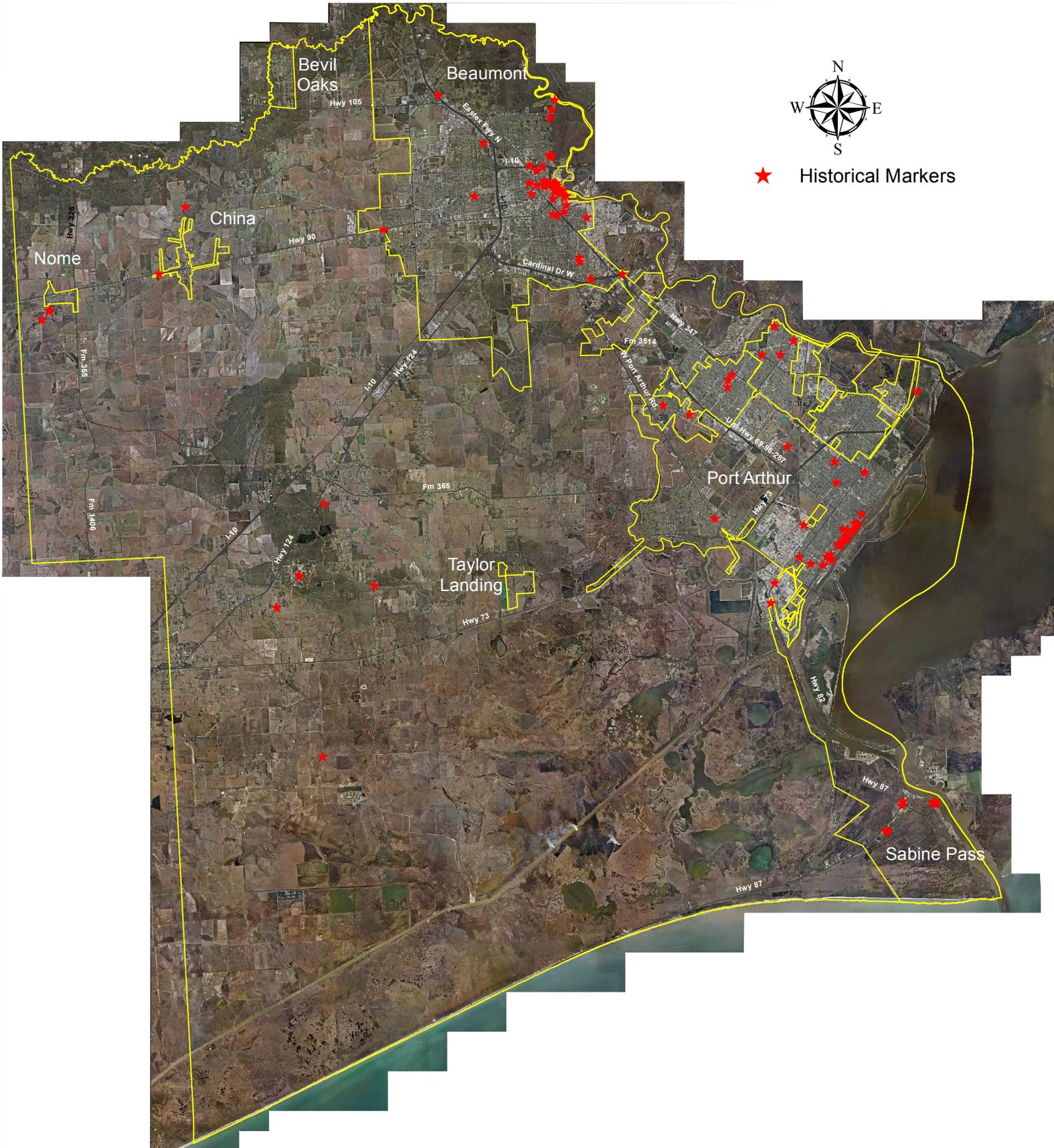


# Jefferson County Historical Markers





**County ID#: 003**  
**State ID#: 10509**  
**Title: Dick Dowling Monument**  
**Year Established: 1936**  
**Marker Size: Statue**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415577**  
**UTM North: 328924**  
**Location: Sabine Pass**  
**Battleground**

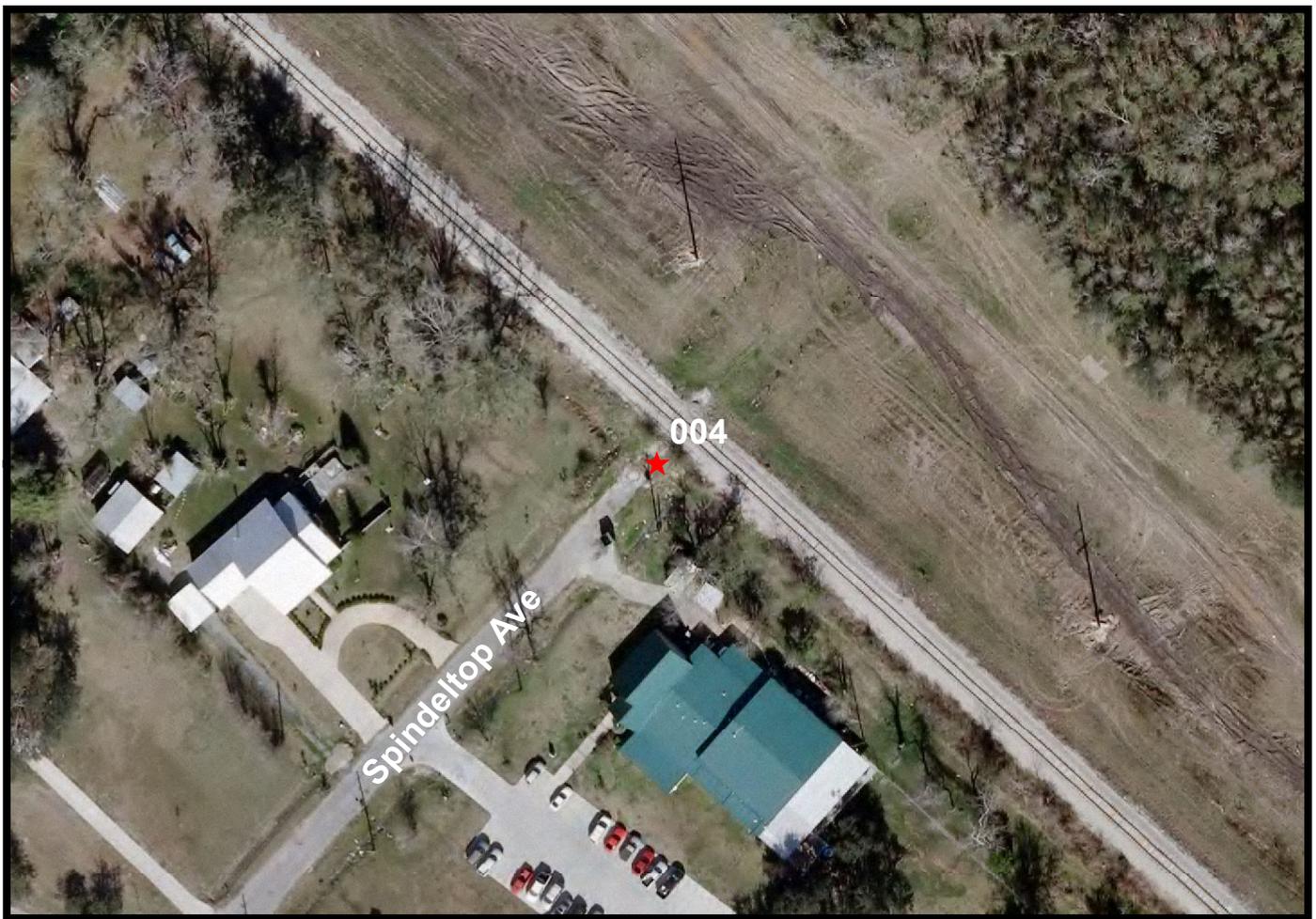


1 inch = 100 feet

Description: In memory of Lt. Richard W. Dowling and his men. Texas remembers the faithfulness and valor of her sons and commends their heroic example to future generations.

"Thus it will be seen that we captured with forty-seven men two gunboats mounting thirteen guns of the heaviest caliber and about three hundred and fifty prisoners. All my men behaved like heroes, not a man flinched from his post. Our motto was victory or death." Official report of Lt. Richard W. Dowling

At this site on Sept. 8th, 1863 Dick Dowling and forty-seven men comprising Company F, Texas Heavy Artillery Jefferson Davis Guards C.S.A., from a mud fort repulsed an attack made by four warships and twelve hundred men of the Federal Army thus saving Texas from invasion by the enemy. There is no parallel in ancient or modern warfare to the victory of Dowling and his men at Sabine Pass considering the great odds against which they had to contend. Jefferson Davis



**Location: 2050 Spindletop Ave. Beaumont, TX**

**County ID#: 004**

**State ID#: 10571**

**Title: Site of Spindle Top Hill Confederate Camp**

**Year Established: 1936**

**Marker Size: 1936 Centennial Marker**



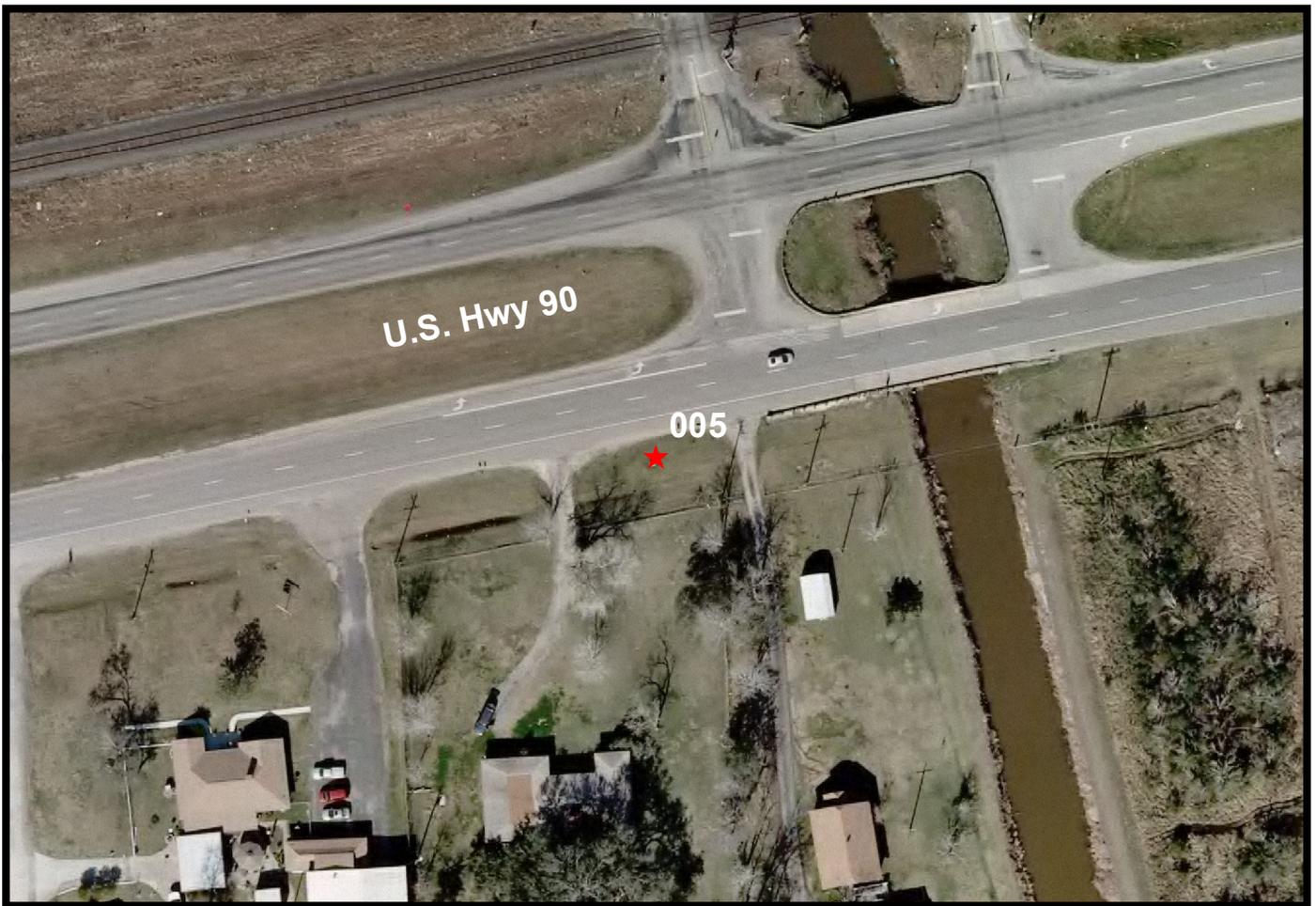
1 inch = 100 feet

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 395770**

**UTM North: 3322238**

**Description:** Here from 1862 to 1864, camped Colonel A. W. Spaight's Battalion, 2nd Texas Infantry, Confederate States Army, composed of soldiers from Jefferson, Liberty, and Chambers counties. Their presence here served to prevent invasion of this part of Texas by the Federal Army.



**County ID#: 005**

**State ID#: 10495**

**Title: City of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1936**

**Marker Size: 1936 Centennial Marker**

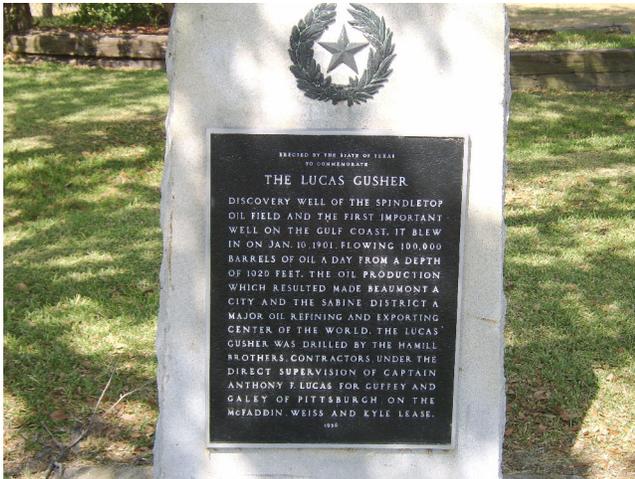
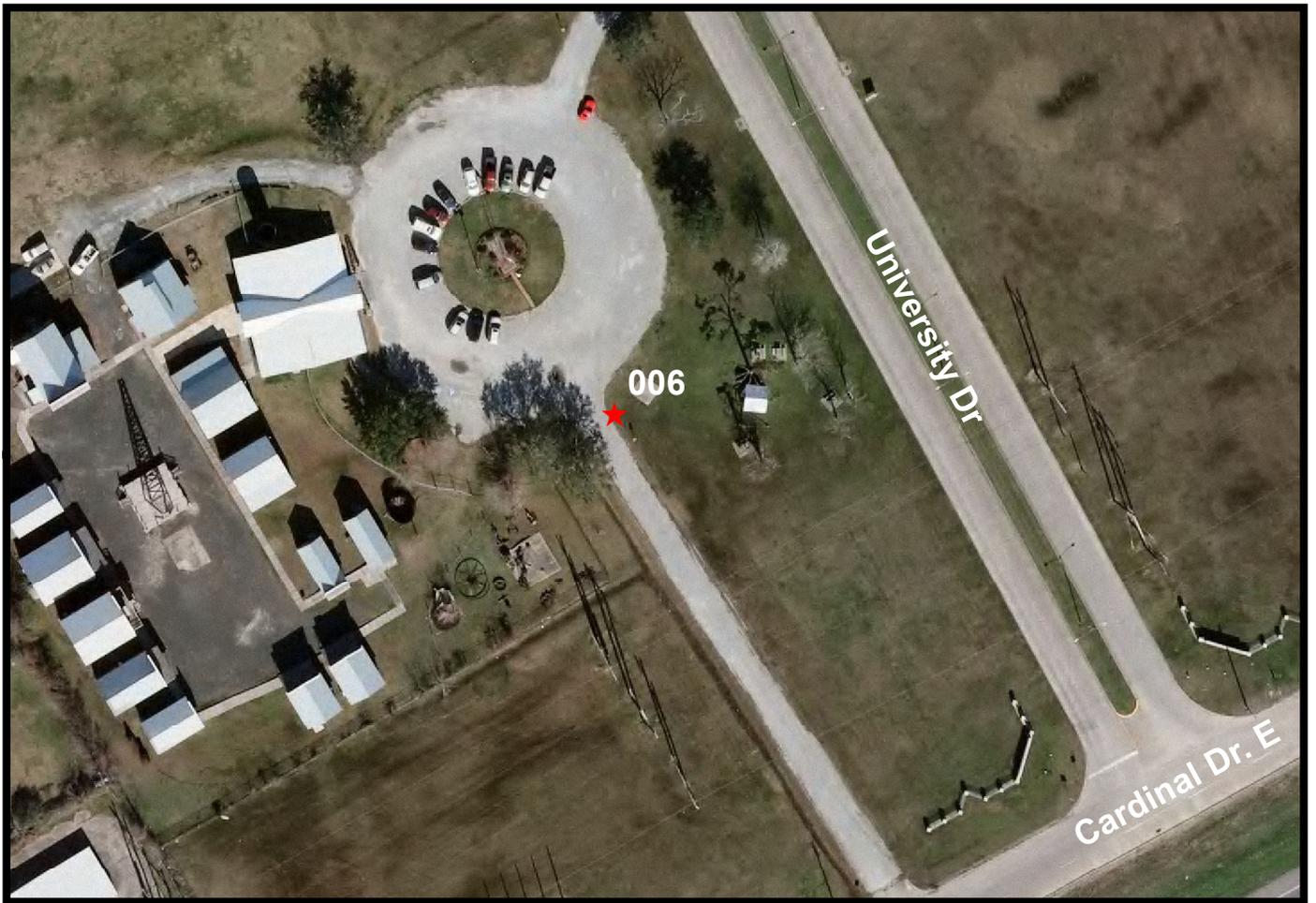
**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 389482**

**UTM North: 3326621**

**Location: Eastbound U.S. 90, west of Beaumont  
at intersection with Keith Road**

Description: City of Beaumont, Named in Honor of Mary Dewleigh Borlace Warren Beaumont by Her Husband, Henry Millard Who Laid Out the Town in 1835 on a Site Known as Tevis's Bluff, Incorporated 1838



**County ID#: 006**

**State ID#: 10540**

**Title: The Lucas Gusher**

**Year Established: 1936**

**Marker Size: 1936 Centennial Marker**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 395970**

**UTM North: 3323039**

**Location: Spindletop Gladys City Boomtown Museum, 5550 University Dr., Beaumont, TX**

Description: Discovery well of the Spindletop Oil Field and the first important well on the Gulf Coast. It blew in on Jan. 10, 1901, flowing 100,000 barrels of oil a day from a depth of 1020 feet. The oil production which resulted made Beaumont a city and the Sabine District a major oil refining and exporting center of the world. The Lucas Gusher was drilled by the Hamill Brothers, contractors, under the direct supervision of Captain Anthony F. Lucas for Guffey and Galey of Pittsburgh, on the McFaddin, Weiss and Kyle lease.



County ID#: 007

State ID#: 10574

Title: Site of the Home of Noah Tevis

Year Established: 1936

Marker Size: 1936 Centennial Marker

UTM Zone: 15

UTM East: 394222

UTM North: 3328513

Location: Tevis Street at Pine St,  
Beaumont, TX 77701



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: **Site of the home of Noah Tevis who came to Texas in 1826 and built his cabin on land not granted until 1835. On a portion of this known as Tevis' Bluff, the town of Beaumont was laid out before his death, December 6, 1835.**



**County ID#: 008**

**State ID#: 10564**

**Title: Andrew F. Smyth**

**Year Established: 1962**

**Marker Size: Grave Marker**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393964**

**UTM North: 3330582**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: (Star and Wreath) Officer in the Jasper Volunteers during the Texas War for Independence.

**Location: Grave marker, McFaddin Family Cemetery in Magnolia Cemetery,  
2200 Pine Street, Beaumont, TX**



**County ID#: 009**  
**State ID#: 10513**  
**Title: Enterprise-Journal**  
**Year Established: 1984**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394131**  
**UTM North: 3328725**  
**Location: 380 Main St.**  
**Beaumont, TX 77701**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Near this site on November 6, 1880, the first "Beaumont Enterprise" came off the press. The newspaper, founded by John W. Leonard, is one of southeast Texas' oldest continuing business institutions. Over the years, "The Enterprise" has had a number of outstanding editors and publishers, including William P. Hobby, who came to The Enterprise" in 1907 and later became governor of Texas. The "Beaumont Enterprise" attained national stature under James L. Mapes, who came to the newspaper in 1908 and in 1931 acquired the business. Mapes served two years as president of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association. When he died in 1936, his widow, Kathryn Smythe Mapes, served as president. Upon her death in 1948, she left the majority stock in trust to her grandnephew. The "Beaumont Journal," founded in August 1889 by Robert Emmett Kelley, was published under the same ownership as "The Enterprise" from 1921 to 1983, when "The Journal" was merged into "The Enterprise." The "Beaumont Enterprise" serves a Texas - Louisiana community extending from the Trinity River on the west to the Calcasieu River on the east, and from the Redlands on the north to the Gulf of Mexico.



