, Dr. Larry Wilson purchased the cottage. It became the home for his dental practice and has been a dental office.

#40



Cleburne High School - Guinn Justice Center *204 S. Buffalo*

#41



202 W. Wilson

There is no recorded history on this house, but it is a Craftsman Style two story that its owners have restored.

#42



208 W. Wilson

This Greek Revival Style home was constructed in 1895. It was built for Alta and Lula Souther by J. R. Wallace who built the original Johnson County Courthouse that burned down at the turn of the century.

Alta was a liveryman, and owned Alta Souther Stables located at 111 N. Anglin.

The home features a wrap around porch. It has clapboard construction and a long central hallway with rooms to each side. It has a coal burning fireplace and original gas light fixtures (electrified now). It has beautiful pocket doors between the parlor and dining room as well as the diamond paned windows in the entrance.

#43



308 W. Wilson

This home is a stunning 1905 Queen Anne. It has victorian fireplaces and 12 foot ceilings. The original ornamental iron fence and beautiful wrap around porch make this house stand out in any neighborhood.

#44



506 W. Wilson

This unique Eastlake style Victorian home was built in 1896 for Wiley B. Carness and his wife Bettie. They contracted J.R and William Bryant to build the home for a total cost of \$1,086. In 1900, the property was deeded to F. F. Boyd who in turn deeded it to his mother, Wilimena Boyd. The home remained in the Boyd family until 1978.

Bulls eye moldings, pine woodwork and hardwood floors are original to the home.

This home is a two story double hip and gable roof, with fish scale shingles in the dormer windows.

#45



Shaw Mansion
508 W. Wilson

This home was built in the late 1880's and was originally a mansard roofed home. The story is said that the owners wanted a more southern style mansion, so the house was framed out to square it up. The large columns were originally from an old house in Fort Worth and it took two days to get them to Cleburne on a horse-drawn wagon. This is an amazing home with almost all original woodwork throughout. The living room entry to the dining room doors are arched in an unusual way. The original staircase leads you up to four bedrooms, two of which have balcony access.

#46



215 W. Heard

The Victorian Cottage was built in 1909 by James L. Bailey and his wife, Fanny. Mr. Bailey worked as a store man for Gulf- Colorado Santa Fe Railroad. The Bailey's owned the house next door at 211 West Heard and lived in both houses. On occasion they rented out the one they were not living in. This Victorian is a wonderful home nestled among Cottonwood and Pecan trees. It has original pine floors and an additional attic bedroom.

#47



302 W. Heard

Built in the 1890's, this is a one and a half story Victorian home with 2x6 exterior wall construction and plaster on lathing. This home boasts a large wrap around porch, a large central hallway, triple archways and ornate stained woodwork. The home has three coal burning fireplaces and the dining room features a unique built in "butler's pantry" and stained glass. It has a five foot wide pocket door, 12 ft ceilings, heart of pine floors, a ladies' parlor, and a gentleman's parlor. In front of this house is a hitching post with the name Morrison carved into it. Ladies stepped from their carriages onto this stone. Ewing Morrison, a cotton exporter owned the home from 1897 to 1901. W. Henry, a building contractor, owned the home until 1904. The southern family owned it until the late 1950's, and the W. Camp family raised their 16 children in it until 1997.

#48



306 Woodard

This magnificent Victorian style home features 15 rooms. The home also features 6 fireplaces with hand carved wood mantles, 12 foot ceilings covered in decorative tin and 9 foot doors and transoms. One of the early owners, Mr. T.S. Camp was a lightning rod salesman, so he made sure the house was covered in that department. The house has two lightning rods on the exterior.

#49



100 S. Pendell

This Cottage Bungalow was built in 1907 according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Cleburne. This house has craftsman features, crown moldings throughout the home, a corner fireplace with an oak craftsman mantle, and built in corner cabinets in the kitchen.

The first owner William Battle worked for the Cleburne Water Works department. In 1918 Judge Christman and his family moved in. In 1949, the Bob Watson family of Watson Paints in downtown Cleburne purchased the home.

#50



114 S. Field

This home was originally built for George and Katie Nunn in 1895. The Walker family (T.R. and Eulilia were Doak Walker's grandparents. Doak was a famous football hero.)

This is a one and a half story structure with a wrap around porch that is perfect for whiling away the warm Texas summer evenings. The home boasts 12 foot ceilings in the parlor, living room and dining room areas. Originally there were four coal burning fireplaces, but only one remains now. It is however, an elegant statement piece with framed imported marble and topped with a wonderful carved mantle. It has built in china cupboards in the dining room with "hiding places" and beautiful wood floors throughout.

#51



221 Featherston

Grace Peacock built this 3 bedroom Bungalow in 1919. Miss Peacock worked for the Santa Fe Railroad as a secretary. She had all the wood used to build the home shipped by rail. The home has been altered very little through the years. The woodwork has never been stripped or painted. Original heart of the pine floors and glass doorknobs remain.

Miss Peacock left the house to two nieces who used the home as a rent house. Originally the living room walls were covered with painted embossed wallpaper. An unusually large butler's pantry doubles as a breakfast room. A swinging solid wood door leads to the kitchen. Open cabinets are reminiscent of farm country kitchens.