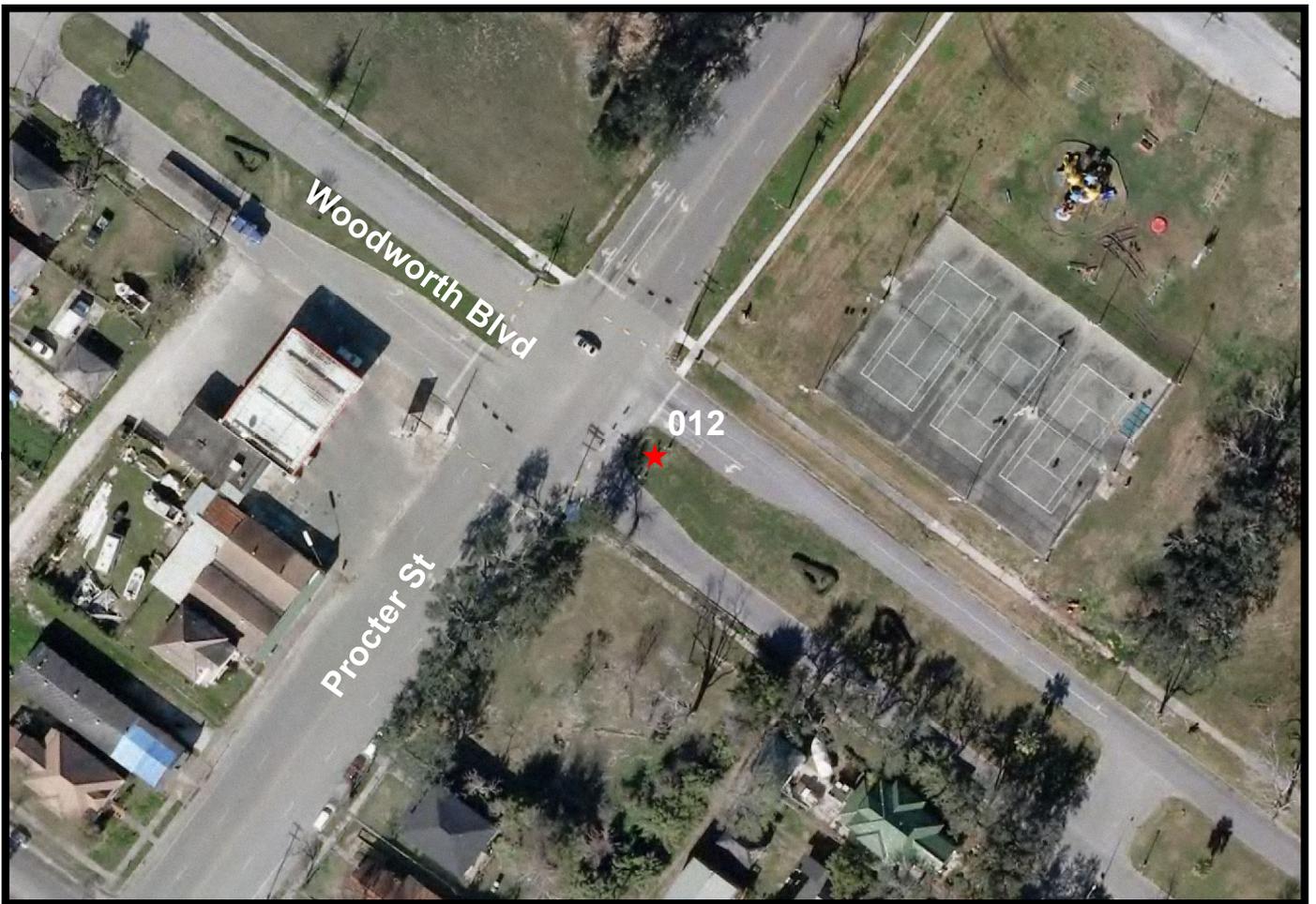
**County ID#: 010**  
**State ID#: 10547**  
**Title: O'Brien Oak**  
**Year Established: 1965**  
**Marker Size: Tree Marker**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394642**  
**UTM North: 3327961**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Planted before 1860 by a settler, Cave Johnson. Preserved and presented to citizens of Beaumont by Capt. Geo. W. O'Brien. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1966

Located inside the Jefferson County Courthouse on the 1st floor.



**County ID#: 012**

**State ID#: 10492**

**Title: Site of Old Aurora**

**Year Established: 1966**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 411459**

**UTM North: 3307029**

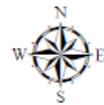


1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Laid out in 1835 on land grant from government of Mexico to Horatio M. Hanks. At least 160 blocks were planned. After the Texas Revolution, Banks' partner and agent Alamazon Huston sold first 15 lots on Nov. 27, 1837. Deed records show town existed late as 1850. By 1880 the land was sold by state for its taxes. Hurricanes, freezes and lack of medical services caused the area to be deserted by 1890. Aurora bloomed and faded like the dawn, from which it took its name, leaving shoreline of Lake Sabine deserted until 1895, when Port Arthur was founded.



County ID#: 013  
State ID#: 14513  
Title: Boudreaux House  
Year Established: 1966  
Marker Size: 12" x 6"  
UTM Zone: 15  
UTM East: 376968  
UTM North: 3305499



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Built by A. Mobray for Sevan Broussard, 1859. Occupied continuously by family. "Dog-trot" style, typical of period.

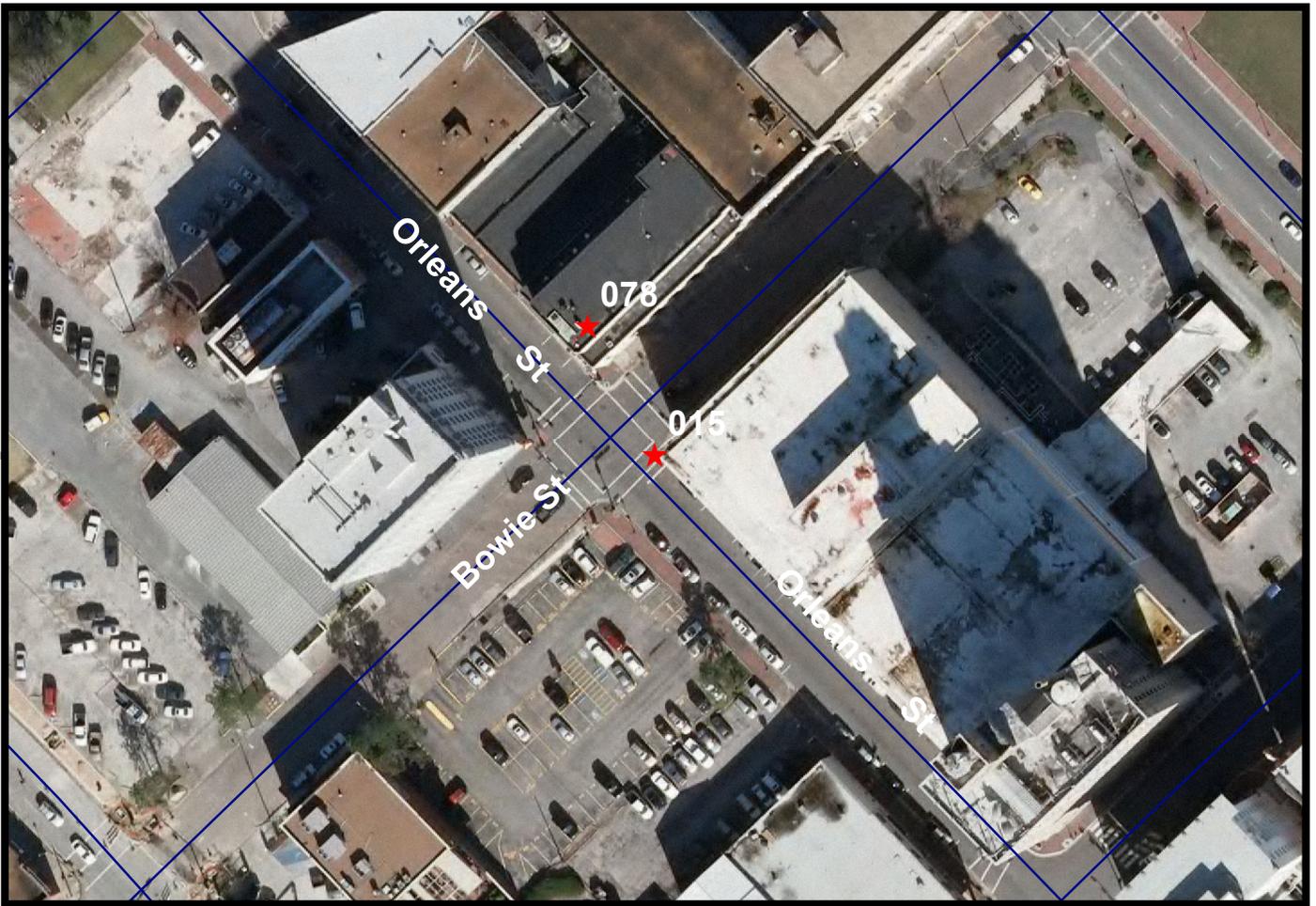
Location: 10714 East Clubb Rd. off FM 124, Fannett, TX relocated from Broussard Cemetery Rd. off Wilber Rd., Fannett, TX



**County ID#: 014**  
**State ID#: 10502**  
**Title: Site of Collier's Ferry**  
**Year Established: 1968**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394311**  
**UTM North: 3334000**



**Description:** Main crossing on Old Jasper Road and alternate crossing on Opelousas Trail from Liberty through Beaumont to Louisiana. Used as early as 1750, route followed Indian traces and was highway for explorer-settlers, priests, soldiers, trades from Spain, France and Anglo-America. Ferry's most important use was as cattle crossing on famous Opelousas Trail from 1820s to 1900. Herds came this way to bypass the streets of Beaumont. Although others ran it during 1831-1950 career, ferry took its name from John Collier family who operated it for 50 years.



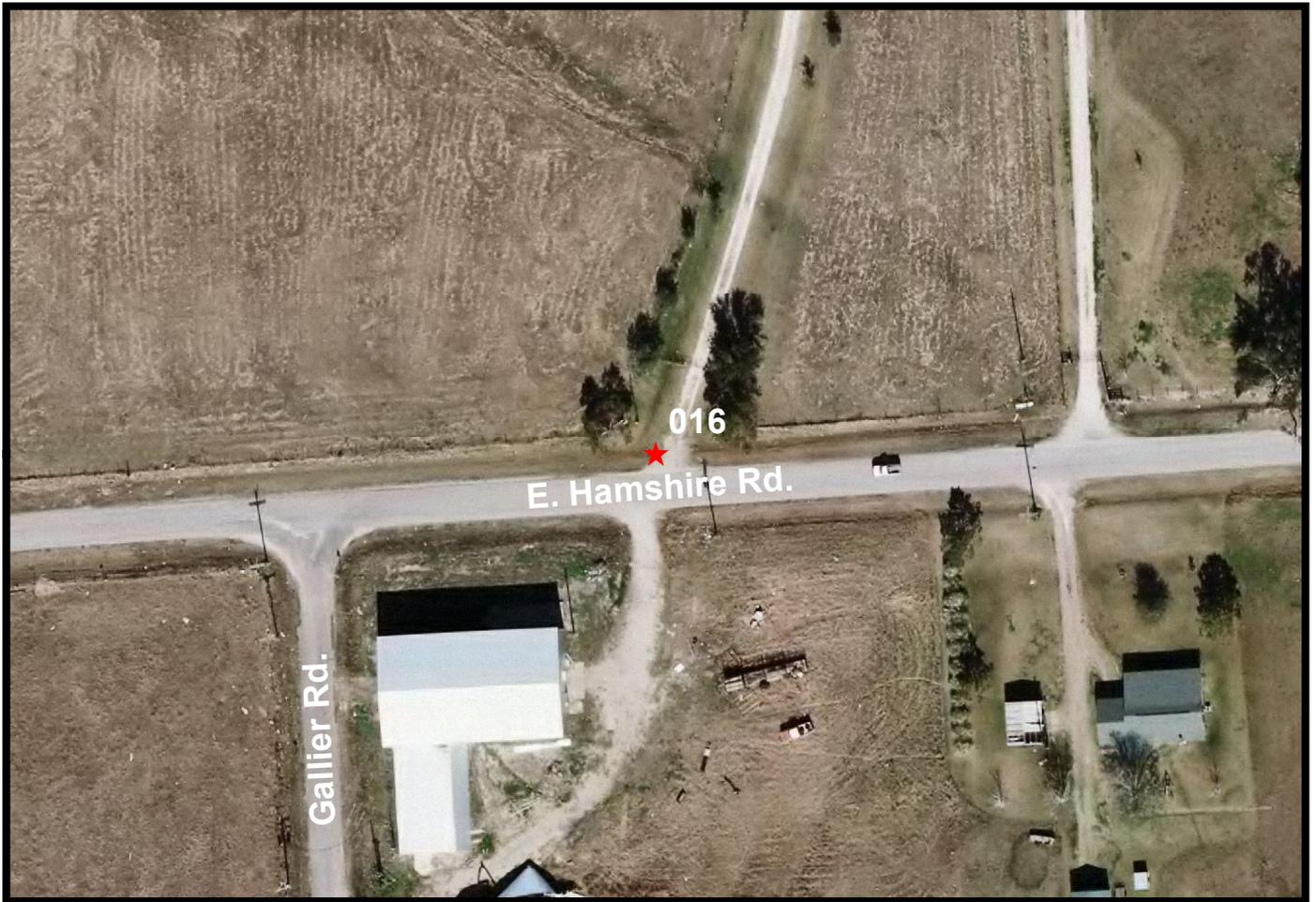
**County ID#: 015**  
**State ID#: 10522**  
**Title: First Security National Bank**  
**Year Established: 1966**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394066**  
**UTM North: 3328476**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Location: Orleans St. at Bowie, Beaumont, TX**

Description: Oldest bank between Houston and the Louisiana border. Organized on April 9, 1889, with capital of \$100,000, as First National Bank of Beaumont, it was granted National Bank Charter No. 4017. First president was Valentine Wiess, a lumber man. Directors were W. A. Fletcher, John N. Gilbert, John L. Keith, L. P. Ogden, H. Solinsky, V. Wiess and W. Wiess. Fletcher was vice-president, J. P. Alvey, cashier. During the course of its history, other banks to merge with First National were Gulf National Bank in July 1919 and Texas National Bank in April 1932. The First National Bank and the Security State Bank were consolidated in October 1961 as First Security National Bank, which celebrated in 1964 its diamond anniversary of service to Texans. Activities of this financial institution have been interwoven with the growth of the community from a sawmill town of 3,200 people to a center of commerce and industry. Its corporate annals reflect participation in the great Spindletop oil boom, in the opening of the Sabine-Neches Ship Channel, and in development of the rice industry. Now the largest and oldest bank and financial institution in Golden Triangle area of Texas.



**County ID#: 016**  
**State ID#: 10533**  
**Title: Hamshire House**  
**Year Established: 1966**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



**Description:** On land patented to William H. Smith, who died at the Alamo. Of Louisiana cypress, style is typical of ranches of the time. Built 1859 by A. Mobray for Emil Broussard. He sold to Eloi and Azema Broussard. Here grew up a son, J. E. Broussard, who built first rice mill in Texas. Widowed, Azema married Lovan Hamshire. They donated land for area's first Catholic church. Few changes have been made in house since it was first built. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1966



**County ID#: 017**

**State ID#: 10541**

**Title: William McFaddin**

**Year Established: 1966**

**Marker Size: Grave Marker**

**UTM Zone: 15**

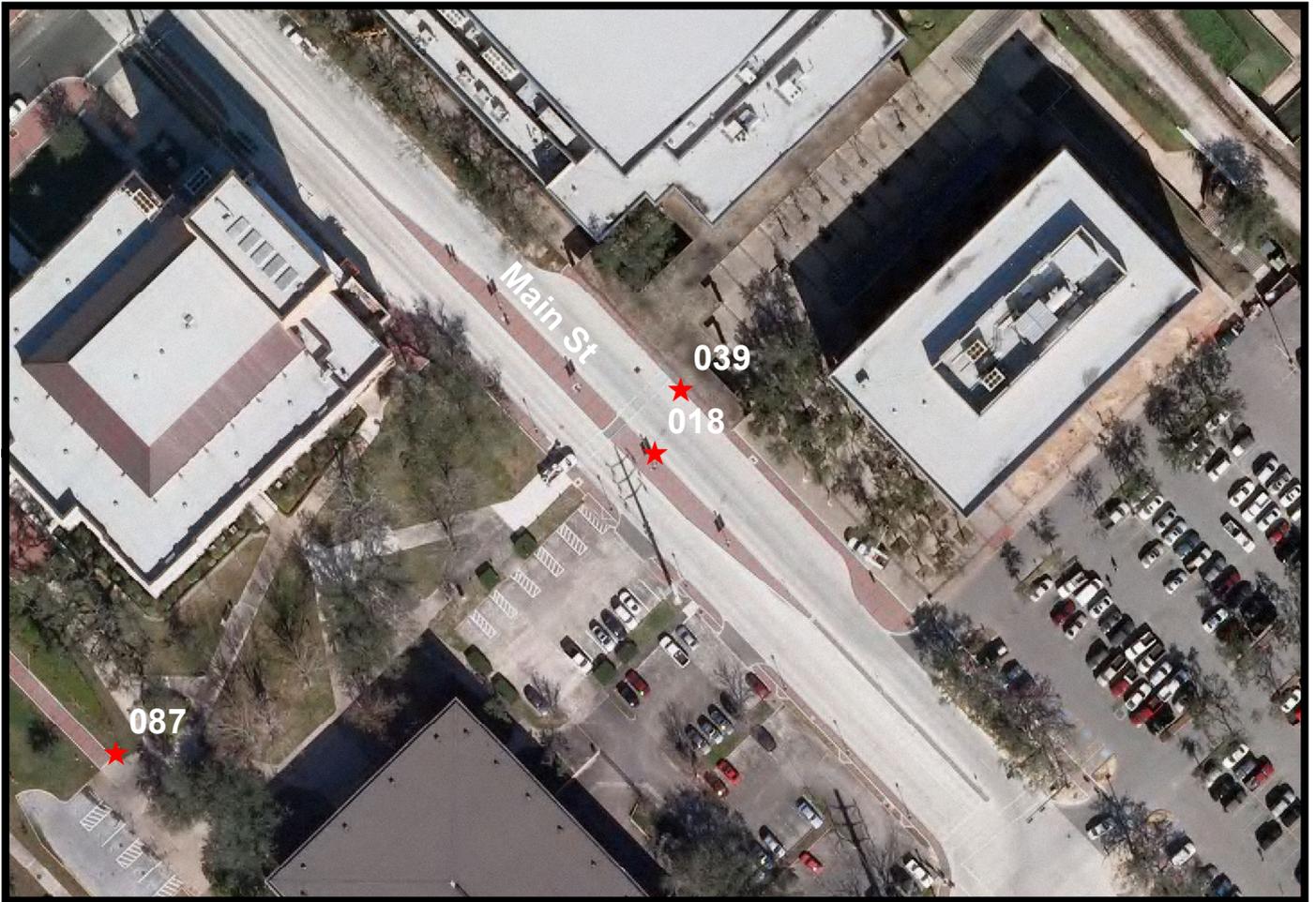
**UTM East: 394019**

**UTM North: 3330766**



1 inch = 200 feet

Description: (1819-1898) Served in Texas War for Independence at first Siege of the Alamo and San Jacinto. Supply agent in Civil War. McFaddin, noted for his hospitality and generosity, founded empire in ranching that survives today.

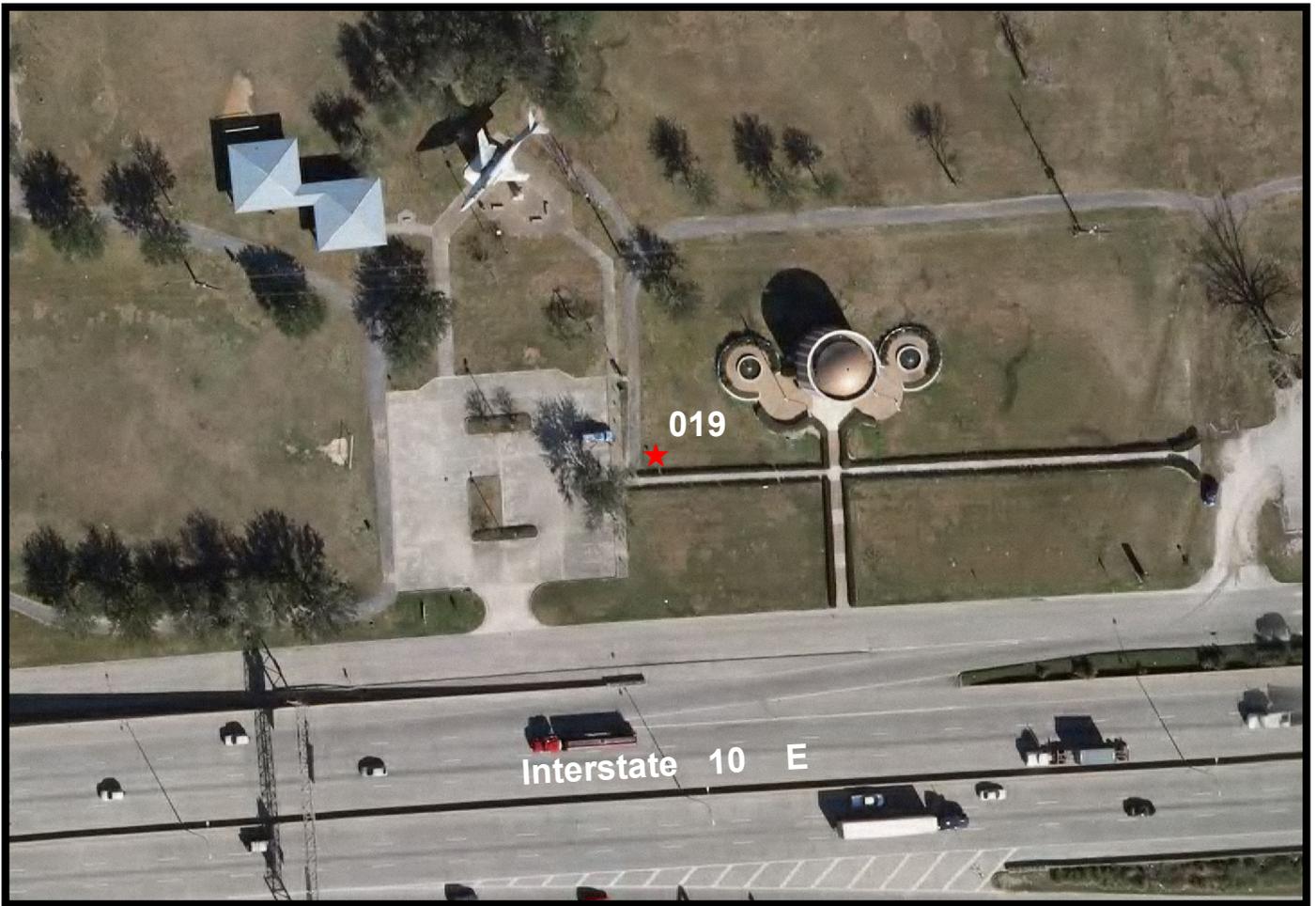


**County ID#: 018**  
**State ID#: 10493**  
**Title: Beaumont**  
**Year Established: 1967**  
**Marker Size: 24" x 18"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394485**  
**UTM North: 3328354**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: County seat of Jefferson County. Settled in 1825 as Tevis Bluff; incorporated as Beaumont Dec. 16, 1838. Early trading post, riverboat port, lumber, rice and ranching center. Near site of Spindletop gusher, where oil became an industry, ushering in the modern port and shipyards, and a vast industrial and chemical complex.



County ID#: 019  
State ID#: 10494  
Title: Beaumont  
Year Established: 1967  
Marker Size: 24" x 18"  
UTM Zone: 15  
UTM East: 392540  
UTM North: 3330036



1 inch = 100 feet

Description:

**County seat of Jefferson County, settled in 1825 as Tevis Bluff, incorporated as Beaumont Dec. 16, 1838. Early trading post, riverboat port, lumber, rice and ranching center. Near site of Spindletop Gusher, where oil became an industry, ushering in the modern port and shipyards, and a vast industrial and chemical complex.**

**Location: 1750 IH-10 East, Beaumont, Texas 77704**



**County ID#: 020**  
**State ID#: 10575**  
**Title: Police Chief Reid Tevis**  
**Year Established: 1967**  
**Marker Size: Grave Marker**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394019**  
**UTM North: 3330766**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (April 1, 1878 - April 15, 1925) Began lifetime career as a police officer at age 19. Was chief of detectives for Beaumont Police Department many years; chief of police, 1923 to 1925. Started police benefit fund, increased staff from 20 to 50, and reorganized department. Famed among lawmen for his uncanny ability to detect thieves and pickpockets. Often engaged to work at Texas State Fair (Dallas), St. Louis Fair, and Madison Square Garden in New York.

**Location: Grave marker, Magnolia Cemetery, 2200 Pine St., Beaumont, TX 77703**



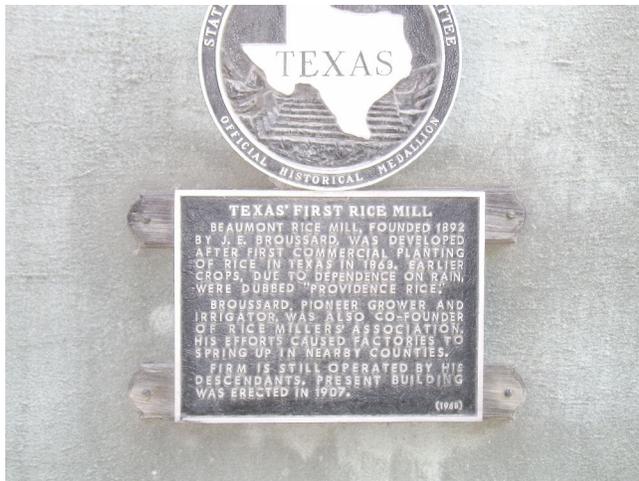
**County ID#: 021**  
**State ID#: 10549**  
**Title: Opelousas Trail**  
**Year Established: 1997**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 362717**  
**UTM North: 3323602**

**Location: 1201 W. Hwy. 90**  
**China, Texas**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Named for one of several Atakapan-speaking Native American tribes originally connected by this trail, the Opelousas ran from La Bahia (later Goliad) to the Mississippi River in Louisiana. Evidence of cultural interchange between tribes indicates the presence of such a trail for hundreds of years. Spanish explorers, soldiers, and vaqueros employed this route. by the 1750s, French traders had been traveling the trail for about twenty years. After 1820 settlers began to arrive from Louisiana and other southern states. Don Martin de Leon and Anglo cattlemen such as James Taylor White and William B. Duncan herded large droves of cattle, mules, and horses to market in New Orleans. A post route was established along the Opelousas in early 1836. That spring, Texas pioneers fled along this path during the "Runaway Scrape." Later Santa Anna was led down the trail toward New Orleans and ultimately to Washington, D. C., as a prisoner of war. A stage and mail route followed the trail after 1850; the Confederate Army used the road to move troops during the Civil War. Use of the route continued throughout the 20th century. Many segments of the trail were incorporated into U. S. Highway 90 from Liberty to Orange. (1998)



**County ID#: 022**

**State ID#: 10576**

**Title: Texas' First Rice Mill**

**Year Established: 1968**

**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

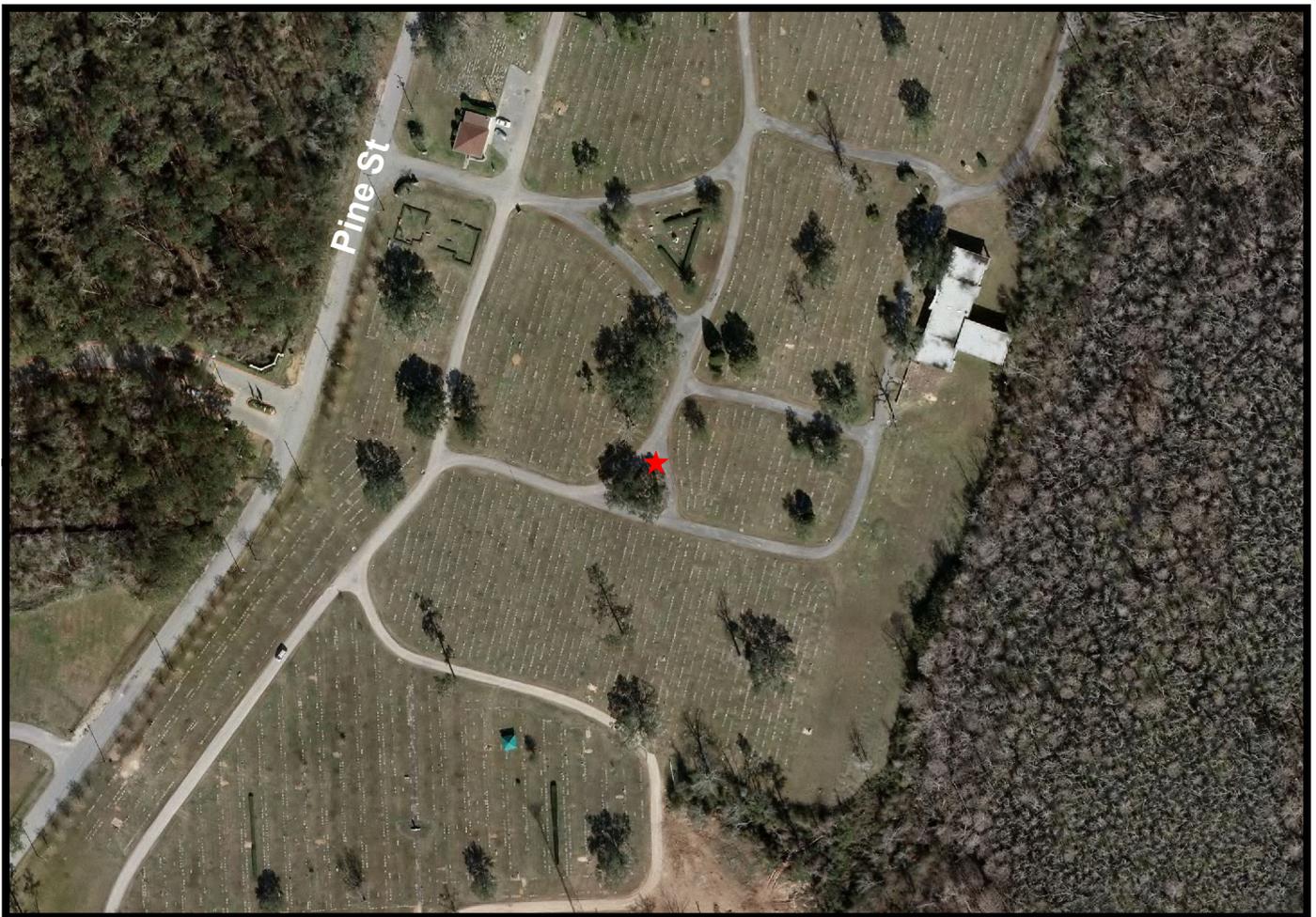
**UTM East: 392716**

**UTM North: 3328213**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Beaumont Rice Mill, founded 1892 by J. E. Broussard, was developed after first commercial planting of rice in Texas in 1863. Earlier crops, due to dependence on rain, were dubbed "providence rice." Broussard, pioneer grower and irrigator, was also co-founder of Rice Millers' Association. His efforts caused factories to spring up in nearby counties. First is still operated by his descendants. Present building was erected in 1907.



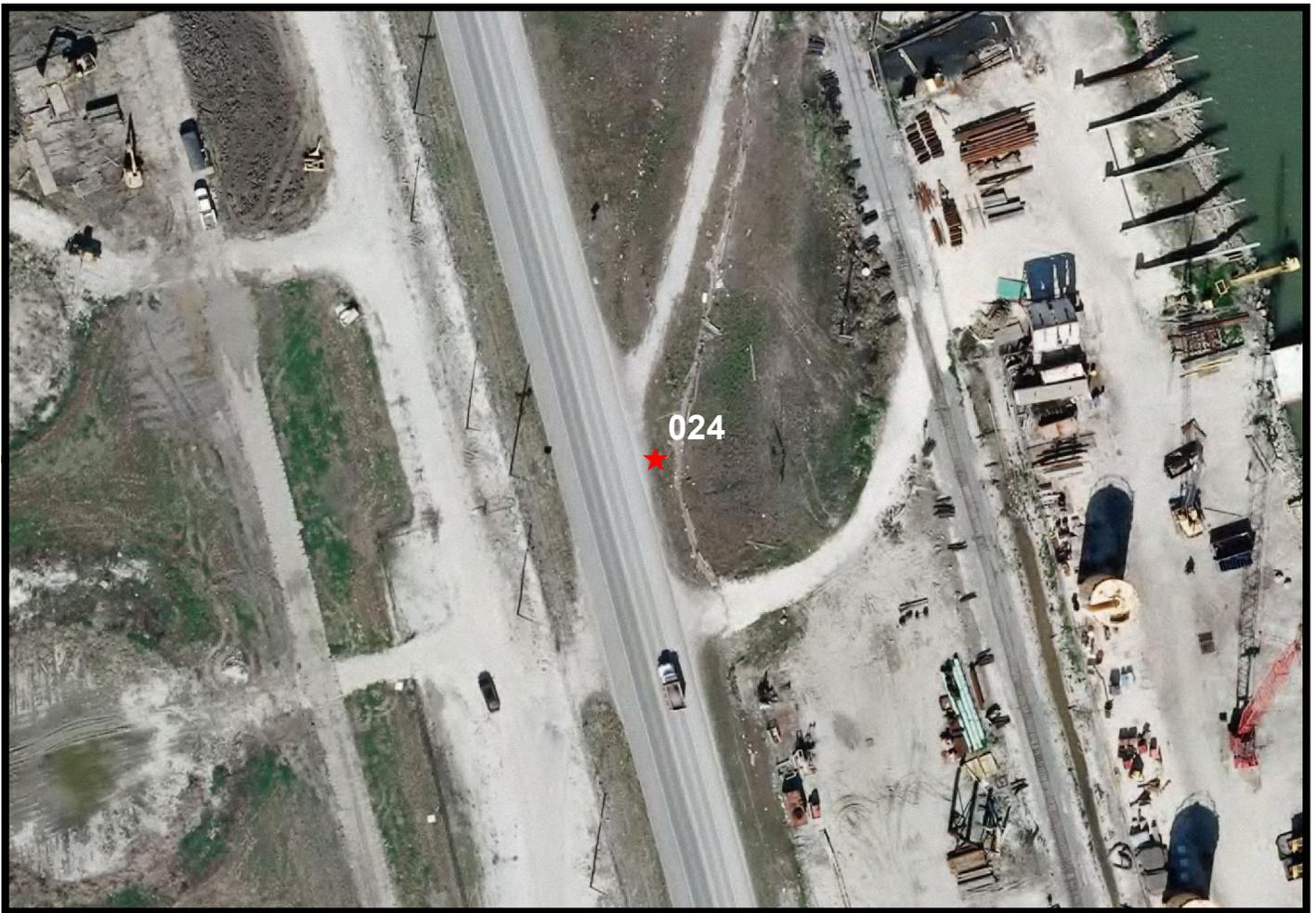
**County ID#: 023**  
**State ID#: 10587**  
**Title: Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias**  
**Year Established: 1968**  
**Marker Size: Grave Marker**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394053**  
**UTM North: 3333031**



**Location: Forest Lawn Cemetery**

1 inch = 200 feet

Description: June 26, 1914 - Sept. 27, 1956) At 18, set two world records in the 1932 Los angeles Olympic games in 80 meter hurdles and javelin throw. Excelling at all sports, became a professional athlete and won 5 major titles as a championship golfer. Was nicknamed after famous baseball player Geo. "Babe" Ruth. Married George Zaharias, 1938. Was voted Outstanding Woman Athlete of First Half of 20th Century by Associated Press, 1949. Outstanding Women of Texas Series, 1968. Incise in base: Erected by Bmt. C.C.W.G.A.



**County ID#: 024**  
**State ID#: 10548**  
**Title: Early Oil Tanker Service**  
**Year Established: 1968**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 406287**  
**UTM North: 3302468**

**Location: S. Highway 87**  
**Port Arthur, TX**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Part of the huge transportation complex that moves petroleum to world markets. Traffic in oil tankers and barges in Texas mushroomed two months after the state's first oil gusher, "Spindletop," roared in. On March 11, 1901, the first boat to transport the Spindletop product, "The Atlas," left Sabine Pass with about 3,000 barrels of crude oil. Port Arthur exported one of the earliest large shipments of oil about April or May, 1901, on the "Atlas" and two other vessels. The cargo was bound for the refineries of Standard Oil company of Philadelphia to be tested for "illuminating" purposes. Many persons then scoffed at the idea of using oil as a fuel. One year after Spindletop, Texas commerce, formerly based on cattle and cotton, had been vastly changed by petroleum. More than half of all ships entering Sabine Pass and Port Arthur were connected with the oil industry. By April of 1902, shipments had already exceeded the 1,750,000 barrels exported in 1901. By 1902, steamers were burning Texas oil as fuel and the Guffey Petroleum Company had begun to build Texas' first tanker fleet-- five ships. Today the value to Texas' economy of crude oil alone totals more than three billion dollars yearly. (1968) Early travel, transportation, and communication series erected by the Moody Foundation.



**County ID#: 025**  
**State ID#: 10525**  
**Title: Site of Fort Griffin**  
**Year Established: 1969**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415591**  
**UTM North: 3289389**

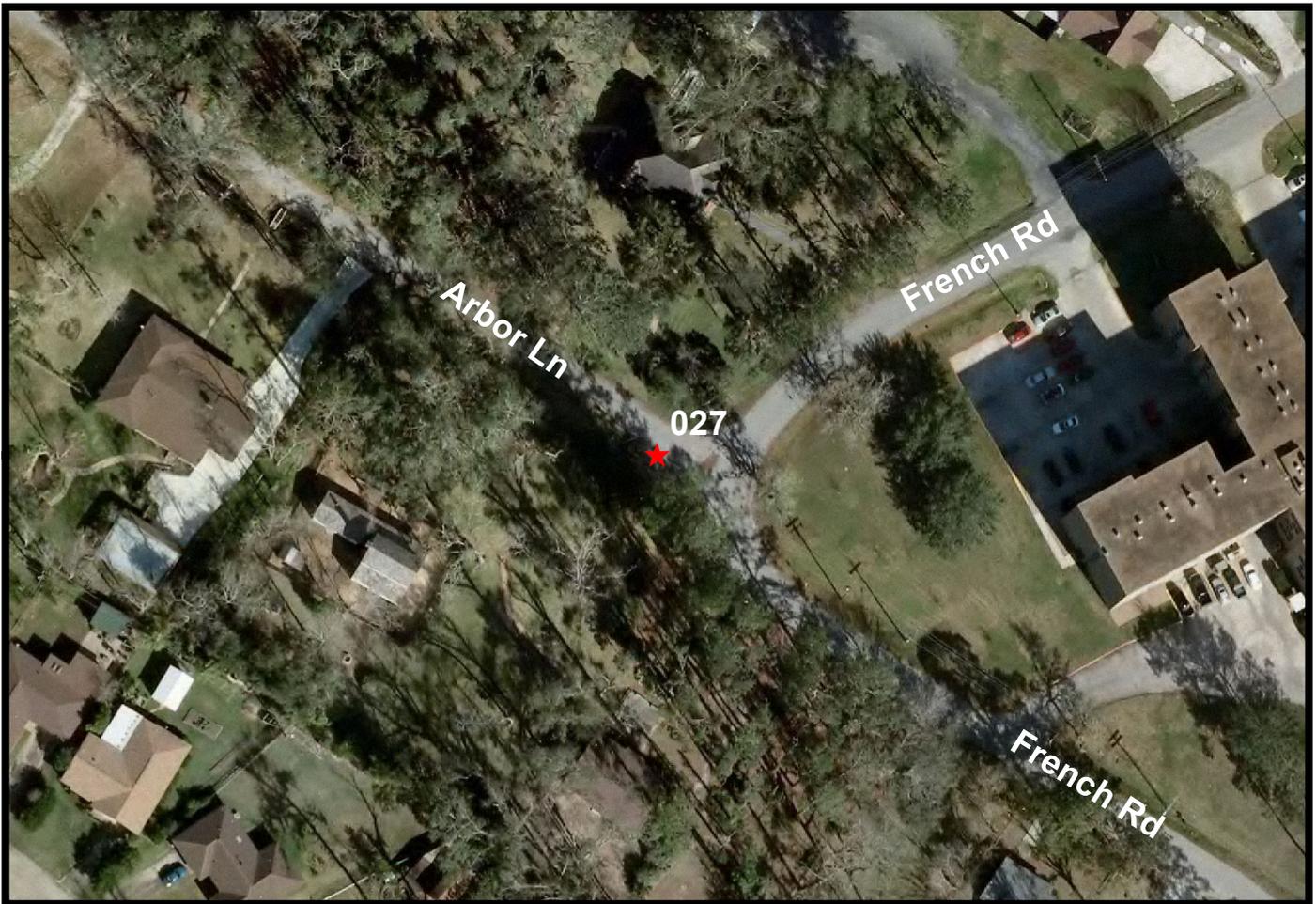
**Location: Sabine Pass BattleGround**  
**Sabine Pass, Texas**

Description: (1863-1865) Renowned for brilliant Civil War victory, Sept. 8, 1863. Confederates in this form repulsed a fleet seeking to land thousands of Federal soldiers. Lt. Richard W. Dowling (1838-1867), in civilian life a Houston businessman, commanded fort during enemy assault. His men, mostly Irishmen from Galveston and Houston, had been comrades in arms since Feb. 1861. Sabine Pass, where Dowling's men (Co. F, Texas Heavy Artillery) were assigned in 1863, was a center for the blockade-running whereby Confederacy exported cotton and obtained in exchange vital goods such as medicines and arms. Here Co. F built Fort Griffin, named in honor of Lt. Col. W. H. Griffin, Confederate commander at Sabine City. Fort was designed by Col. Valery Sulakowski, formerly of the Austrian Army. Fort Griffin was an earthwork strengthened with railroad iron and ship's timbers. It was unfinished when Confederates learned of approach of 22 ships. Dowling kept watch, but ordered no response to the early shelling by the Federals. When first ships entered range of Fort Griffin's guns, however, the battle began. Dowling himself served as one of the gunners. The fort sent 137 shells toward the targets. Dowling monument (near here) tells of the victory.



**County ID#: 026**  
**State ID#: 10532**  
**Title: Grigsby's Bluff**  
**Year Established: 1969**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 408359**  
**UTM North: 3318528**

Description: (1834-1902) Joseph Grigsby (1771-1841) and family migrated from Kentucky to the Sabine area in 1827. He is said to have been the first grower of cotton in East Texas. In 1834 he received a grant of 17 labors (3,009 acres) of land on the Neches. Here he built a wharf for sidewheel steamers and founded town of grigsby's Bluff. He served in 2nd, 3rd and 5th congresses of the Republic of Texas. His settlement became Port Neches, and his family has given many leaders to Texas. A huge pecan tree (at Texaco Refinery, 6 blocks SE) marks site of Grigsby's Bluff.