#52



Nail-Reed House

302 Featherston

This white two story house was built around 1898 as a one-story Prairie Style home. In 1904 the original owner, Bob Nail, added the second story. This home has 11' foot ceilings downstairs and 10' foot ceilings upstairs. It has 7 working transoms, 50 exterior windows, (the dining room has hand crafted criss-cross window panes) 2 interior windows, and 4 fireplaces. At one time the house had been divided into four apartments. It had also been used as an auxiliary building for the Cleburne ISD.

When Sylvester and Wilma Reed purchased the property 30 years ago they added a deck on the second floor, a room below the deck, and worked with an architect from Waco that designed the back entrance and garage. Sylvester spent over 100 hours removing the old varnish off the stairway and refinishing it. The Reed's also took down the old plaster exposing the lathe then sheet rocked and wallpapered the interior.

This family's dedication to the preservation of their historic home is evident when you pass through the front door.

#53



308 Featherston

This beautiful Victorian Home was built in 1884 by B.J. Chambers for his daughter Mary as a wedding present. She married Judge William Poindexter who at the time was a prominent lawyer in town, and is most famous for prosecuting John Renfro who was hanged for murder.

Restored in 1998-1999, and again in 2012 to the present, this house is Victorian through and through. From its turreted corner room to the porches and fretwork, this house has many interesting features.

#54



316 Featherston

This home was built in 1904-1905 for the Rueben S. Phillips family. Mr. Rueben resided in the Murray Hotel before moving his family into their new home. Mr. Rueben was a local attorney who served 4 years as our city attorney. He left Cleburne in 1914 to become Fort Worth's city attorney.

This house is a large two-story frame, gable roofed house. A shed roofed porch extends across the front and is supported by square shingled columns resting on a wooden porch.

This home was one of the first to have "haunted" listed on its MLS listing.

#55



415 Featherston

This House was built between 1909-1913, and was apparently constructed for T.R. West, a book keeper for the Farmers & Merchants Bank. By 1915 the house was occupied by Mrs. Isabella Kelley, the secretary and manager of the Cleburne Sewer Company.

This is a large two-story hip roofed house. It has a variety of multi-pane wooden windows including six over six and fifteen over fifteen and a host of other types. This home looks to have had a one story hip roofed projecting front wing for a porch but is now filled with multi- pane windows. This home may also have had a widow's walk existing along the peak of the roof at one time as well.

#56



417 Featherston

This Bungalow Style house was built between 1917-1921 by R.E. Pitts, a local real estate and insurance agent.

This two story frame gabled roofed Bungalow styled house is unique, with exterior stucco, and wood featured detailing elements at the bottom of the gables and on the corners of the house. It is very striking. A Prairie style front door is found under the porch, and the gable roof of the porch is supported by square tapered wooden columns.

#57



502 Featherston

This house was built between 1913-1915, being occupied by C.A. Dickson in 1915. Carl Dickson was the nephew of Campbell Dickson, a local Cleburne hardware and furniture dealer. Carl served as an employee of his uncle from 1891-1898 when he became the postmaster of Cleburne, a position he held until 1926. Carl Dickson was significant in Cleburne's history in his own right, and while he was postmaster the 1913 magnificent new post office building was constructed on Robinson Street, now our current City Hall.

This is a large two story frame hip roofed house. A one-story hip roofed porch wraps across the front and down the east side, while a Porte cochere is on the west side. Both are being supported by massive square buff brick columns with corbelling and squared, tapered columns.

#58



514 Featherston

This wonderful house was built between 1910 -1913. It was occupied by T.O. Woods, a purchasing agent for the Santa Fe Rail Road (thus being able to afford the spacious home.)

This is a two story hip roofed house with composition shingles and a boxed eave. It has one over one wood windows. A one story hip roofed porch is located on the front and east facades that is supported by short square wooden columns resting on a low wooden clap board perimeter wall that encloses the wood floored porch.

#59



The Dickson-Shaw Home
604 Featherston

This beautiful 5 bedroom, 4 and one half bath, stately brick home was built in 1925 by Fred Dickson for his large family. The Dicksons were long-time residents who owned and operated Dickson's Hardware and Furniture Store from 1878-1979. The house has been home to four generations of Dicksons until it was sold to the Shaws in 2004.

The house has built in shelves in almost every room to showcase its owners collections. The sunroom invites you to tea. The homeowner found a china tea set with companion pieces at an estate sale on Prairie street that still had the Dickson price tags on each piece! Favorite family photos, long past and present, flank the staircase as you go upstairs. They have a boys' room and a girls' room ready for overnight stays.

The master bedroom glows with a bank of windows, letting the sunshine gently in through the sheer curtains. The bedroom suite was purchased at Dickson Hardware and Furniture Store many years ago.

#60



115 Bellevue

This home was built in 1930 by A.H. "Pappy" Stewart for Penn and Norene Melton Jackson. Penn Jackson, believing the county could use a good weekly newspaper started "*The Johnson County News*". Penn was not a journalist by profession; he was an attorney and served Johnson County for many years first as a County Attorney, then District Judge covering three counties.

This home is an English Cottage style house. It features hardwood floors throughout. Major renovations took place in 1973-1979, where a gas fireplace was added, as well as beautiful stained glass, which is one of the main features in the living room.

#61



210 Bellevue

This lovely Gothic Revival style home was built in 1929. The original owners of the home were Ruby and Owen Jenkins. The home features beautiful etched glass windows, lovely hardwood floors, and arched doorways throughout. Arched French doors separate the living room and dining room .