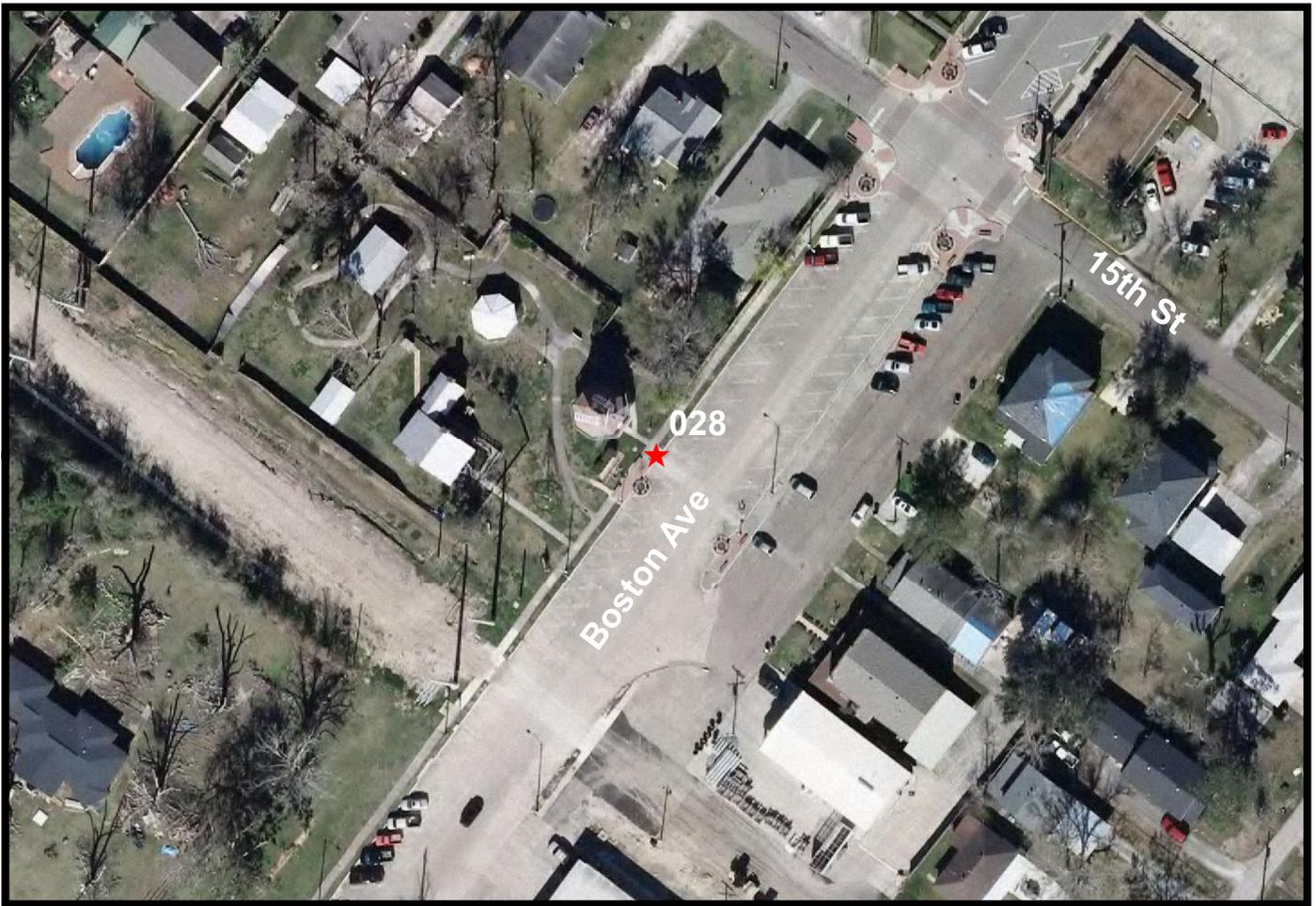


**County ID#:** 027  
**State ID#:** 10527  
**Title:** French Trading Post  
**Year Established:** 1970  
**Marker Size:** 18" x 28"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 389810  
**UTM North:** 3331514



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Built 1845 by John J. French (1799-1889), merchant and tanner who came from Connecticut and New York to Texas in 1830s. Served as home and store, with tannery nearby. Early settlers came to "French Town" to trade tallow, hides, corn, and beef for shoes, harnesses, tanned skins, salt, coffee, tea, cloth, and everyday items. Home remained in French family for 95 years (until 1940). French Road, French schools in area still bear family name. Purchased by Beaumont Junior League, 1968; given to Beaumont Heritage Society. Restored to its 1845 appearance in 1969. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1969



**County ID#: 028**  
**State ID#: 10546**  
**Title: City of Nederland**  
**Year Established: 1970**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 404234**  
**UTM North: 3316102**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Settled by Dutch immigrants in 1897; named for their native Netherlands, which in the 1890s suffered overcrowding, worn-out soil, and scant hope for prosperity. Thus when the Port Arthur Land Company (joined by Dutch businessmen) advertised the abundance of America, many families eagerly moved to this region. The new colony thrived, although torrid summers, frigid winters, and swamps prompted a few to return to Holland. Those who remained built a sound economy of farming and ranching, now largely replaced by rice-growing and industries.



**County ID#: 029**  
**State ID#: 10526**  
**Title: Fort Manhasset**  
**Year Established: 1991**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415591**  
**UTM North: 3289389**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** To protect Texas against Federal invasion during the Civil War, Confederate General John B. Magruder ordered the construction of a fort at this site on September 4, 1863, four days before the famous Confederate victory won by Dick Dowling and his small company against Union ships and gunboats at Sabine Pass (7 mi. NE). After the Federal retreat, the Confederate Coastal Defense program continued, since Federal blockading vessels still patrolled Gulf waters and the threat of more invasions was feared. A storm on September 19 sent the Union patrol steamers out to sea, but drove ashore their coaling ship, the "Mannahasset". Confederate troops dismantled the ship and seized its cargo. Col. Valery Sulakowski, formerly of the Austrian Army, designed Fort Manhasset, whose name evidently was adapted from that of the captured ship. Major Getulius Kellersberger, a Swiss-born engineer who had settled in America some years earlier, oversaw the construction. By October 1863, five companies garrisoned the five redoubts of the new fort and manned its ten cannons. Fort Manhasset soldiers participated in the capture of two Union ironclad ships at Calcasieu Pass, Louisiana on May 6, 1864.



**County ID#: 030**  
**State ID#: 10538**  
**Title: Benjamin Johnson**  
**Year Established: 1972**  
**Marker Size: 24" x 18"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 412505**  
**UTM North: 3287876**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (1815-1872) Born in Louisiana; settled in Texas in 1832. Fought in victorious Texas Army at Bexar, Dec. 1835 in Capt. James Gillaspie's company, 2nd Regiment, Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. Married (1) 1838, Rachel Garner who died 1856; (2) 1861, Matilda Myers. Esteemed and respected, he was a farmer, stockman, patriarch.

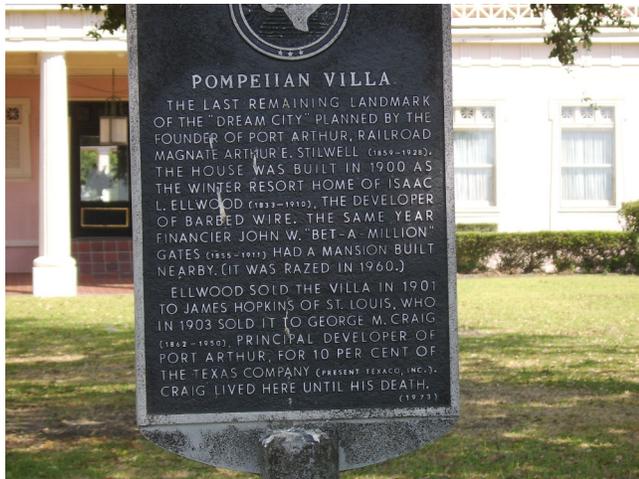
**Location: Sabine Pass Cemetery, 5100 Cemetery Road, Sabine Pass, TX**



**County ID#:** 031  
**State ID#:** 10512  
**Title:** Ellwood-Craig House  
**Year Established:** 1973  
**Marker Size:** 16" x 12"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 410918  
**UTM North:** 3306119



**Description:** (Pompeiiian Villa) Built in 1900 as the winter home of Isaac L. Ellwood (1833-1910), principal developer of barbed wire. Architects G. C. Nimmons and W. K. Fellows, of Chicago, designed the house in a classic revival style with a raised Roman Doric portico. The name was derived from a planned, but unrendered, series of courtyard frescoes of Bacchanalian motif, reminiscent of ancient Pompeii. Port Arthur pioneer G. M. Craig lived here from 1903 until 1950. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1974

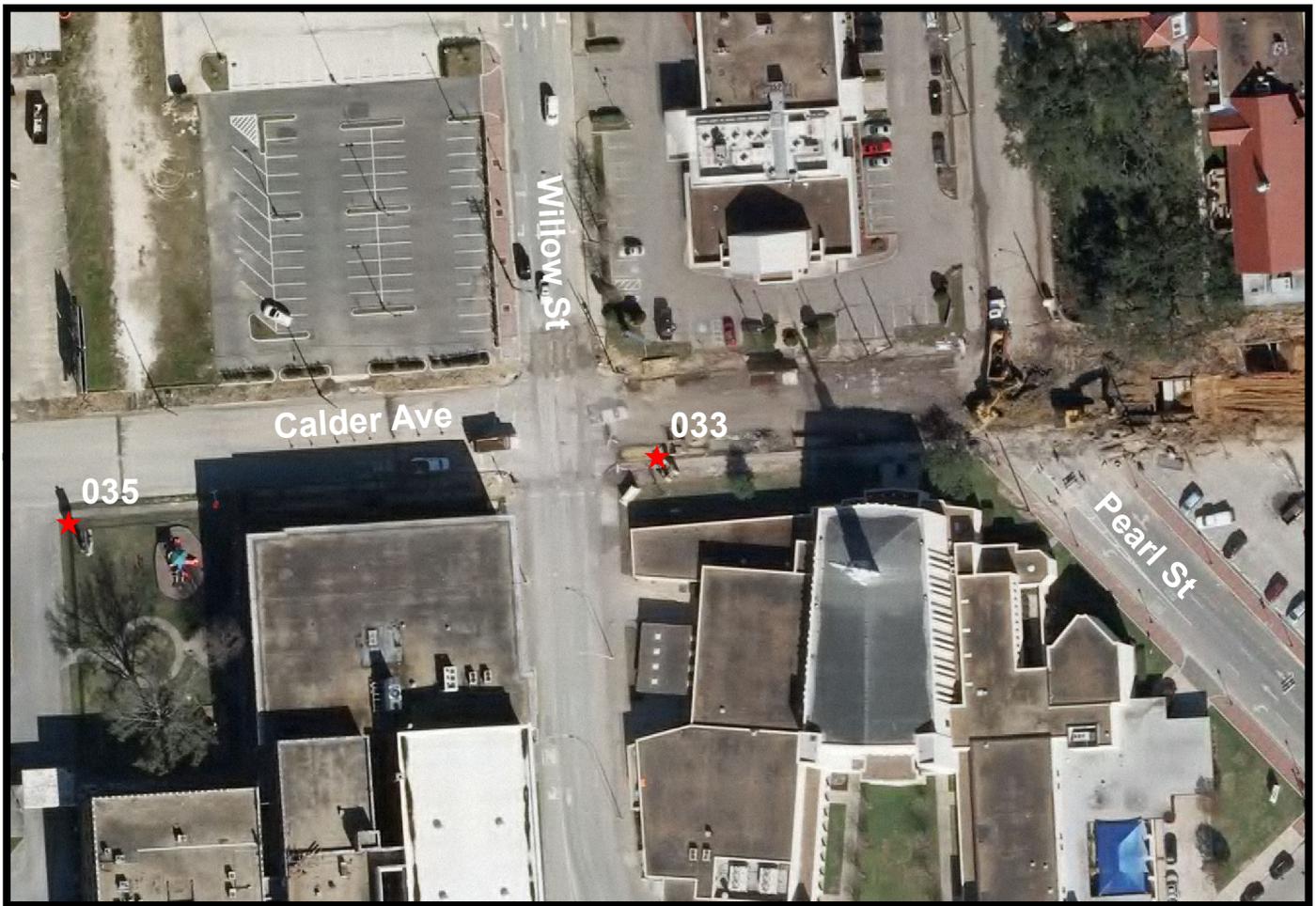


**County ID#: 032**  
**State ID#: 10553**  
**Title: Pompeii Villa**  
**Year Established: 1973**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410918**  
**UTM North: 3306119**



**Description:** The last remaining landmark of the "dream city" planned by the founder of Port Arthur, railroad magnate Arthur E. Stilwell (1859-1928). The house was built in 1900 as the winter resort home of Isaac L. Ellwood (1833-1910), the developer of barbed wire. The same year financier John W. "Bet-A-Million" Gates (1855-1911) had a mansion built nearby. It was razed in 1960. Ellwood sold the villa in 1901 to James Hopkins of St. Louis, who in 1903 sold it to George M. Craig (1862-1950), principal developer of Port Arthur, for 10 per cent of the Texas Company (present Texaco, Inc.). Craig lived here until his death.

**Location: 1953 Lakeshore Drive, Port Arthur, TX 77640**



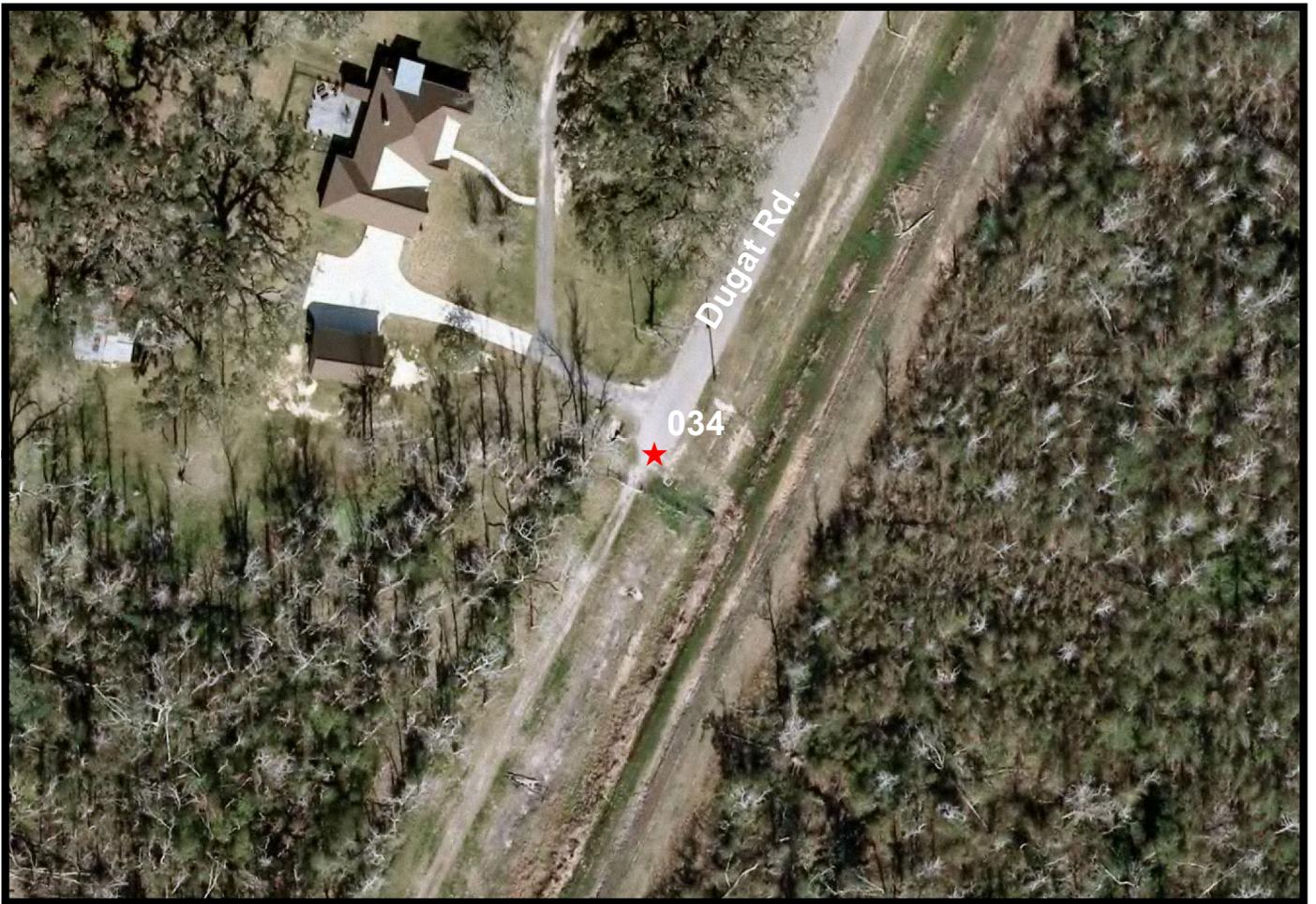
**County ID#:** 033  
**State ID#:** 10523  
**Title:** First United Methodist Church of  
 Beaumont  
**Year Established:** 1973  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 393775  
**UTM North:** 3328874



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** In 1839, Methodist Missionary Samuel A. Williams (1810-66) conducted first religious service in Beaumont, followed in 1840 by another Methodist minister, Henry Stephenson (1772-1841), organizer of first Protestant church in Texas (McMahan's Chapel near San Augustine in 1834). Early congregations met under brush arbors, in homes, and in a frame schoolhouse, and listened to sermons of itinerant riders of the "Alligator Circuit" -- as the ministry called this river and bayou region. John Fletcher Pipkin (1809-90), a lay preacher from just across the Neches River, began holding regular worship services in Beaumont in 1852, and took up permanent residence here in 1859. During the long intervals between visits of the circuit riders, he performed marriage and funeral services for all faiths. The schoolhouse-church building, destroyed in an 1865 hurricane, was not replaced, due to lack of money in the post-Civil War period, until 1877, when Methodists and Baptists pooled resources to erect a common church. In 1885, the Baptists relocated and sold their interest in the structure to the Methodists. In 1890, a steepled church was constructed, which was replaced by a domed building in 1907. The present spired edifice was consecrated in 1968.

**Location:** 701 Calder, Beaumont, TX 77701



**County ID#: 034**

**State ID#: 10510**

**Title: Dugat-Hamshire House**

**Year Established: 1974**

**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 378889**

**UTM North: 3309769**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Rebuilt by Alcad Dugat (1847-1921), an Acadian farmer, sheep-raiser, and furniture-maker. The house, of traditional Acadian plantation architecture with Victorian detail, was erected in two stages. The smaller wing was built in 1876, and the main house completed in 1888. The Dugat home served as inn for travelers on the Old Beaumont-Galveston Road. The property was purchased in 1924 by Josephine Hamshire, whose heirs owned the house until 1959. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1974

**Location: end of Dugat Road, off SH 124, 12 miles SW of Beaumont, TX**



**County ID#: 035**

**State ID#: 10493**

**Title: First Baptist Church of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1976**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393775**

**UTM North: 3328874**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The Rev. J.W.D. Creath and the Rev. J.H. Fant organized this church in 1872. Baptist and Methodist congregations joined in 1877 to erect a frame church building at the corner of Main and Fannin streets. For the belfry, the Baptists donated a bell originally used on one of Captain W.E. Rogers' Neches River steamboats. The Rev. H.C. Weymouth became the fellowship's first resident pastor in 1882. Membership doubled after a 10-day revival led by evangelist William E. Penn in 1885. The new members included Pattillo Higgins, later one of the chief promoters of the Spindletop drilling. In 1887 the congregation constructed its own red brick church at the corner of Pearl and Forsythe streets on property donated by George W. Carroll, Pattillo Higgins, and Dr. W.H. Smith. After the Spindletop oil boom of 1901, this church, led by the Rev. J.A. Smart, sponsored 4 missions in Beaumont and Gladys City. In 1903 the brick church building was replaced by a larger limestone structure, but it soon became too small for the growing fellowship. The present edifice was erected on this site in 1924-1925, during the pastorate of the Rev. J.H. Pace, who served the longest term here, 1924-1938.

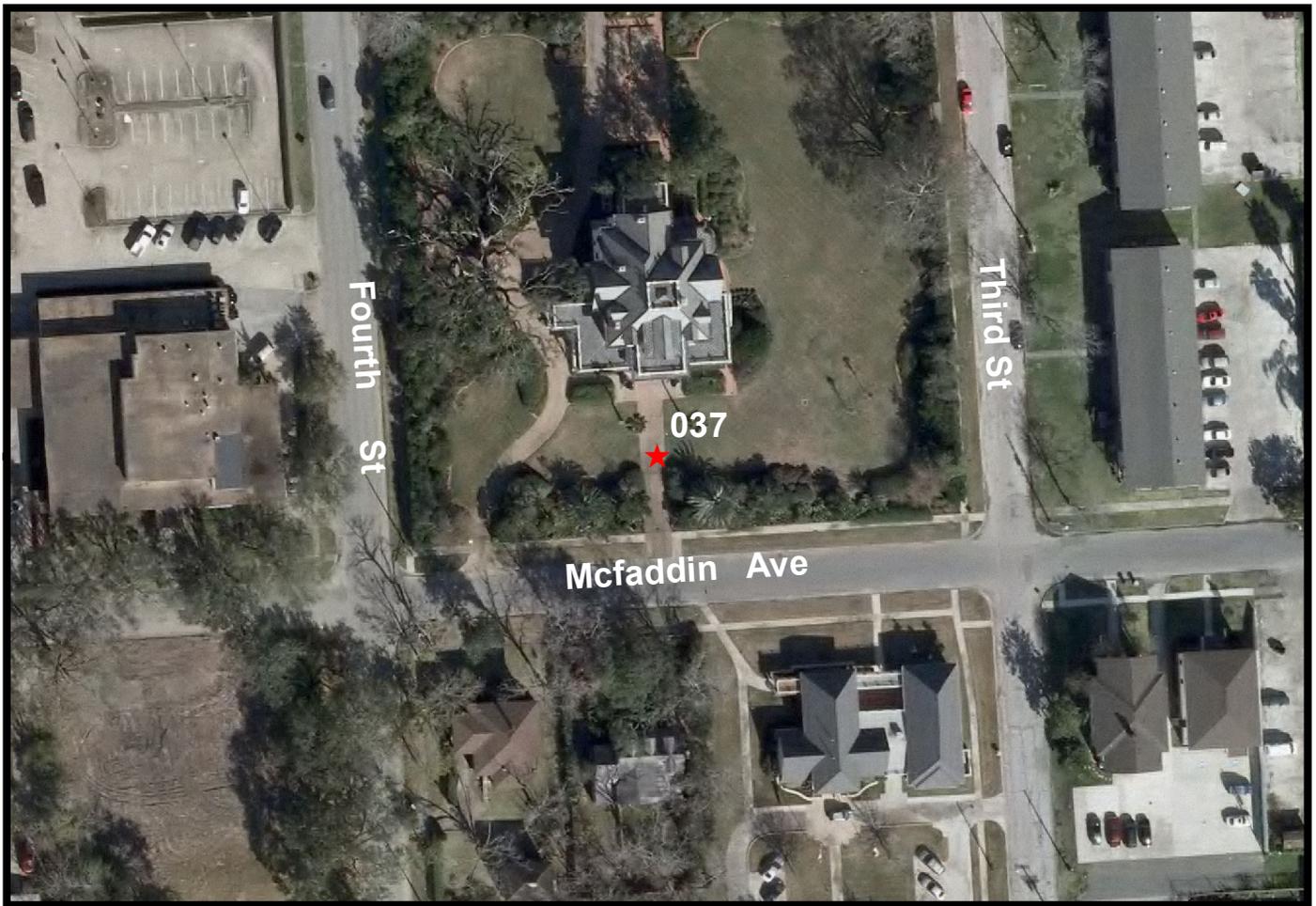


**County ID#: 036**  
**State ID#: 10499**  
**Title: Jean Baptiste Chaison**  
**Year Established: 1976**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394538**  
**UTM North: 3327097**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: (August 7, 1745 - July 20, 1854) Jean Baptiste ("Jonas") Chaison was born in Nova Scotia, of French parents. After imprisonment by the British during the French and Indian War, he and his parents fled in 1763 to France, where he was soon orphaned. He returned to North America, and joined the Colonial Army in 1775 at Quebec, to take revenge against the British. Continuing in the Continental Army, he served with Lafayette at Brandywine, 1777; fought at Germantown, 1777; was wounded serving under Greene and Marion at Eutaw Springs, 1781; and found under Lafayette's command at Yorktown, 1781. Coming to western Louisiana as a cattleraiser and farmer about 1785, he married Marie LeBlanc and had eight children. About 1840 he moved to Beaumont to live with his son McGuire Chaison (1809-1859). He was strong and healthy of mind and body as long as he lived, and farmed here until 1854. Dying at a few days under 109 years of age, he was buried in Jirou Cemetery (3 mi. N). He was one of the few men of the American Revolution involved in Texas history. The Daughters of the American Revolution marked his grave site in 1944. The DAR marker was moved here to Pipkin Park when a church was built in 1969 in the extinct Jirou Cemetery.



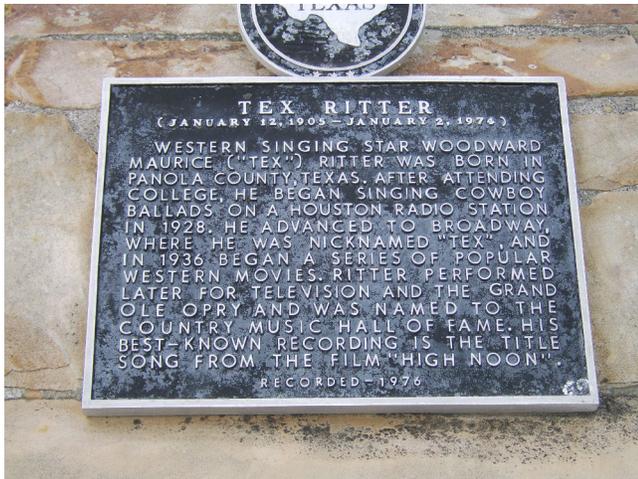
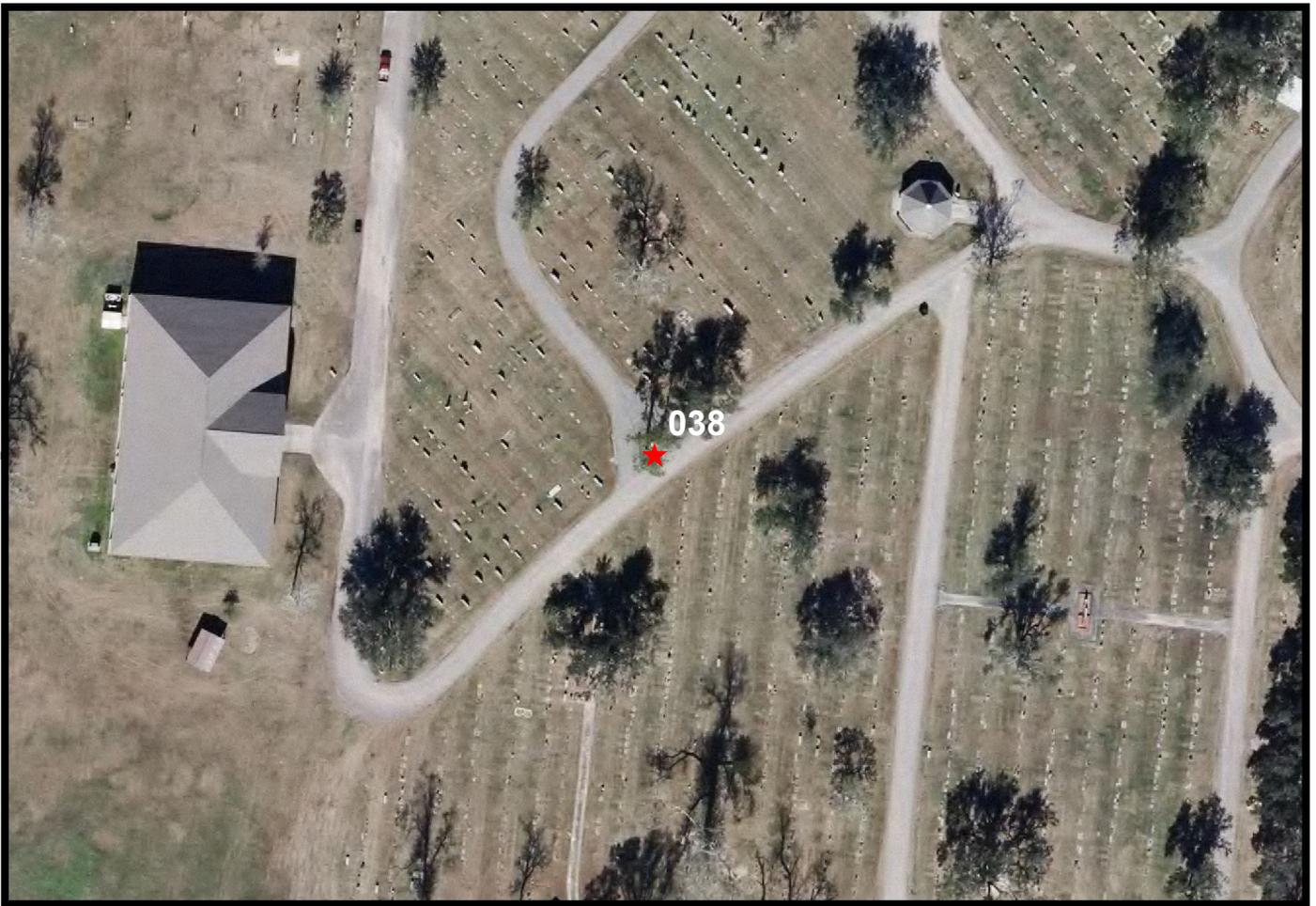
**County ID#: 037**  
**State ID#: 10542**  
**Title: McFaddin-Ward House**  
**Year Established: 1976**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 392440**  
**UTM North: 3328792**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** This classical revival mansion was erected on the homestead of William McFaddin (1819-1897), who received land from the Republic of Texas for service at the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto. He later acquired more property and built a ranching empire. Architect Henry Conrad Mauer designed the house in 1906 for McFaddin's daughter, Di (Mrs. W.C.) Averill. Occupied (1907) by her brother, W.P.H. McFaddin (1856-1936), it is now owned by his daughter, Mamie (Mrs. Carroll E.) Ward. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1976

**Location: 1906 Calder Ave., Beaumont, TX 77701**



**County ID#: 038**

**State ID#: 10556**

**Title: Tex Ritter**

**Year Established: 1976**

**Marker Size: Grave Marker**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 407159**

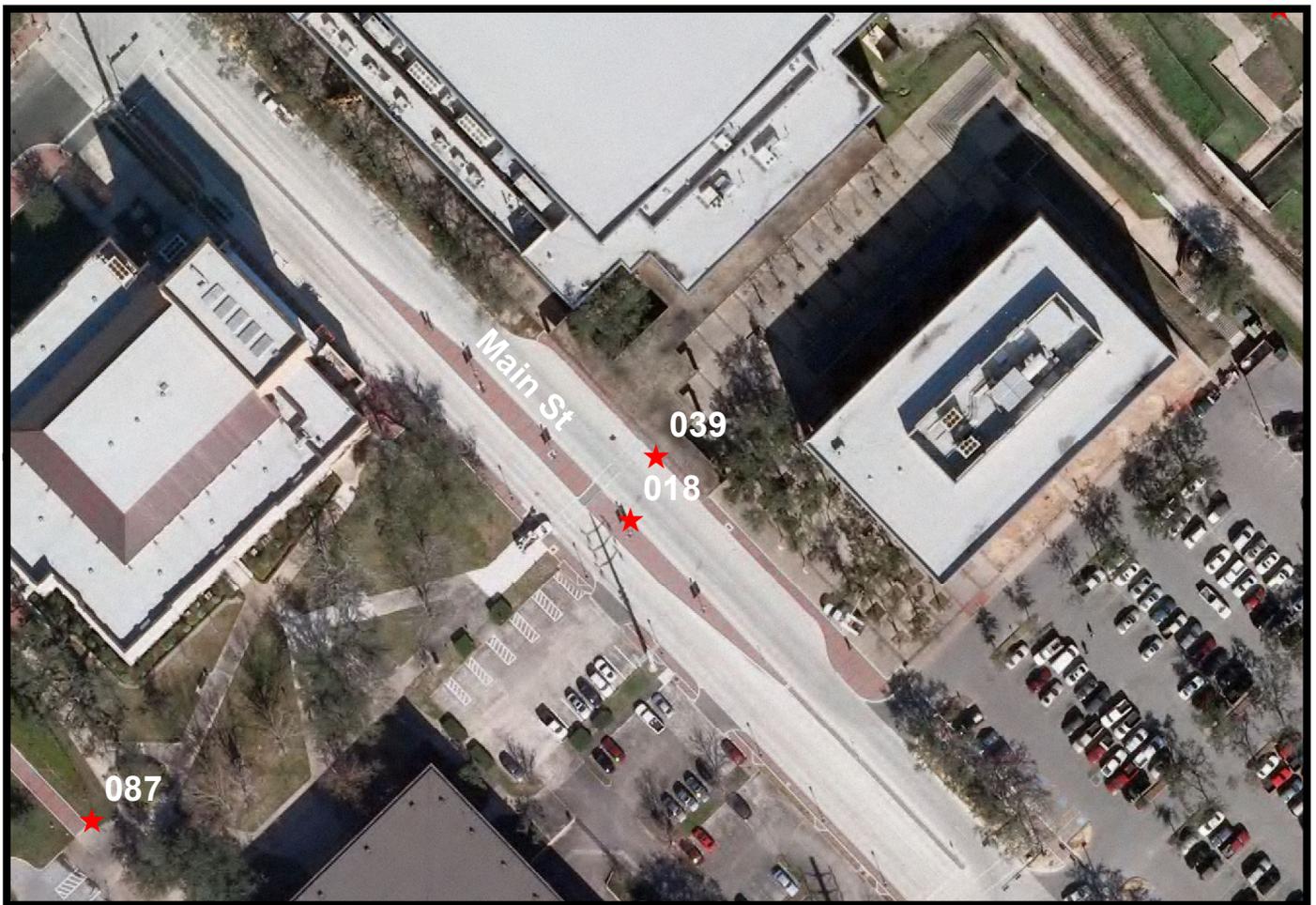
**UTM North: 3319404**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: (January 12, 1905 - January 2, 1974) Western singing star Woodward Maurice ("Tex") Ritter was born in Panola County, Texas. After attending college, he began singing cowboy ballads on a Houston radio station in 1928. He advanced to Broadway, where he was nicknamed "Tex," and in 1936 began a series of popular western movies. Ritter performed later for television and the Grand Ole Opry and was named to the Country Music Hall of fame. His best-known recording is the title song from the film "High Noon."

**Location: Oak Bluff Memorial Cemetery, 101 Block Street, Port Neches, TX**



**County ID#: 039**  
**State ID#: 10573**  
**Title: Nancy Tevis**  
**Year Established: 1976**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394281**  
**UTM North: 3328330**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (1795-1863) Nancy Nixon Tevis, a native of Louisiana, came with her husband Noah (1772-1835) and children in 1825 to settle this bluff beside the Neches. They were the first known Anglo-Americans here. They received in 1835 a Republic of Texas land grant that included much of the future site of Beaumont. Before dying, Noah Tevis sold some of this land to Henry Millard. When civilians fled toward Louisiana to escape the Mexican Army in the "Runaway Scrape" of 1836, the widowed Nancy and her eight children held their own, remaining here. In 1837 she joined with Joseph Grigsby, Millard, and others to establish a town, changing the name from Tevis Bluff to Beaumont. She was firm in upholding her rights. At one time she appealed by letter to Texas President Sam Houston against a man who claimed some of her land. She also blocked all rivalry to her profitable ferry service across the Neches and the bayous. About 1838 she married Joseph Hutcheson, who later disappeared. She survived for many years, dying during the Civil War (1861-65). Her burial was in the Tevis Cemetery, now extinct. Descendants of Nancy and Noah Tevis have been leaders in the local community. Incise in base: Marker Sponsors: Andrew Jackson Tevis Heirs and Friends

**Location: Riverfront Park, downtown Beaumont, Texas**



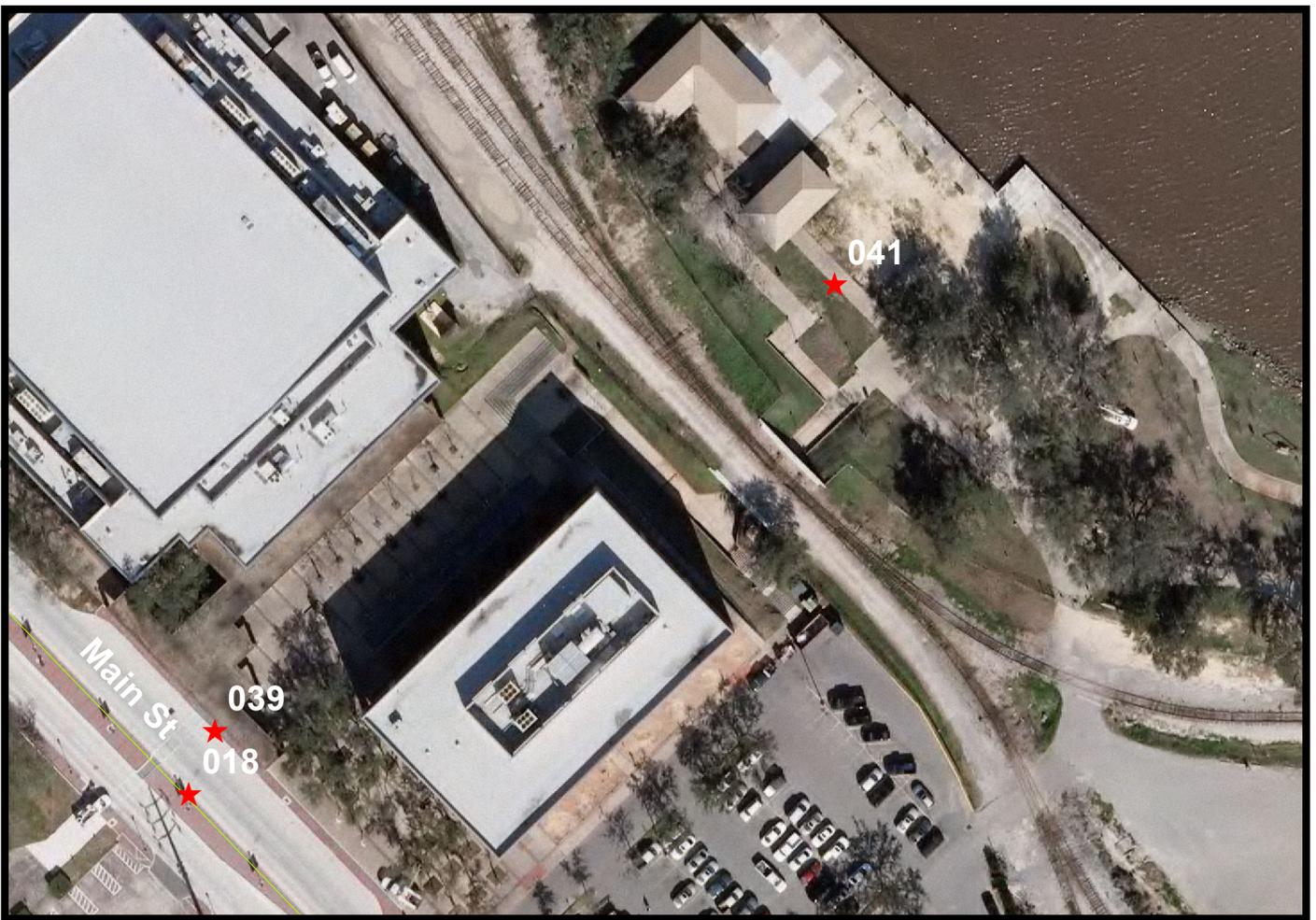
**County ID#: 040**  
**State ID#: 10578**  
**Title: Tyrrell Public Library**  
**Year Established: 1976**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394281**  
**UTM North: 3328830**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Built in 1903 as the First Baptist Church, this limestone structure replaced a red brick church on the same site. Architect of the Romanesque Revival style edifice was A. N. Dawson and contractor was G. D. Patterson. In 1923, when the Baptist congregation moved to larger facilities, Capt. William C. Tyrrell purchased the building and donated it to the city for use as a public library. It now (1976) houses an historical and genealogical collection.  
**Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1976**

**Location: 695 N. Pearl St., Beaumont, TX 77701**



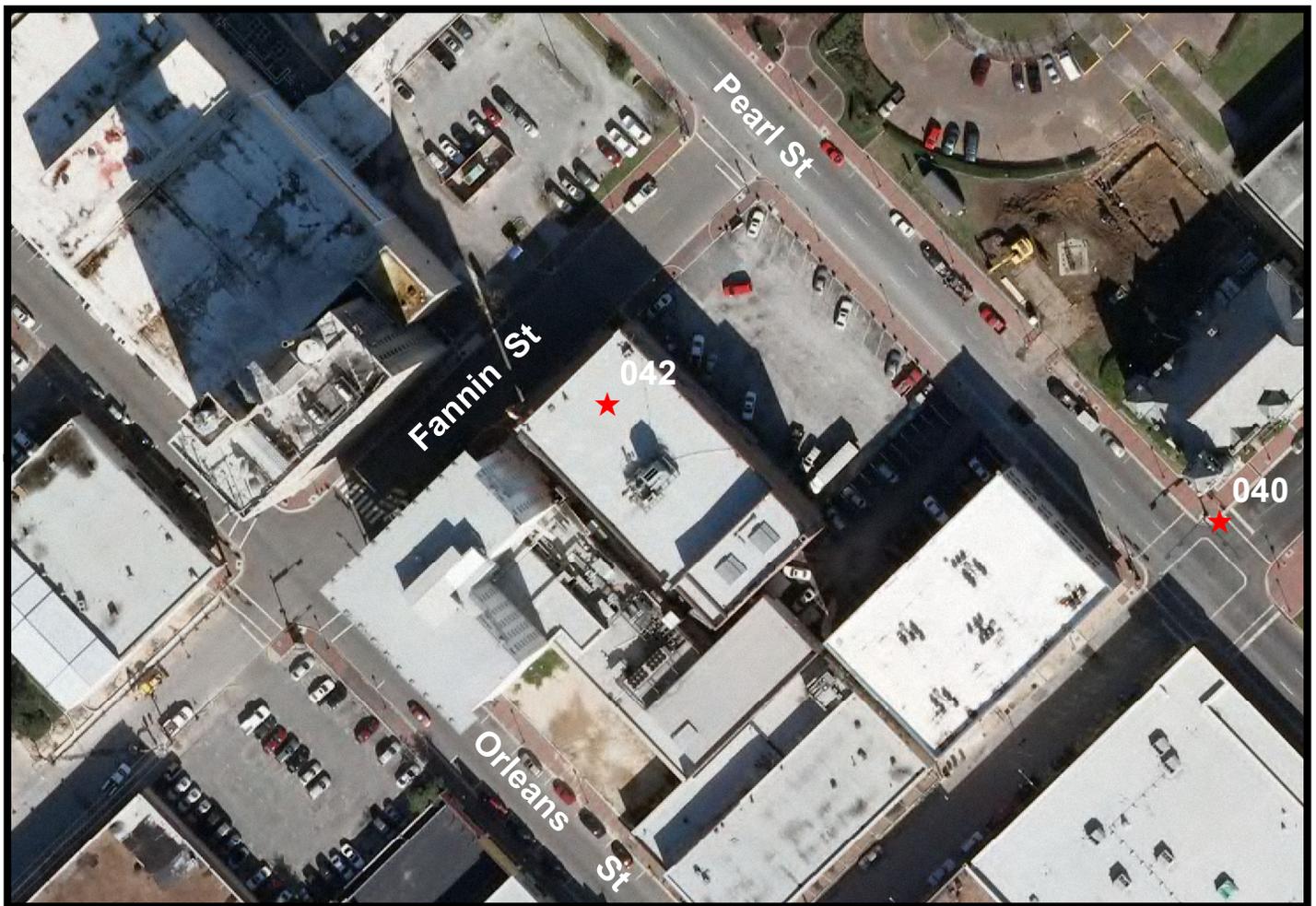
**County ID#:** 041  
**State ID#:** 10496  
**Title:** Beaumont: Lumber Mill City of the Nineteenth Century  
**Year Established:** 1977  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 394281  
**UTM North:** 3328330



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Beaumont, situated in forests, was a timber town at birth, and marked this site "Steam Mill Square" on its original plat. By 1840, Lucien Hopson had a saw pit on a canal to the south, floating in logs and floating out lumber. Hand-powered shingle and sash mills were soon operating. In the 1850s, steam mills were initiated. Pre-1861 mill firms included Phillips, Ross & Alexander, Otto Ruff, and A. J. Ward. After the Civil War (1861-65) brought ruin, the mills helped the city recover. Bremer Lumber, Goldsmith & Reagan, Long & Long, and Pipkin & Haltom were operating by 1870. Beaumont Lumber Company, Olive & Sternenberg, Reliance, and the Smyth Brothers (Eagle Mill) were here by 1877. Later came Adams & Milmo, Globe Planing Mill, Industrial Lumber, Miller Vidor Lumber, Neches Lumber, the Southern Land & Lumber Company, and Texas Tram & Lumber Company. About 1900, tycoon John Henry Kirby bought several of the Beaumont mills. By the 1920s nearby forests were depleted. Log-floating on the Neches gave way to hauling by railroad, and the city mills were phased out in favor of mills in the woods.