#62



214 Forrest

This lovely one and a half story Craftsman-style Bungalow features a double-hipped roof, exposed purlins, and a wrap around porch supported by wooden elephantine columns. Built in 1913 for Joseph, Ellett and Addie Nail Stroop. Joe Stroop was a druggist for many years in Cleburne and Fort Worth, and Addie was a teacher in the Cleburne public schools. Mr. Stroop established the Reed -Stroop Drug Company and operated the business at 113 E Henderson. In 1908 he sold his interest and purchased the Perry Harris Drug Store on 11 N Main Street.

#63



703 Forrest

This Cottage Style home was built in 1925 by C.A. Baker, a prominent banker. Mr. Baker sold the home in 1939 to O. J. Lassiter, it was then sold in 1940 to T.J. Reaves who was the owner of the Pine Board Drug and Soda Fountain. In 1945 Weldon Ball of the Ball and Sons Grocery store purchased the home. The Ball family lived in the home for more than 50 years. The original home had 2 bedrooms, but in 1960 an addition of another bedroom and bath was constructed.

#64



305 Prairie Avenue

The house was built in 1915 by Hugh LaFayette Wallace and his wife, Hattie Byrd Douglass Wallace. The family owned and operated a coal and wood business in Cleburne as early as 1911. The noted firm of Sanguinett and Staats of Fort Worth designed the structure, while J.E. Wallace served as the contractor. Mr. Wallace served as the director in the Traders State Bank until 1922, when he moved his business to Fort Worth as Wallace Fuel and Grain Company.

In 1928 Mr. Thomas Flake, a local wood yard owner bought the home. He was once the principal of Irving school and his wife organized the PTA in Cleburne.

This is a two story Craftsman four square, with great, clean, straight lines. The main entry consists of a paneled wood door with lites flanked by sidelights. It is an impressive structure.



306 Prairie Avenue

This is an unusual house style for Cleburne, a Western stick style house which fits Whiffen's description, "roofs are broad... Gentle...pitch and sometimes an indebtedness to the Swiss chalet is evident..."

The house was built by Edward V and Harriet Poindexter Denton in 1915. E.V. was a partner in the Denton, Bell and Co., a cotton brokerage house located in Cleburne. The house retains its original appearance except the original tile roof was replaced during a major remodeling in the 1970's. It is a unique house for Cleburne, using a style not found in any other house in the city. It is an exceptional house.

#66



310 Prairie Avenue

This house was built in 1912 by J.A. Feagin, the court reporter for the district court. This house was known for dining and dancing as the “Frysinger Inn”. Mr. Bill Hyde ran the bus route across north central Texas during WWII. The business began as a small touring car and developed into a major line called the “Central Texas Bus Lines”

This is a one and a half story brick veneer over frame gabled roofed house with box eaves. The gabled dormer is basically the upper floor of the projecting wing, divided by the main roof line. Even though this house has gone through extensive remodeling, it remains one of Cleburne’s most beautiful homes.

#67



316 Prairie Avenue

This Spanish Renaissance Revival house with traditional clay tiles on its roof was built between 1925 and 1930, on the site of a pre-1910 home, when this style reached its peak of popularity. This exceptional revival home is a very rare style in Cleburne.

The eaves are boxed and feature consoles set rather far apart but spaced regularly around the eaves. The main entry is set in an arched opening, with two louvered screen doors over the inner door. A second, similar porch is located on the south side with a flat roof, raised but angular parapet, and Roman arches providing access to the porch area.

#68



Now



Circa 1911

320 Prairie Avenue

Built in 1905 by James Howard Mims and his wife, Georgie Ophelia Bryan Mims, this two story Colonial features a hip roof, paired columns, and a transom and side lights. It is white clapboard, and sits on a pier and beam foundation. Mr. Mims owned the Mims Ranch in Bono and several cotton gins. Originally the home was a southern Colonial with four large columns and upper and lower porches the full length of the house, and three dormers. When the home was sold about 1928, the new owner removed the porch, dormers and the columns because he did not want to paint them. The porch on the south side was later enclosed as a music room.



322 Prairie Avenue

This beautiful home was built in 1906 by W.R. Walker, a local attorney who ultimately served as Judge in Cleburne. His son, Ryel Walker, a Supreme Court Justice of Texas was born and raised in this house.

This is a rather large one and a half story frame gable roofed house with broad box eaves. The main entry features a wood frame door with rectangular lites, flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom. The wrap around hip roofed porch extends across the front and turns down the north side of the house. This house has three coal burning fireplaces.

#70



405 Prairie Avenue

This house was built between 1910-1911, being occupied by Kate Cleveland in 1913. It is a near-original example of the turn of the century “four square” house popular throughout the land at that time.

The home is a two story, frame, bell hip roofed house with boxed eaves. A small bell hipped dormer is located on the front slope of the roof and one brick exterior chimney is located on the south side of the house. A one-story hip roofed porch extends across the front, supported by square wood columns set on a low shingled wall that rests on the wood porch floor.



504 Prairie Avenue

Built about 1905 by John Albert Bryan and his wife, Dorothy Ophelia Powell Bryan, this two story Colonial revival home features a two-story hipped roof with hipped dormer, pediment over front entrance and paired doric columns. Side lites and a transom frame the front door with half columns. The exterior is white beveled wood clapboard siding on a pier and beam foundation. The south side porch has been taken in as living area and a garage has been added on the north side. Mr. Bryan came to Johnson County as a retired timber man from East Texas. Surrounding the home are very large oaks and pecans trees.