**Location:** Riverfront Park, downtown Beaumont, Texas



**County ID#: 042**  
**State ID#: 10537**  
**Title: Jefferson Theatre**  
**Year Established: 1978**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394016**  
**UTM North: 3328416**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Built in 1927 by the Jefferson Amusement Company, this theatre quickly became a landmark in downtown Beaumont. Emile Weil, Inc., a New Orleans architectural firm, designed the structure. The interior is a showcase of fine materials and workmanship, with marble staircases and Spanish-style decoration. In addition to motion pictures, the Jefferson Theatre featured dramatic stage productions, vaudeville shows, and other live entertainment.

Incise in base: Marker sponsor: Sabine Area Chapter, SPEBSQSA

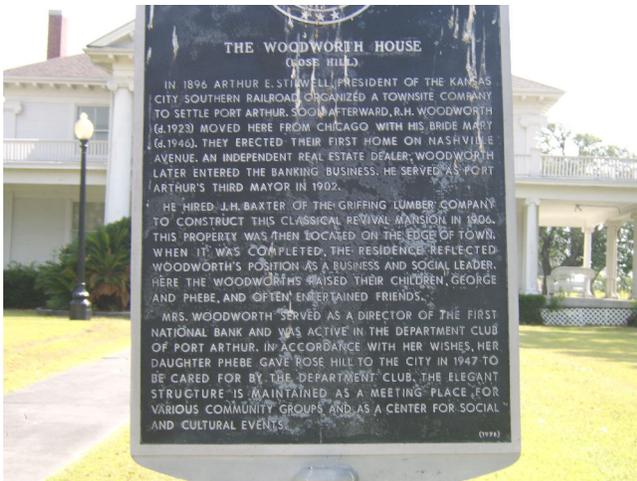
**Location: 345 Fannin, Beaumont, TX 77701**



**County ID#:** 043  
**State ID#:** 10525  
**Title:** Woodworth House (Rose Hill)  
**Year Established:** 1978  
**Marker Size:** Medallion & Plate  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 411731  
**UTM North:** 3306981

**Description:** J. H. Baxter of the Griffing Lumber Company built this residence in 1906 for R. H. Woodworth (d. 1923). Wide verandas extend beyond the impressive columned portico of the classical revival structure. Woodworth, a business and civic leader, and his wife Mary (d. 1946) hosted numerous social gatherings here in the early 20th century. Since 1947, the house has been in the care of the Department Club of Port Arthur. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1978

**Location:** 100 Woodworth Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas



**County ID#: 044**

**State ID#: 10582**

**Title: Woodworth House (Rose Hill)**

**Year Established: 1978**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

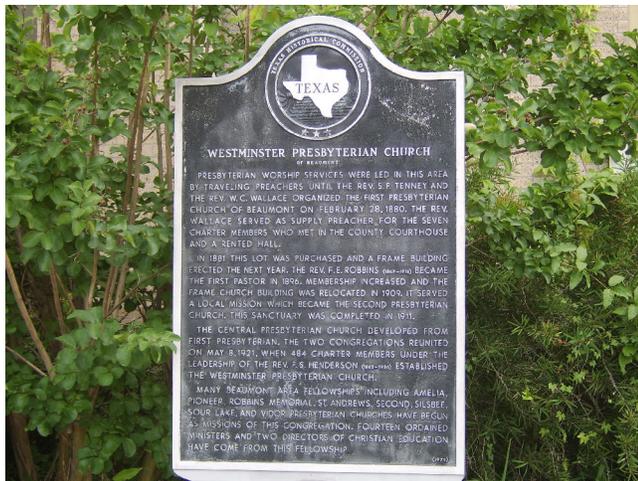
**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 411731**

**UTM North: 3306981**

**Description:** In 1896 Arthur E. Stilwell, president of the Kansas City Southern Railroad, organized a townsite company to settle Port Arthur. Soon afterward, R. H. Woodworth (d. 1923) moved here from Chicago with his bride Mary (d. 1946). They erected their first home on Nashville Avenue. An independent real estate dealer, Woodworth later entered the banking business. He served as Port Arthur's third mayor in 1902. He hired J. H. Baxter of the Griffing Lumber Company to construct this classical revival mansion in 1906. This property was then located on the edge of town. When it was completed, the residence reflected Woodworth's position as a business and social leader. Here the Woodworths raised their children, George and Phebe, and often entertained friends. Mrs. Woodworth served as a director of the First National Bank and was active in the Department Club of Port Arthur. In accordance with her wishes, her daughter Phebe gave Rose Hill to the city in 1947 to be cared for by the Department Club. The elegant structure is maintained as a meeting place for various community groups and as a center for social and cultural events.

**Location: 100 Woodworth Blvd., Port Arthur, Texas**



**County ID#: 045**  
**State ID#: 10580**  
**Title: Westminster Presbyterian Church of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1979**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

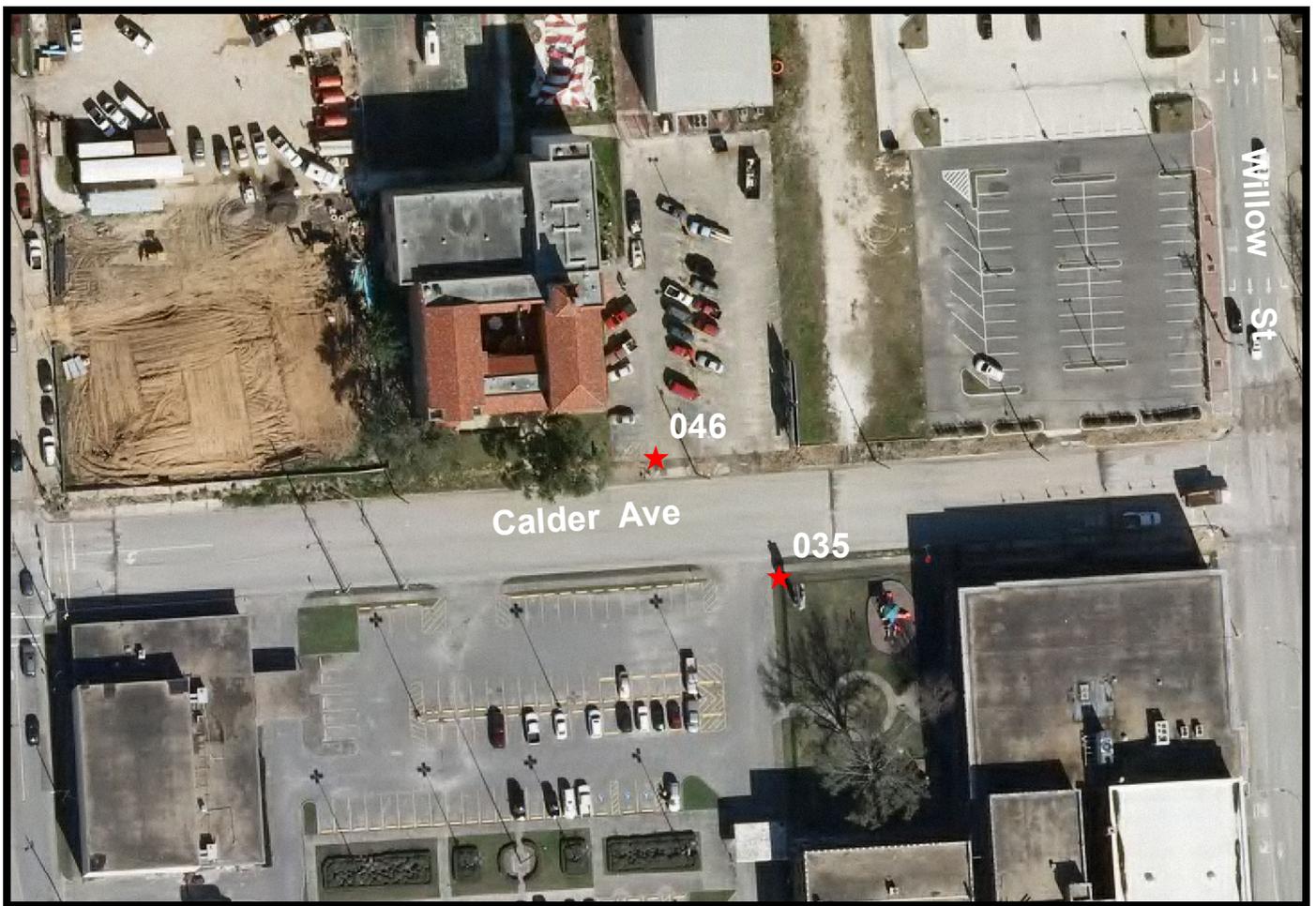
**UTM East: 393297**

**UTM North: 3329102**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Presbyterian worship services were led in this area by traveling preachers until the Rev. S. F. Tenney and the Rev. W. C. Wallace organized the First Presbyterian Church of Beaumont on February 28, 1880. The Rev. Wallace served as supply preacher for the seven charter members who met in the county courthouse and a rented hall. In 1881 this lot was purchased and a frame building erected the next year. The Rev. F. E. Robbins (1867-1918) became the first pastor in 1896. Membership increased and the frame church building was relocated in 1909. It served a local mission which became the second Presbyterian church. This sanctuary was completed in 1911. The Central Presbyterian Church developed from First Presbyterian. The two congregations reunited on May 8, 1921, when 484 charter members under the leadership of the Rev. F. S. Henderson (1883-1936) established the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Many Beaumont area fellowships including Amelia, Pioneer, Robbins Memorial, St. Andrews, Second, Silsbee, Sour Lake, and Vidor Presbyterian churches have begun as missions of this congregation. Fourteen ordained ministers and two directors of Christian education have come from this fellowship.



**County ID#: 046**

**State ID#: 10584**

**Title: Young Men's Christian Association of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1979**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393682**

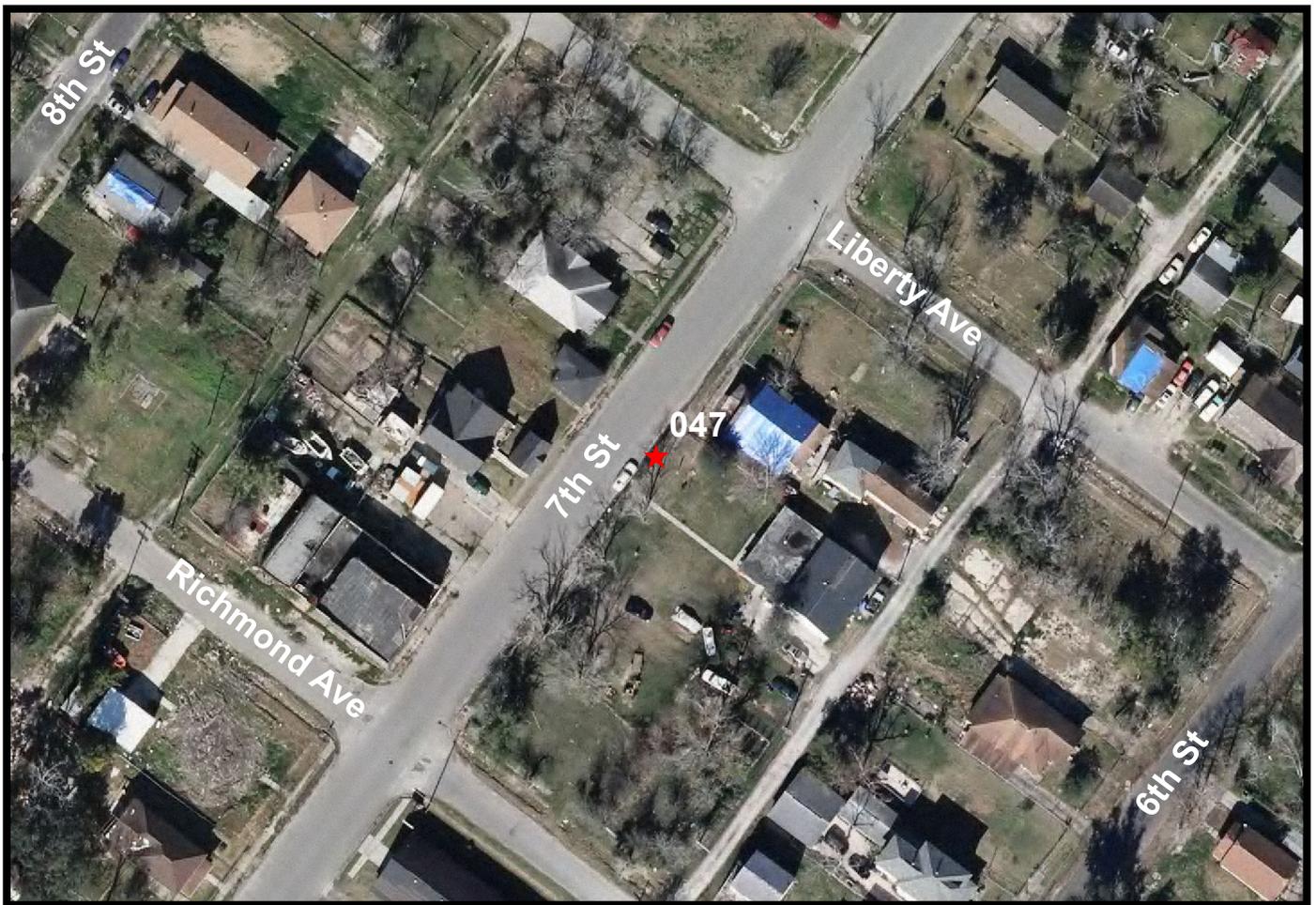
**UTM North: 3328784**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The 1901 Spindletop oil boom brought vice, corruption and inadequate housing problems to Beaumont. H. G. Behrman, a young man who was sleeping in a tent in his friend's backyard, met W. M. Lewis, state secretary of the YMCA. Through their efforts, a community meeting was held Nov. 3, 1901, and the Beaumont YMCA was organized. A board was elected, George W. Carroll was named president, and all 35 present enrolled in the association. The board authorized the purchase of a lot and erection of a structure. In 1903 a building at Pearl and Forsythe streets was completed. Among its features were 30 dormitory rooms, an 800-seat auditorium, bowling alley, and indoor swimming pool. In 1928, General Secretary Dr. Hastings Harrison, Charles Berly, B. A. Steinhagen, J. L. C. McFaddin, Marris McLean, W. Emmett Sampson, and other civic and religious leaders raised \$316,000 to construct a modern building. Dr. Harrison was responsible for securing the first YMCA board member of the Jewish faith in the United States and for beginning the Garth Friendship Club for 200 underprivileged boys. Steinhagen in 1936 provided a building for blacks. Since 1970, to insure service to a growing and changing community, suburban branches have been established.

**Location: 800 block of Calder, Beaumont, Texas**



**County ID#: 047**

**State ID#: 10586**

**Title: Birthplace of Babe Didrikson Zaharias**

**Year Established: 1979**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

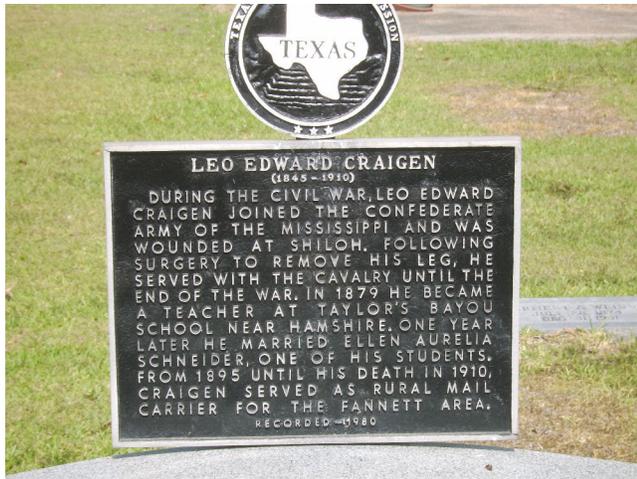
**UTM East: 410772**

**UTM North: 3306624**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (June 26, 1911 - September 27, 1956) One of seven children, Mildred Ella "Babe" Didrikson was the daughter of Norwegian immigrants Hannah Marie (d. 1945) and Ole Didrikson (d. 1943). For the first several years of her life, the family occupied a frame house at this location. Later they moved to Beaumont. The Didriksons encouraged their children to develop their natural athletic abilities. Called "Baby" by her family, Mildred was later nicknamed "Babe" for baseball star Babe Ruth. Babe first demonstrated her athletic skill as a high school basketball star. After training in track and field events, she won two gold medals at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. An exceptionally versatile athlete, Babe excelled in baseball, bowling, tennis, and other sports. Eventually she concentrated her efforts on golf and won many tournaments as both an amateur and a professional. The Associated Press named her the "Woman Athlete of the First Half of the 20th Century." In 1938 Babe married George Zaharias. Popular with sports fans for her skill and personality, she won further admiration during a long and courageous battle against cancer. She died in Galveston and was buried in Beaumont.

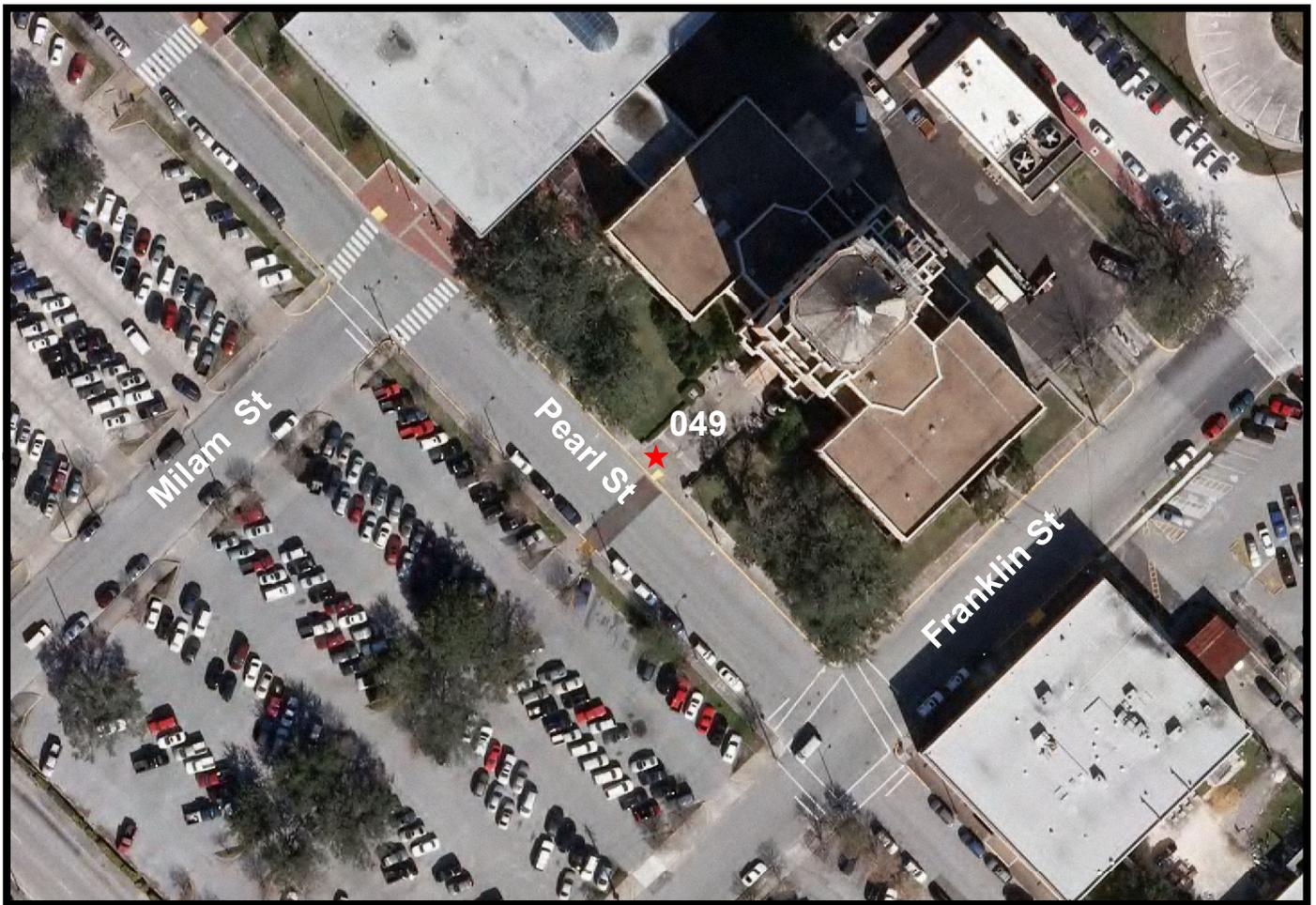


**County ID#: 048**  
**State ID#: 10504**  
**Title: Leo Edward Craigen**  
**Year Established: 1980**  
**Marker Size: Grave Marker**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 377149**  
**UTM North: 3305476**