During the 1900's the Bryans and each of their four daughters and families had homes on Prairie Ave.

#72



510 Prairie Avenue

This house was built between 1921-1924 by W.A. Scott, one of the sons involved in T.A. Scott and Sons Grocery and Hardware Co. This company and the Scott family were important members of the Cleburne economy and society from the 1890's into the 1950-1960's.

This is a two-story, frame, gable roofed bungalow with composition shingles, exposed rafters and exposed purlins. The exterior walls are clad with shiplap siding while one interior brick chimney is located near the center of the house. A low gabled one-story porch features a street facing entry gable, which is supported by short tapered wooden columns set on square brick bases.



513 Prairie Avenue

This house was built in 1905 by a contractor named Osborne, for Professor Emmett Brown. Mr. Brown came to Cleburne as a teacher in 1897, after a short teaching stint at Add Ran College in Thorp Spring. In 1905 Brown organized the first high school football team. Brown served as principle of Cleburne High from 1907-1913. He retired in 1946 after serving 33 years. Under Brown, a major building program occurred between 1915 and 1920 with most of the structures still serving today.

This is a one story frame, hip roofed house with composition shingles and a boxed eave. The boxed eave features regularly and closely spaced consoles around the entire roof line. The wrap around porch essentially covered two sides of the house with its hip roof extending outward from the main roof, and is supported by round wooden Ionic columns set on the wood floor.

#74



604 Prairie Avenue

J.B. Joiner built this house in September of 1895, according to a Cleburne Daily Enterprise article. Joiner was a real estate and insurance agent. He lived in the home until 1912, when he sold the original one-story structure to local banker Joseph B. Long and his wife, Lorena Brown Long. Lorena had always wanted a two story home and Joseph, not wanting to disappoint her, immediately hired craftsmen to complete the task. The Long family lived there until daughter Martha, who was born in the house, sold it in 1997.

The house is a classic Queen Anne style house and has a steep hipped roof with slightly upturned eaves and large overhanging soffits covered with bead-board. The exterior has cypress clapboard siding.

#75



701 Prairie Avenue

This is a spacious 1930's home with many special features including boxcar siding in one of the bedrooms. This house has an updated kitchen with Terracotta Saltillo tiled floors leading into the gourmet kitchen. Double stainless steel refrigerators are built in. Pots of all sizes hang from pot racks spanning ten feet. White cabinets are topped with dark blue glazed countertops.

The den is masculine with deeply paneled wood walls, wood floors and heavy molding. French doors lead to a sitting porch facing the front of the house. Double pocket paneled doors lead to the master bedroom and off the den.

#76



704 Prairie Avenue

This home was built by Mr. & Mrs. James Calhoun Blakeney in 1895. Mr. Blakeney was a banker and a civic volunteer. He was the director of the Chamber of Commerce for 10 years and a member of the school board, organizer of the Cleburne Board of Trade, a deacon, elder and superintendent of the Anglin Street Presbyterian Church. The home remained in the family until 1983.

This property occupies a complete city block extending all the way to Forrest Ave. Early photos show outbuildings, a stable, windmill, the existing carriage house and outbuildings, possibly a kitchen and wash house. This large elaborate two-story Victorian home with frame construction and hip roof has a cruciform plan that is obscured by added-on detailing. Much of its Victorian detail was removed or covered but it still has many of the original elements. This is a beautiful, stately home and Cleburne is proud it is still here.



801 Prairie Avenue

It is unknown at this time who originally built this home in 1939, but it is listed in the tax records as a part of *ORIGINAL CLEBURNE*.

Colonial-style homes became a popular American house style after the Great Depression. Americans moved toward simple housing styles. The style marked the end of the Victorian period in architecture. The Colonial-style is based loosely on Federal and Georgian house styles, and a clear reaction against excessively elaborate Victorian Queen Anne architecture. Reflecting American patriotism and a desire for simplicity, this style remained popular until the mid-1950's. Between World War I and II, Colonial Revival was the most popular historic revival house style in the United States. In general, colonial home plans feature symmetry, with centered doorways and a balanced array of windows. The second story generally has the same footprint as the first, and the exterior is usually brick or clapboard siding.

#78



404 S. Walnut

Originally built for Frank Lands in 1905, this house is a circa 1905 post Victorian Cottage. It has a wonderful L shaped front porch with classic style columns. The interior retains its original wood floors, original stained crown moldings, hardware, built in bookshelves, pocket doors, and even a French pocket door. The two fireplaces have the original tile work and mantles. Window seats and cupboard built-ins are in the dining room. Extra space in the attic was converted into a bedroom.



405 S. Walnut

This Craftsman style cottage was built in 1915 by J.L. Williamsons and his wife Hattie.

It has a wonderful L shaped front porch. It also features a brick wall on the front porch made from iron-ferrous or “clanker bricks” that are not commonly seen today. The home’s interior has original oak floors, moldings around the doorways and windows, built in bookcases flanking the restored fireplace, pocket doors, built in cupboards and a window seat in the dining room.



502 S. Walnut

This is a wonderful home, built in 1917 by Marvin and Rae Gaddis Wright. It was built in the style of a Mediterranean Villa, designed to reflect the sun’s heat yet invite the outdoors inside through its fifty five windows. This was Cleburne’s first stucco Home.