1 inch = 100 feet

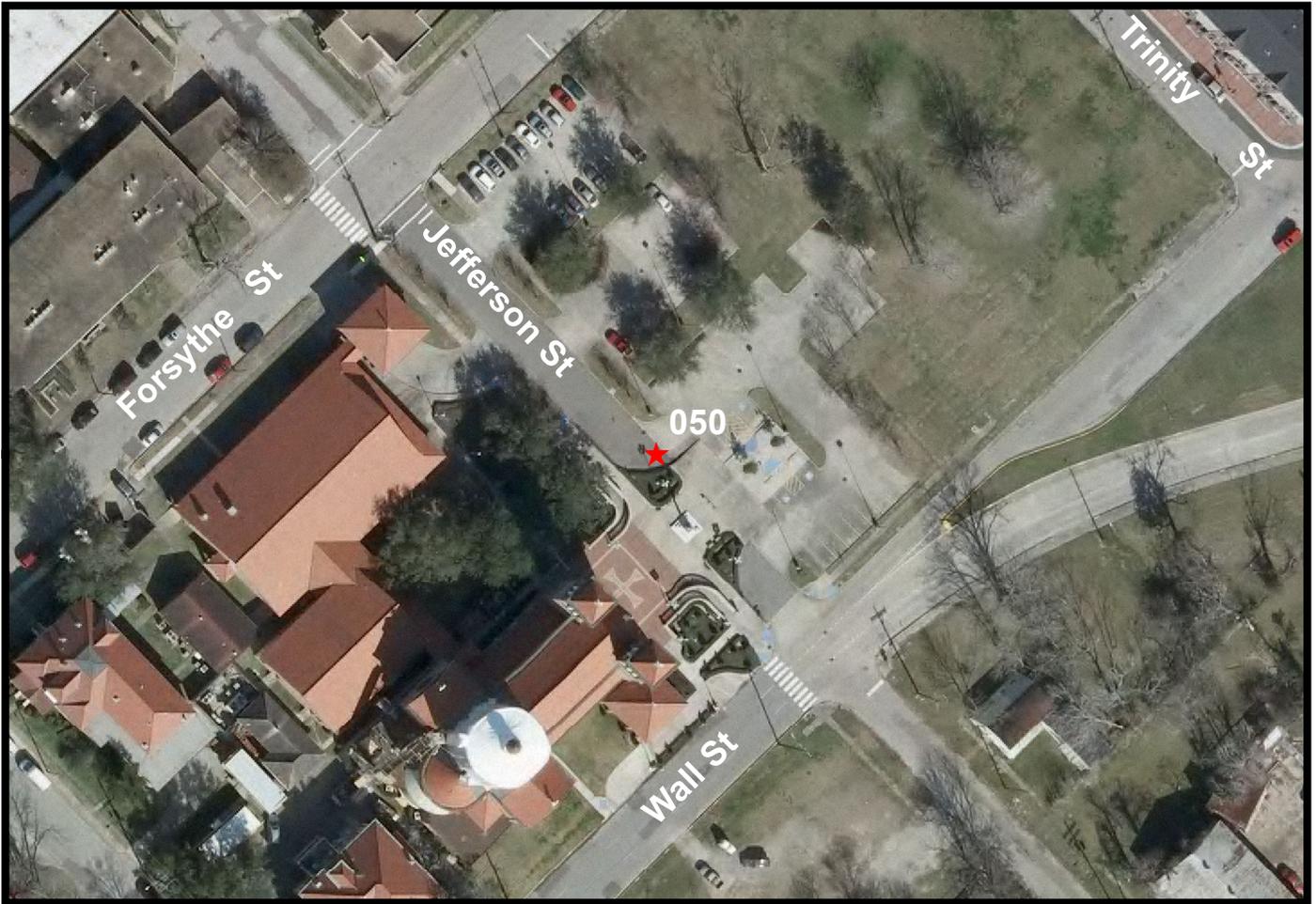
Description: (1845-1910) During the Civil War, Leon Edward Craigen joined the Confederate Army of the Mississippi and was wounded at Shiloh. Following surgery to remove his leg, he served with the Cavalry until the end of the war. In 1879 he became a teacher at Taylor's Bayou School near Hamshire. One year later he married Ellen Aurelia Schneider, one of his students. From 1895 until his death in 1910, Craigen served as rural mail carrier for the Fannett area.



**County ID#:** 049  
**State ID#:** 10536  
**Title:** Jefferson County Courthouse  
**Year Established:** 1980  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 394642  
**UTM North:** 3327961



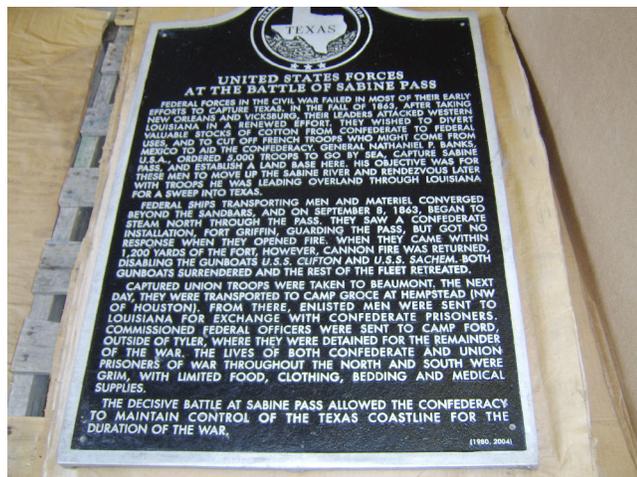
**Description:** The first county building constructed at this site was a jailhouse completed in 1838, two years after the organization of Jefferson County. Located on land acquired from Nancy Tevis, a pioneer settler of the area, it also housed county offices and courts. When the commissioners court outgrew the facility, sessions were held in private homes. The first courthouse here was completed in 1854. Built by John A. Beaumont, it was a two-story square structure surrounded by a six-foot picket fence. Baptist and Methodist congregations conducted Sunday services in the building and during the Civil War it was leased to D. T. Inglehart, a Confederate surgeon, for use as a hospital. A second courthouse was constructed in 1893, twelve years after the incorporation of Beaumont. Designed by E. T. Heiner, it was a three-story red brick building with white trim. Following the area oil boom of the 1920s it proved inadequate to meet the needs of the growing population and was replaced by the present brick courthouse in 1931. Designed by Fred Stone and A. Babin, the fourteen-story building features art deco styling in the use of sculpted ornamentation and marble interior work.



**County ID#: 050**  
**State ID#: 10560**  
**Title: Saint Anthony's Cathedral**  
**Year Established: 1980**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394007**  
**UTM North: 3327967**



**Description:** Traveling priests visited this area as early as the 1850s, conducting Catholic services outdoors, in homes, and later in the town Temperance Hall. The first church building was constructed in 1881 under the leadership of the Rev. V. Quinon. Located on the corner of Bowie and Orleans streets, the small wooden structure was dedicated as St. Louis Church. The building was moved to this location in 1894. One year later a school was started here by Mother Pauline and sister Augustine of the Dominican Order. Classes were held in the church rectory until 1896, when a separate schoolhouse was constructed nearby. As the population increased during the Beaumont oil boom of the early 1900s, parishioners began planning for construction of a new church building. Started in 1903, this Italian Renaissance revival structure was completed four years later and named in honor of Saint Anthony of Padua. It features a copper dome and an ornate marble altar. Additional buildings, including the convent and rectory, were constructed during the 35-year pastorate of Monsignor E.A. Kelly, (1919-54). Pope Paul VI created the Beaumont Diocese in 1966, and Saint Anthony's was designated a cathedral. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1980



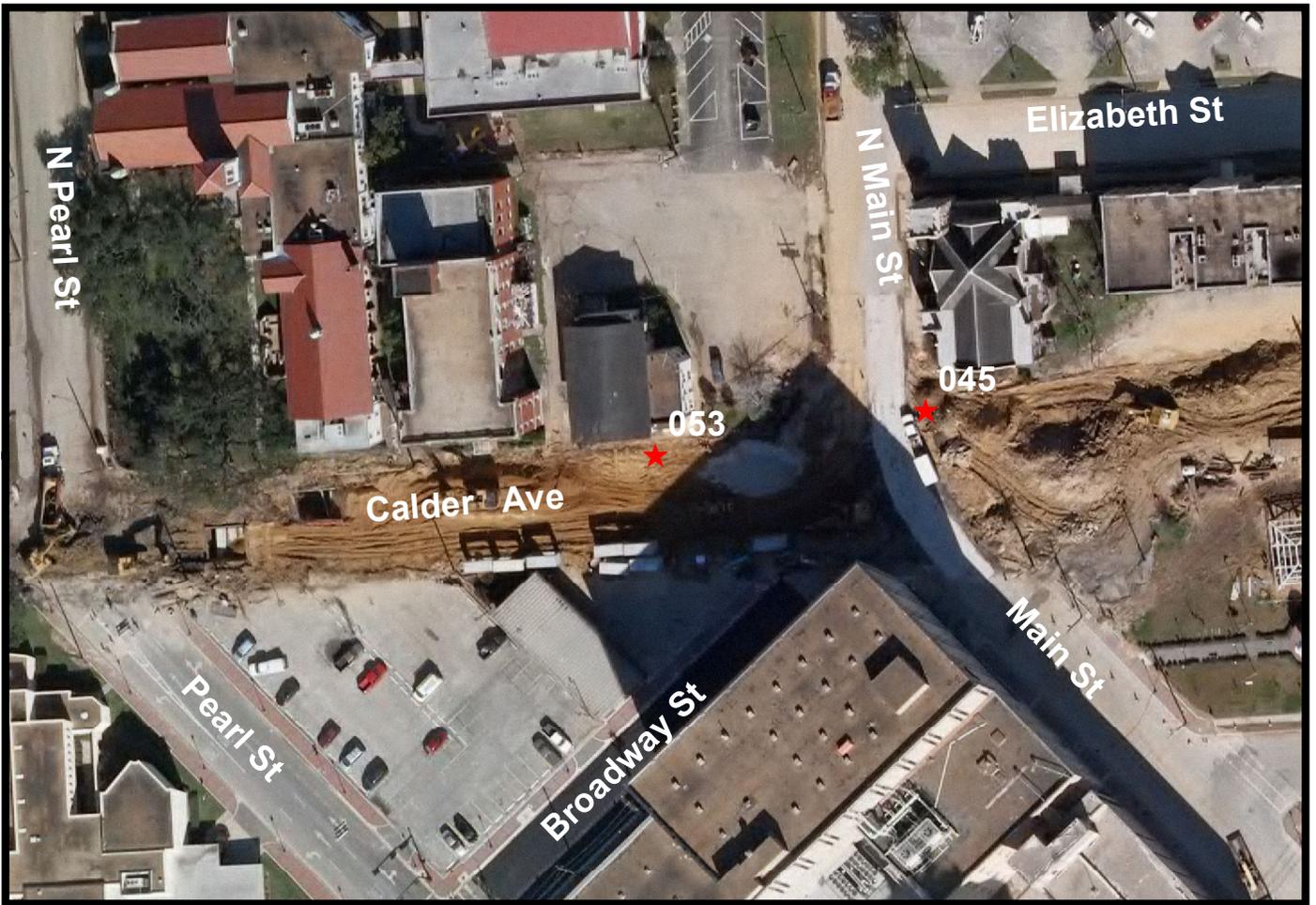
**County ID#:** 051  
**State ID#:** 10559  
**Title:** United States Forces at the Battle of Sabine Pass

**Year Established:** 1980  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 415591  
**UTM North:** 3289389



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Federal forces in the Civil War failed in most of their early efforts to capture Texas. In the fall of 1863, after taking New Orleans and Vicksburg, their leaders attacked Western Louisiana in a renewed effort. They wished to divert valuable stocks of cotton from Confederate to federal uses, and to cut off French troops who might come from Mexico to aid the Confederacy. General Nathaniel P. Banks, U.S.A., ordered 5,000 troops to go by sea, capture Sabine Pass, and establish a land base here. His objective was for these men to move up the Sabine River and rendezvous later with troops he was leading overland through Louisiana for a sweep into Texas. Federal ships transporting men and materiel converged beyond the sandbars, and on September 8, 1863, began to steam north through the pass. They saw a Confederate installation, Fort Griffin guarding the pass, but got no response when they opened fire. When they came within 1,200 yards of the fort, however, cannon fire was returned, disabling the gunboats U.S.S. Clifton and U.S.S. Sachem. Both gunboats surrendered and the rest of the fleet retreated. Captured Union troops were taken to Beaumont. The next day, they were transported to Camp Groce at Hempstead (NW of Houston). From there, enlisted men were sent to Louisiana for exchange with Confederate prisoners. Commissioned federal officers were sent to Camp Ford, outside of Tyler, where they were detained for the remainder of the war. The lives of both Confederate and Union prisoners of war throughout the North and South were grim, with limited food, clothing, bedding and medical supplies. The decisive battle at Sabine Pass allowed the Confederacy to maintain control of the Texas coastline for the duration of the war.



**County ID#: 053**

**State ID#: 10585**

**Title: Young Woman's Christian Association of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1980**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393960**

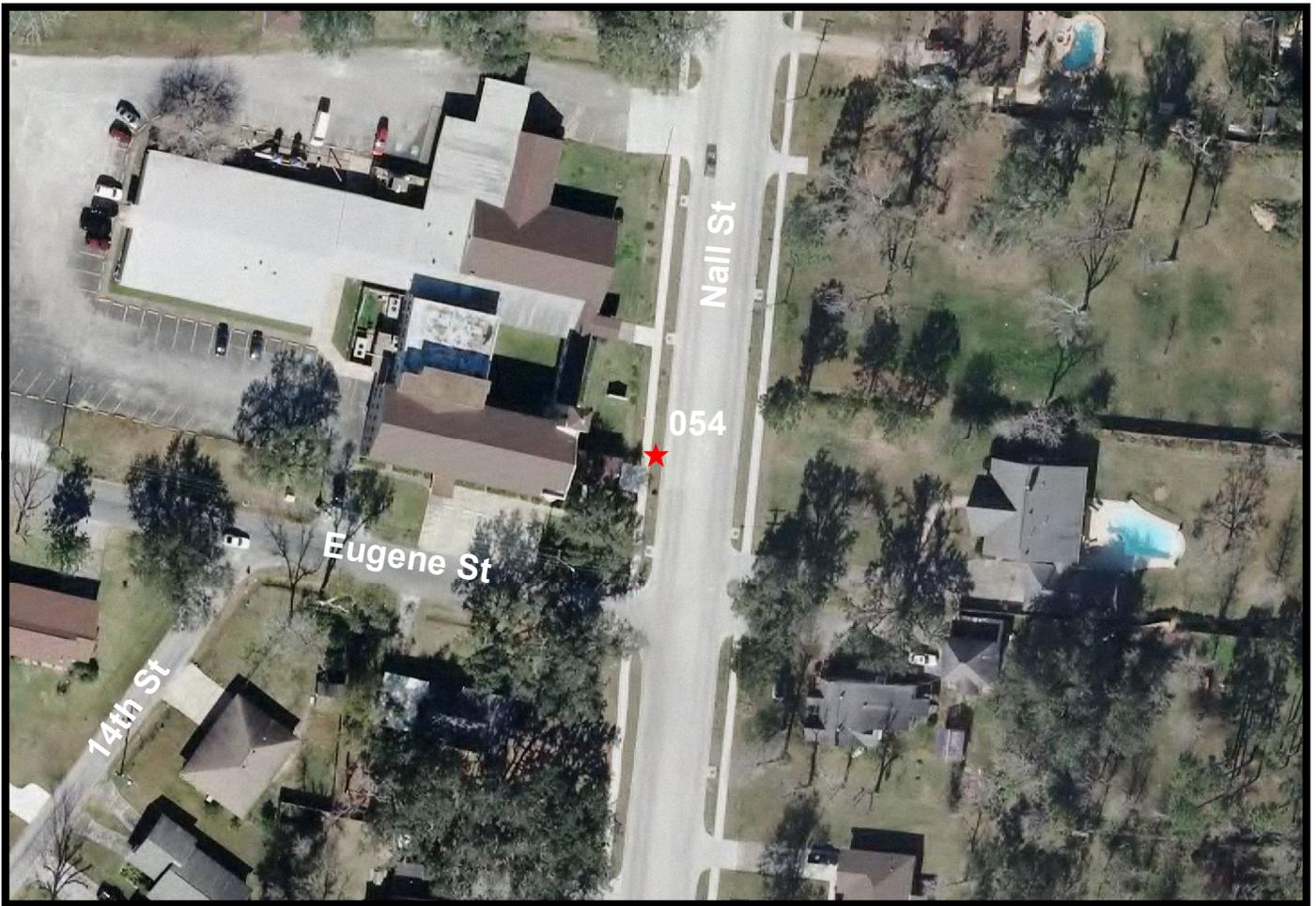
**UTM North: 3328902**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Established in 1911 with ten members, the Beaumont Young Women's Christian Association was officially chartered three years later. Meetings were held in the town Temperance Hall until a separate building was constructed for the members at this location in 1918. That same year Frances Morris, a local teacher, formed a club for the black girls of the city. Through her efforts, it was chartered as a branch of the YWCA shortly after her death in 1933. A merger of both branches was completed in 1969.

**Supplemental Plate:** The following individuals signed the charter of the Young Women's Christian Association of Beaumont, Texas, in 1914: Mrs. J. Frank Keith, Mrs. T. S. Reed, Jr., Mrs. W. P. H. McFadden, Mrs. Charles Cahison, Mrs. J. E. Carroll, Mrs. J. A. Glen, Mrs. D. Edward Greer, Mrs. J. W. Mackey, Mrs. F. M. Law, and Mrs. W. A. Shrigley. F. W. Steinman was architect for the building constructed in 1918.



**County ID#: 054**

**State ID#: 10524**

**Title: First United Methodist Church of Port Neches**

**Year Established: 1981**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 407356**

**UTM North: 3317456**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Before 1881 Methodists in Port Neches, then known as Grigsby's Bluff, were served by occasional circuit Riders who preached in private homes. On Sept. 6, 1881, the Rev. W. H. Crawford conducted a meeting to organize the first local Methodist church which began with a membership of sixteen. Worship services continued to be held in members' homes until 1885. In that year a house, damaged in the process of being moved, was repaired and given to the church for its use. There the community held school classes as well as worship services by the light of coal oil lamps. A new building was erected in 1894 which served as both church and school until 1911 when a separate schoolhouse was built. A growing membership soon created the need for a larger building. Money was raised, and a new church was built in 1919 on the corner of Main and Nall streets where the congregation worshiped for thirty years. In 1920 the Rev. W. E. Hassler became the first full-time minister. During his pastorate, the church grew rapidly and a Vacation Bible School was started. The sanctuary on this site was erected in 1950. A new wing and an education building were added in 1961. By 1981 membership had grown to number 1,100.

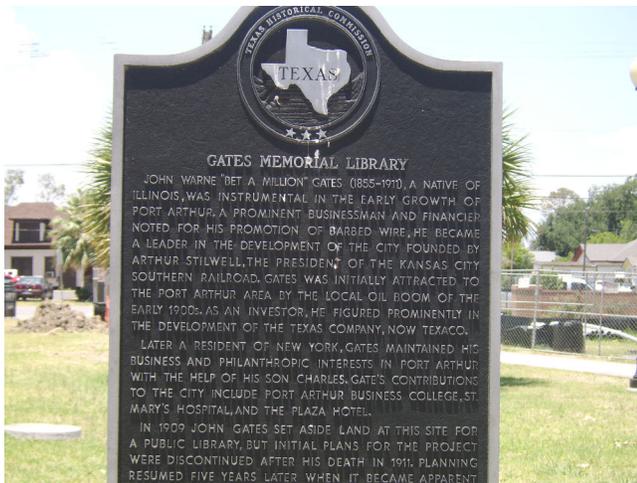


**County ID#: 055**  
**State ID#: 10530**  
**Title: Gates Memorial Library**  
**Year Established: 1981**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410409**  
**UTM North: 3305728**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** John W. Gates (1855-1911), a noted financier and philanthropist, set aside land at this site for a public library. In 1917, through the efforts of his widow Dellora (1855-1918), this classical revival library was completed. It was designed by the New York firm of Warren & Westmore, Architects of several New York landmarks, including Grand Central Station. Deeded to the city of Port Arthur in 1918, the library is now part of Lamar University at Port Arthur.  
 Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1981



**County ID#: 056**  
**State ID#: 10529**  
**Title: Gates Memorial Library**  
**Year Established: 1981**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410409**  
**UTM North: 3305728**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** John Warne "Bet a Million" Gates (1855-1911), a native of Illinois, was instrumental in the early growth of Port Arthur. A prominent businessman and financier noted for his promotion of barbed wire, he became a leader in the development of the city founded by Arthur Stilwell, the president of the Kansas City Southern Railroad. Gates was initially attracted to the Port Arthur area by the local oil boom of the early 1900s. As an investor, he figured prominently in the development of the Texas Company, now Texaco. Later a resident of New York, Gates maintained his business and philanthropic interests in Port Arthur with the help of his son Charles. Gate's contributions to the city include Port Arthur Business College, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Plaza Hotel. In 1909 John Gates set aside land at this site for a public library, but initial plans for the project were discontinued after his death in 1911. Planning resumed five years later when it became apparent the public library in the nearby high school could not adequately serve the city. Through the efforts of Gate's widow Dellora (1855- 1918) and local residents, this library was completed in 1917. The following year it was dedicated and deeded to the city.