Until shortly before the depression, the front sunroom was an open porch, the site of dances for teenagers. A screened porch at the rear of the house was enclosed in the 1940’s. This home also has a basement, unusual for Texas, which originally housed a coal burning furnace.

#81



504 S. Walnut

This early 1900's two-story home was built by one of the first physicians in Cleburne, Dr. Lee Yater (City Directory 1913), as a present for his wife, Lottie (City Directory 1913). Although Dr. Yater had an office in town, he would often see patients at his home. As visitors will notice, the porch to this house was built up higher than normal to allow horse drawn carriages and wagons to pull up under the portico beside the home to facilitate access by patients while still staying "out of the weather." This house is a very important part of Cleburne's history.

High ceilings and spacious rooms with large windows and window seats are complimented by two sets of pocket doors. An unusual chandelier graces the dining room and carries a patent date of 1910. The doors leading to the kitchen contain an unusual maid's window and a small flight of stairs found in the kitchen were once used by maids to gain access to the second floor bedrooms. An area in a small hallway off the main entry once housed the first telephone in Cleburne- Dr. Yater's phone number was "1".



512 S. Walnut

This home is an 1880's late Victorian home. William James, one of the sons of T.R. James and Son's Wholesale Harness and Saddle Co. resided in the home until 1907, when Charles Dempwolf and his family resided in the home. The Dempwolf family was an early pioneer family, serving as a leading grocery company in the city from the early 1880's into the 1920's.

This home is a large two-story frame house with hip and gable roof. A heavily corbelled interior brick chimney is located in the center of the house. A projecting gable on the front forms a roof for the second floor balcony. This home has gone through remodeling and renovations over the years and has lost much of the original trim but is still an impressive piece of architecture.

#83



702 S. Walnut

This wonderful post Victorian Farmhouse was built by M.C. Osborne in 1902.

This home has the original fireplaces. The first and most ornate fireplace meeting is in the entry. It has beautifully carved Victorian oak mantles and original crown moldings around all of the doors and windows. The rooms are spacious throughout. This house is a beautiful example of its era.



518 College

This two story white frame home was built as a home for the Weatherford District Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church South in 1911. At that time, visiting ministers often road horseback to preach and hold revivals and would need a place to stay. This parsonage was built with room for such accommodations. There are 6 rooms downstairs and three rooms upstairs with a large hallway and bath on each floor. One of the nicest features in this house is the number and size of closets which at the time were usually nonexistent. Upstairs there are 5 large closets; four of them are walk in size.

The home has 12' ceilings but in the 1950's, former owner Wesley Marsh lowered them to 9' ceilings throughout the home except in the main hall.

#85



"The Cattle Baron's Home"

1700 S. Main on Hwy 174 S.

This home has survived much in its 107 year history. From being a home not wanted by its original owner, to a happy home for others, to a U.S. Army Armory, to vandalism and abandonment, from nature's wrath of a tornado, and now in recent years to love and care with restoration to its original splendor.

This one and a half story, Craftsman-style home was built in 1907 by cattle baron Robert (Bob) E. Gatewood for his wife, Minnie. The Gatewoods only lived in the home a little less than a year before moving to another home Mr. Gatewood built, 614 Forrest in Cleburne. Bob was an extremely successful cattle baron.

In 1908, John Terrell Faulkenbury bought the home, and owned it for more than 40 years.

In the early 1950's Felix E. (Jiggs) Gardner bought the house from the Faulkenburys. The red stone remembered by many at the front of the house was added later by Felix E. (Jiggs) Gardner. The stone came from part of the old Tarrant Count Courthouse and was eventually removed from the Gatewood Hill property and used for the Ellis County Courthouse.

Because of the fallout of lime, the Gardners left and leased the property to the U. S. Army Reserves. The home was known as "The Armory."

This impressive two-story cast stone home has a gable roof, boxed eaves, three dormers and sits on nine and a half acres. It has 12 inch thick cement mortar walls, red oak floors, and all its original doors. The house has three chimneys and one fireplace hearth. It has two large rooms upstairs, said to be used as ballrooms. Another unusual feature is the hand-carved fretwork divided the entry and parlor doors separating the bathroom into three parts. Upstairs two large rooms open up to a central hallway with hug pocket doors.



Liberty Hotel 201 S Caddo

This building was built in 1924, at a reputed cost of \$150,000. A.J. Wright was the owner, manager and financier. On opening day, a 42-piece band played in the ballroom, and the hotel was a hub of activity, with a barbershop and bus station. The Liberty also boasted Cleburne's first elevator. There were 69 rooms, 13 of which had private baths.

There were telephones in each room, but people could only call between rooms because most homes didn't have phones.

In 1933, Lawrence Welk and his band, the Hotsy Totsy Boys, played at the Liberty.

But by the late 1930s, the hotel went into a steep decline, first brought on by a year long strike by Santa Fe Railway workers. Then, as in other small towns, railroad passenger traffic dried up after the interstate highways were built. The Liberty fell into disrepair. Various people tried to revive it. The name was even changed to the Greenbrier because the Liberty Hotel had become so seedy.

In 2004, Howard Dudley began the monumental task of renovating the building. They left the brick facade largely untouched, but inside it was a different story. The interior walls were taken down to the studs; new flooring was installed and the terrazzo floor in the lobby was restored, eventually bringing it back to its former grandeur. Great care was taken to make sure the hotel looked much the same as it did during the 1920s, with chandeliers and ornate furnishings.

Instead of 69 rooms, there are now 50. And there are the modern touches, such as high-speed internet and an energy-saving system that turns off air conditioning and lights when rooms are empty. When someone walks in, the thermostat senses motion and adjusts the temperature within two minutes.

The new Liberty also has a fitness center and outdoor pool.

#87



Christian Heritage Foundation
2 N. Caddo

This structure was built during 1922-1923 to serve as a Woolworth's department store. It occupies one of the oldest and most prestigious sites in the city. It was occupied by the National Bank of Cleburne from 1885 to the early 1920's.

This building is also the best example in Cleburne of the use of stone veneer or architectural terra cotta, a practice very popular in the 1920's.

#88



4 N. Caddo

Commercial structures have occupied this site since before 1885. In 1885, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows this building to be a one story brick structure. In 1910 we see that a two story structure appears. It is very likely that the older 1885 buildings were expanded by adding a second story, and building a new façade.



Pack 'N' Mail

10 N. Caddo

This two story building shows up on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map before 1885. A.J. Wright arrived in Cleburne around 1899. He soon emerged as a leading merchant and contractor.

It is believed that he may have purchased this building and remodeled it after 1900. It has had a façade change pre-1924.

#90

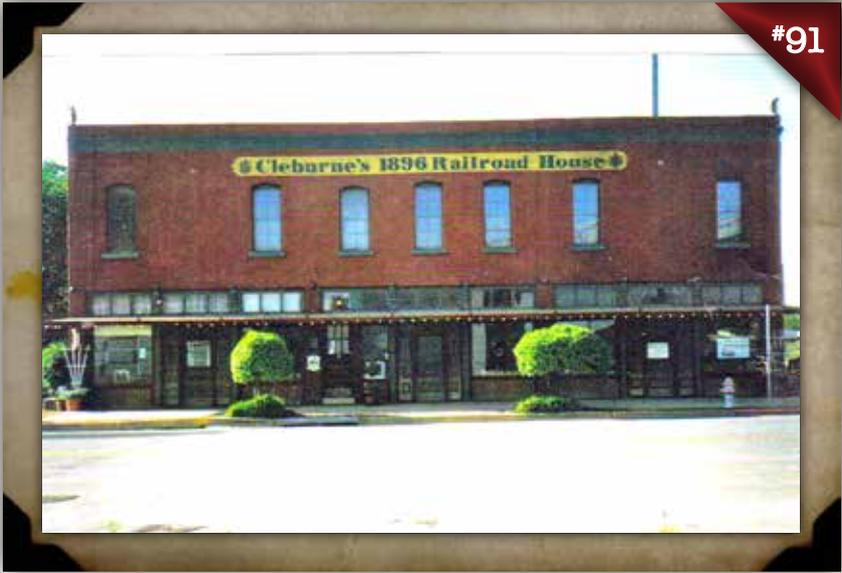


Turner Building 101 E. Henderson

The Turner Building affirms to be one of the earliest commercial buildings in our city.

This is a Romanesque turn of the century building-circa 1880. The second floor windows feature ten unique, round arched transoms over one on one windows. The windows contain round medallions separated by vertical pilasters which blend into a brick string course. Originally this building had a cutaway corner with an oriel window. This was “squared off” between 1910 and 1918.

The architect and contractor are not known, but the first occupant was The Citizens National Bank. The rear office was occupied by one of the first local telephone exchanges, followed by a tailor shop in 1888. In 1907, The Ball & Williamson Drug Store moved into the Bank’s area, succeeded by Cleburne Tailoring Co. and then Campsey & White Drug Store in the mid 1920’s. Stephen’s radio shop followed in the 1930’s and the rear office was home to Cleburne Taxi Service, later City Taxi Service. Occupants also included early physicians, Dr. T.C. & A.D. Yater and Dr. Lee Yater. The most famous occupant was the “Ace Café”, famous for homemade pies and big mugs of coffee, that occupied the building from the 1940’s into the 70’s.



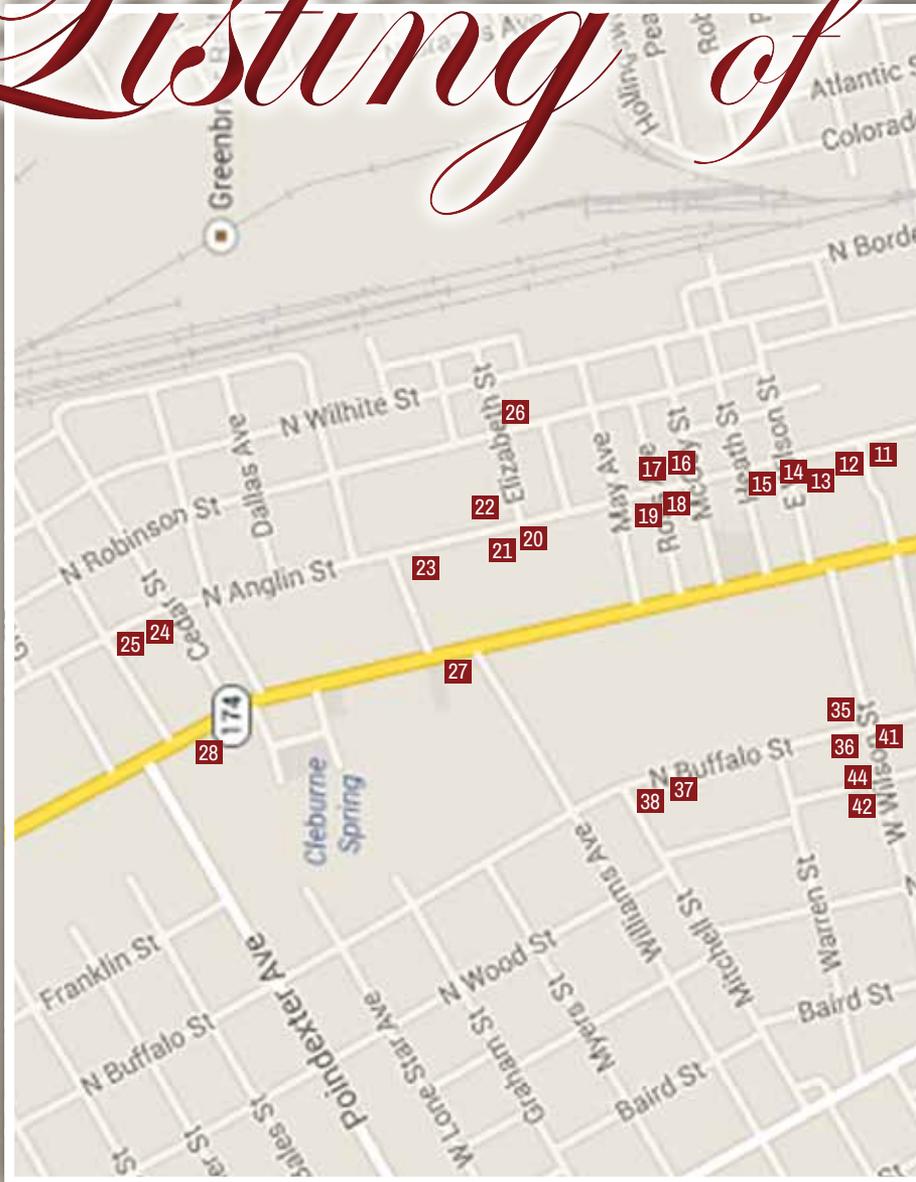
RR House- Santa Fe Hotel

419 E. Henderson

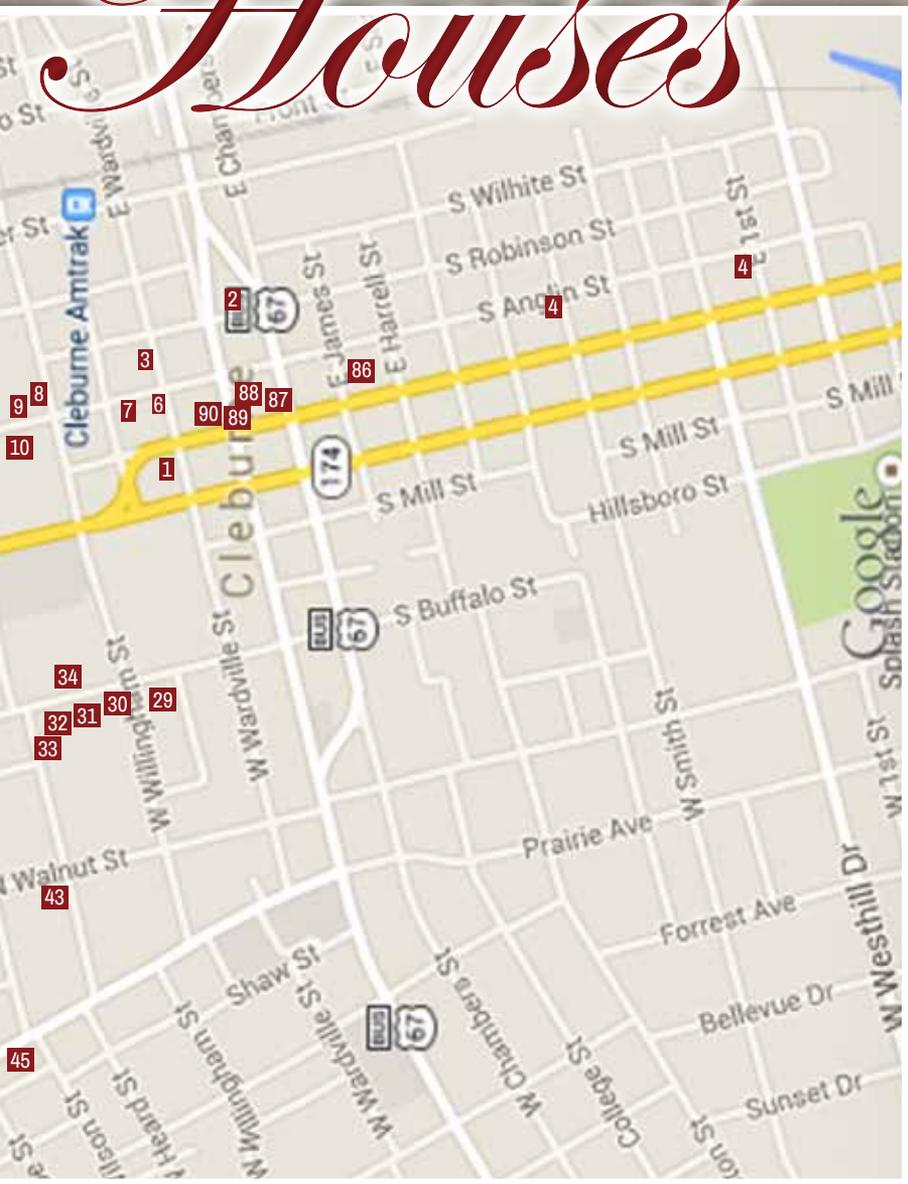
This hotel was built in 1896 by the daughter of B.J. Chambers and her husband, the son of Thomas Poin-dexter.

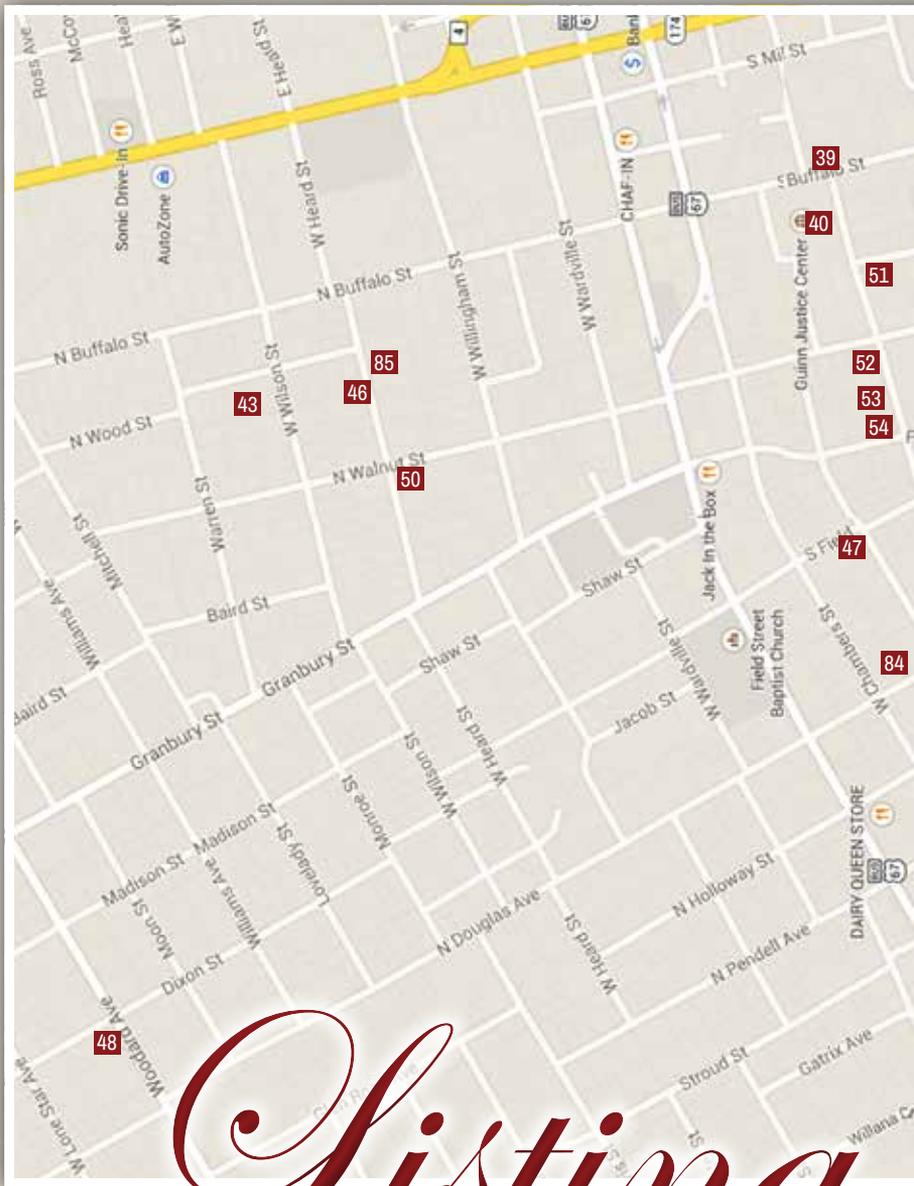
This two-story building is constructed of bricks fired from the local brick factory. The cast iron support columns on either side of the three downstairs doorways were made at the Cleburne Foundry and Machine Co. Restored in 1985, many of the interior details were still left in place, such as the eleven foot pressed tin ceilings, transom windows, ivory room numbers and brass "Please lock and bolt your door" placards in the hotel rooms, which are a reminder of the hotels historic past.

Listing of



Houses





Listing

78 Historic Homes of Cleburne



of Houses

Historic Homes of Cleburne 79



PRESERVATION IS FOREVER

Save Old Cleburne Inc. is a historic preservation group. Founded in 1976, we are a non-profit 501C3 consisting of homeowners, business owners and interested individuals in and around Cleburne, Texas. We are dedicated to the preservation of the history of Cleburne and the preservation of its structures, history, and culture. It's the work of a lifetime, as many have discovered over the years. One of the main common objectives is promoting the preservation of Cleburne's older homes, Neighborhoods, and Historic Downtown.

Cleburne's turn of the century homes and historic Downtown buildings are a priceless, irreplaceable part of our heritage. We need to remind ourselves that we are helping to save our heritage by keeping it alive and flourishing for future generations. It allows us to embrace our heritage yet balance change and tradition. By preserving our historic resources, we are visibly reminded of our culture and heritage. It boosts civic pride and economic prosperity.

We encourage you to get involved in Preservation.