**County ID#: 057**

**State ID#: 10552**

**Title: Pivoto-Robinson House**

**Year Established: 1981**

**Marker Size: Medallion & Plate**

**UTM Zone: 15**

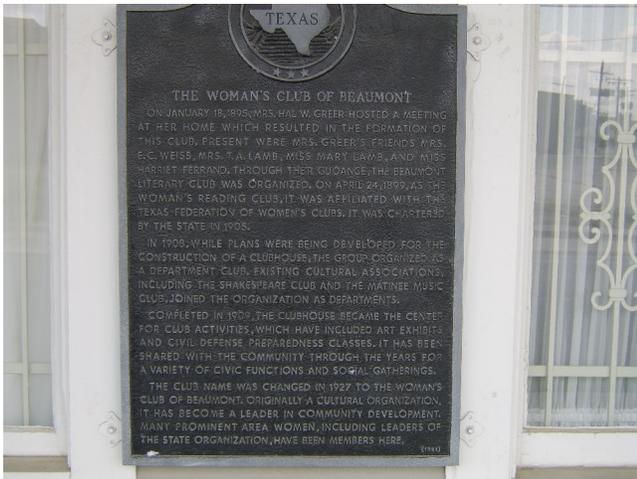
**UTM East: 362404**

**UTM North: 3310026**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: A pioneer area cattleman of the 1830s, Joseph Pivoto (1811-76) wed Seraphine Anna (Dubois) (1797-1901) of Louisiana and brought her here in 1848. Their family residence was constructed soon after using native cypress and materials manufactured on the site. Because of the Pivotos' hospitality, the house was a popular place for travelers and for social functions. Later the home of granddaughter Lula Eursule (Pivoto) Robinson, it is still owned by Pivoto descendants.  
Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1981



**County ID#: 058**

**State ID#: 10581**

**Title: The Woman's Club of Beaumont**

**Year Established: 1981**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393611**

**UTM North: 3328835**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: On January 18, 1895, Mrs. Hal W. Greer hosted a meeting at her home which resulted in the formation of this club. Present were Mrs. Greer's friends Mrs. E. C. Weiss, Mrs. T. A. Lamb, Miss Mary Lamb, and Miss Harriet Ferrand. Through their guidance, the Beaumont Literary Club was organized. On April 24, 1899, as the Woman's Reading Club, it was affiliated with the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs. It was chartered by the state in 1905. In 1908, while plans were being developed for the construction of a clubhouse, the group organized as a Department Club. Existing cultural associations, including the Shakespeare Club and the Matinee Music Club, joined the organization as departments. Completed in 1909, the clubhouse became the center for club activities, which have included art exhibits and Civil Defense preparedness classes. It has been shared with the community through the years for a variety of civic functions and social gatherings. The club name was changed in 1927 to the Woman's Club of Beaumont. Originally a cultural organization, it has become a leader in community development. Many prominent area women, including leaders of the state organization, have been members here.

Incise in base: Mrs. Gilbert T. (Viola Joss) Adams - Historian and Researcher



**County ID#: 059**  
**State ID#: 10501**  
**Title: The Clubhouse, The Woman's Club of Beaumont**  
**Year Established: 1981**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 393611**  
**UTM North: 3328835**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Early meetings of the Woman's Reading Club, now the Woman's Club of Beaumont, were conducted in area homes, churches, and public buildings until 1909, when this two-story frame clubhouse was built. Constructed during the presidencies of Mrs. John B. Goodhue and Mrs. J. L. Cunningham, it was designed by C. C. McDonald. T. W. Thomas served as the contractor. Because of the club's interest in promoting the development of area libraries, interior space was provided for cultural collections. An auditorium and stage were also included. One of the earliest meetings halls in the area, it was shared with a variety of community groups. The first civic function here was the 1909 banquet of the Oil Producers Association. Interior furnishings include four grand pianos for use by the club's piano ensemble, organized in 1932. During World Wars I and II, the clubhouse was used for Red Cross activities. Members contributed to the war effort by making bandages and by conducting collection drives for supplies. The building has also been used for Civil Defense classes and as a relief shelter for victims of area disasters.



**County ID#: 060**

**State ID#: 10514**

**Title: Federated Women's Clubs of Port Arthur**

**Year Established: 1981**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 410857**

**UTM North: 3306066**



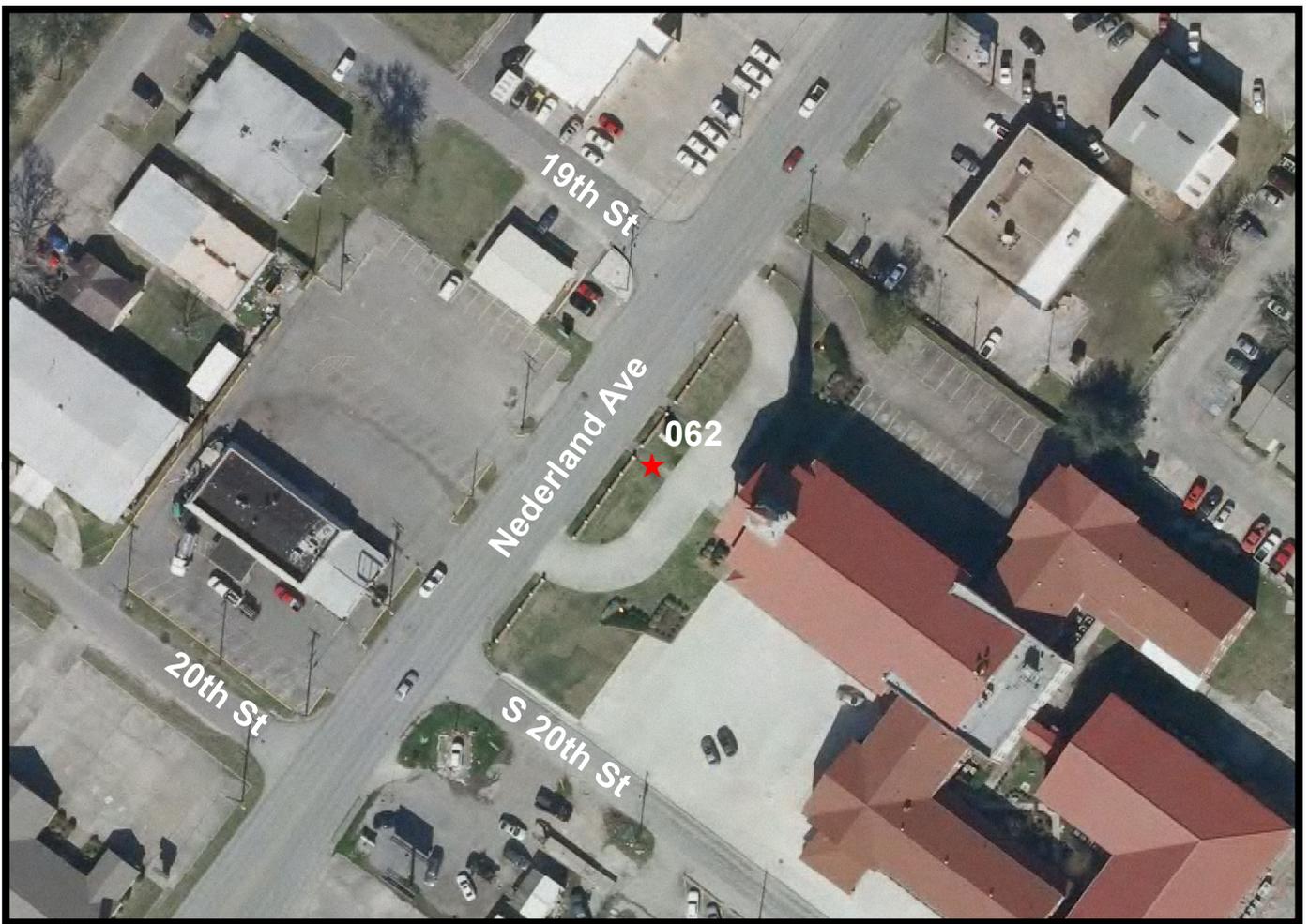
1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The Federated Women's Clubs of Port Arthur is a league of sixteen individual clubs which represent a variety of interests and public service projects. Together, through the organization, they combine their efforts for the betterment of the community. The Federation developed from the Women's Self-improvement Club which was organized with nine charter members in February 1898 at the home of Mrs. W. D. Park. It was originally a literary club, but social services were soon added. In 1910 members interested in music started the Symphony Club. The following year they were joined by the Reading Club in the formation of a department club. In 1914 the Young Women's Culture Club and the Women's Self Improvement Club joined the organization. Meetings were held in homes until 1915 when the club moved to the Elks' Theater building. After a 1923 fire destroyed clubrooms and furnishings, members began planning for a separate clubhouse at this site, which was completed the following year. Renamed in 1977, the Federated Women's Clubs of Port Arthur has made significant contributions to the city through sponsorship of such programs as civic activities, scholarships, and historic preservation.



**County ID#: 061**  
**State ID#: 10515**  
**Title: Clubhouse of the Federated Women's Clubs of Port Arthur**  
**Year Established: 1982**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410857**  
**UTM North: 3306066**

Description: In 1923, twenty-five years after their founding, the Port Arthur Federated Women's Clubs began planning for construction of their own clubhouse. Mrs. C. L. Wignall chaired the planning committee, and her husband, local architect C. L. Wignall, designed the structure. His plans included a decorative window motif repeated in the porch balustrade. An open house on Feb. 8, 1924 celebrated the completion of the clubhouse. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1982



**County ID#: 062**

**State ID#: 10517**

**Title: First Baptist Church of  
Nederland**

**Year Established: 1982**

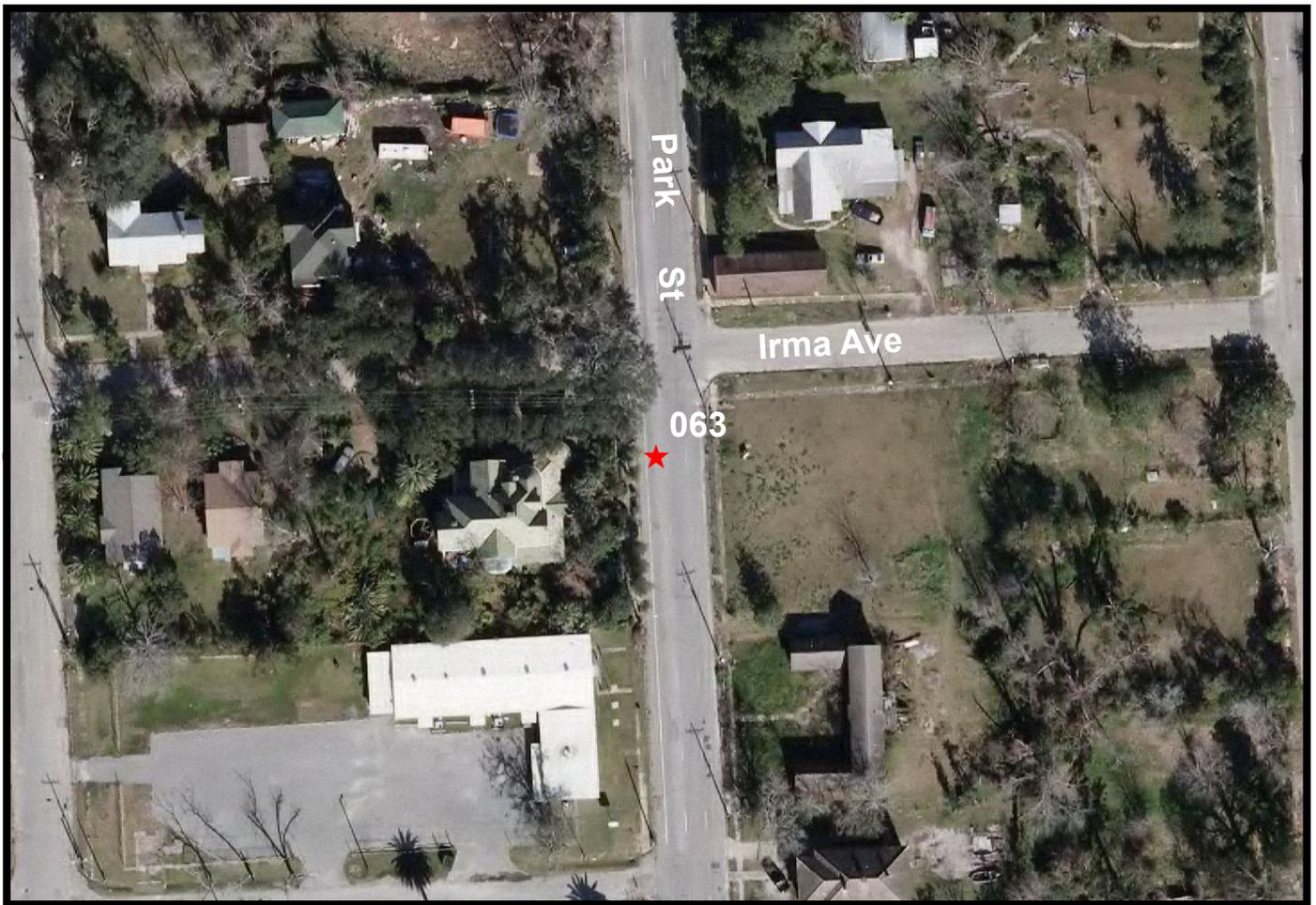
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 404159**

**UTM North: 3315884**

Description: This congregation grew out of a revival held by a Baptist minister in the local Dutch Reformed Church. Seven charter members met in March 1907 to organize the First Baptist Church in Nederland, and the Rev. George Montgomery was called to serve as their first pastor. In the early days of the church, new members were baptized in the Neches River. Known until 1925 as Peveto Baptist Church, after faithful member Gille Peveto, First Baptist Church of Nederland has grown in numbers, and over the years has provided significant service to the community. Incise in base: Given by 1982 Silvertones Senior Adult Choir



**County ID#: 063**

**State ID#: 10534**

**Title: Caroline Gilbert Hinchee House**

**Year Established: 1982**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

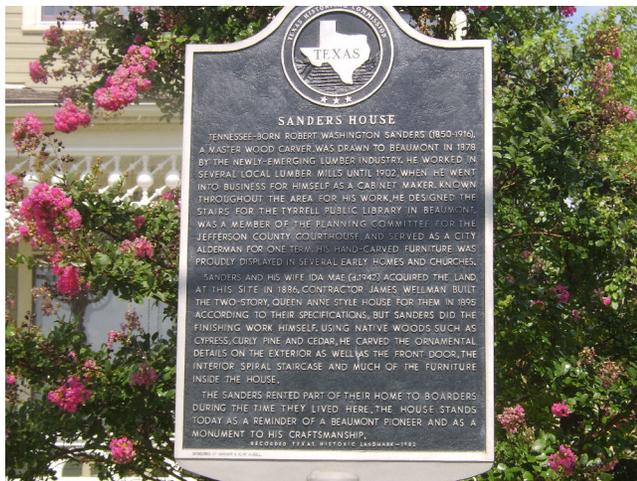
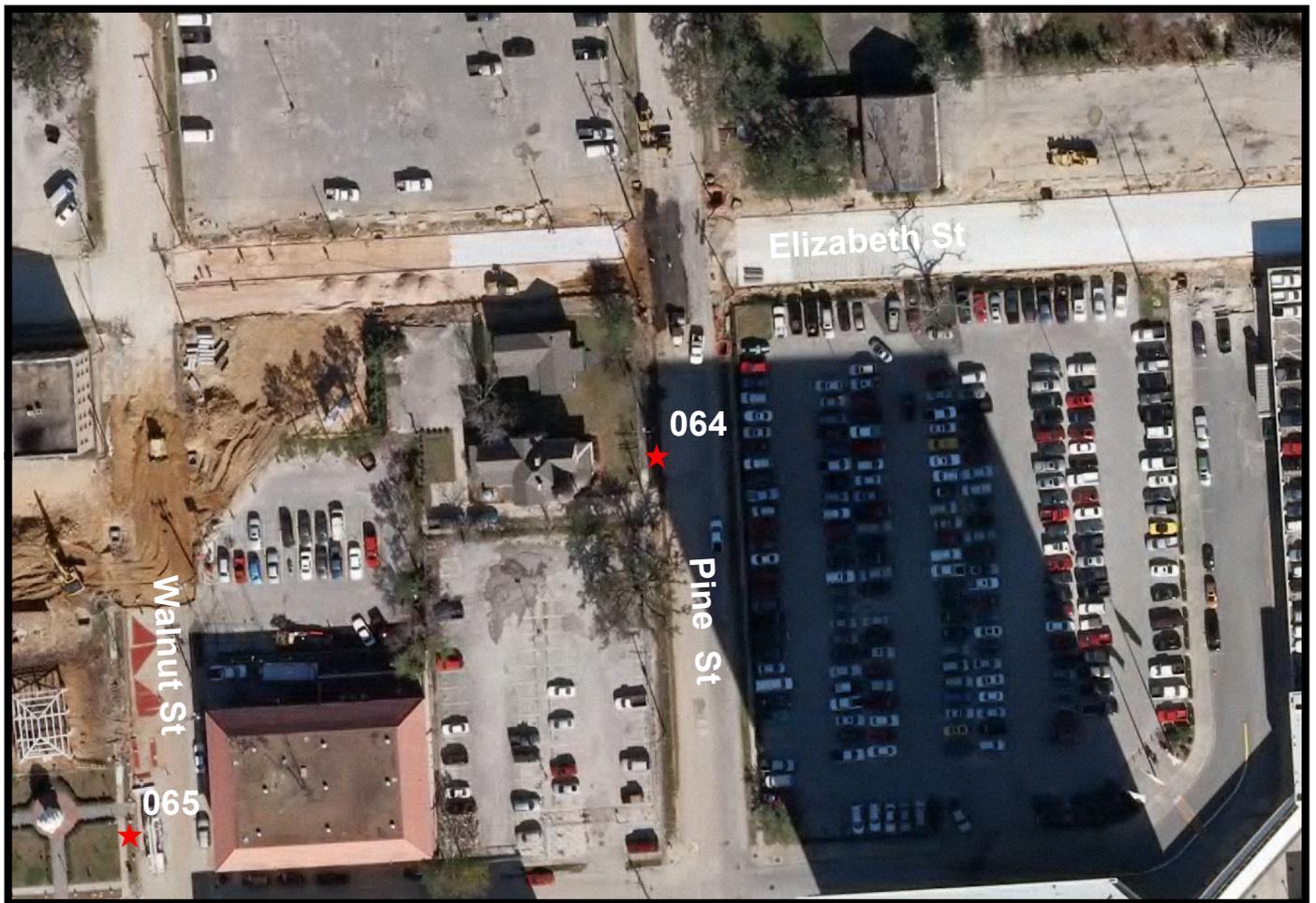
**UTM East: 394567**

**UTM North: 3227078**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: A descendant of a distinguished pioneer Connecticut family, Caroline "Carrie" Gilbert (1863-1913) was born in Beaumont. Educated at leading art institutions, she was an accomplished artist and art teacher. In 1900 she married Martin Luther Hinchee, an Illinois native who became a successful Beaumont businessman. Caroline became wealthy through her association with the Gilbert Oil company, an independent oil production firm founded by her family. In 1900 she purchased this property and six years later had this elaborate residence constructed. Designed by the prominent Beaumont architect Henry C. Mauer, it features Queen Anne styling with classical revival influences. Outstanding details include the tiled roof, wide wraparound veranda, stained glass and red stone foundation. The interior includes a glass conservatory and one of the city's early residential elevators. The Hinchee House reflects Caroline's status as a social leader of the community. Active in the First Methodist Church, she was a charter member of the Col. George Moffett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her home remains as a symbol of Beaumont at the turn of the century and as a reminder of her many contributions to the city. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1982



**County ID#: 064**

**State ID#: 10561**

**Title: Sanders House**

**Year Established: 1982**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 394273**

**UTM North: 3328699**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Tennessee-born Robert Washington Sanders (1850-1916), a master wood carver, was drawn to Beaumont in 1878 by the newly-emerging lumber industry. He worked in several local lumber mills until 1902, when he went into business for himself as a cabinet maker. Known throughout the area for his work, he designed the stairs for the Tyrrell Public Library in Beaumont, was a member of the planning committee for the Jefferson County Courthouse, and served as a city alderman for one term. His hand-carved furniture was proudly displayed in several early homes and churches. Sanders and his wife Ida Mae (d. 1942) acquired the land at this site in 1886. Contractor James Wellman built the two-story, Queen Anne style house for them in 1895 according to their specifications, but Sanders did the finishing work himself using native woods such as cypress, curly pine and cedar, he carved the ornamental details on the exterior as well as the front door, the interior spiral staircase and much of the furniture inside the house. The Sanders rented part of their home to boarders during the time they lived here. The house stands today as a reminder of a Beaumont pioneer and as a monument to his craftsmanship.  
Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1982 Incise on base: Sponsored by Barbara & Alan McNeill





**County ID#: 066**

**State ID#: 10568**

**Title: Spanish-American War Fortifications**

**Year Established: 1983**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

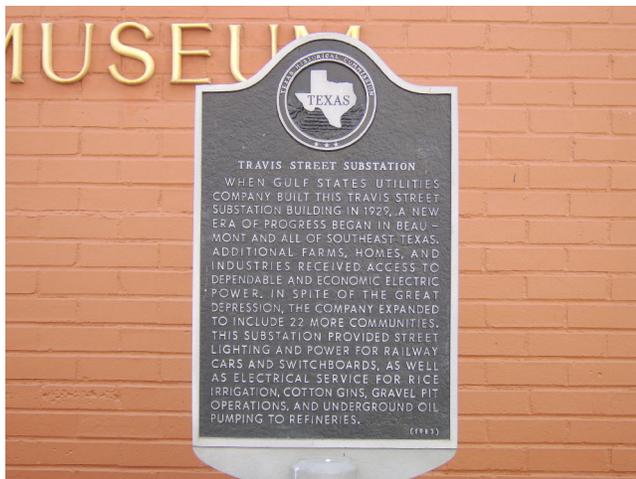
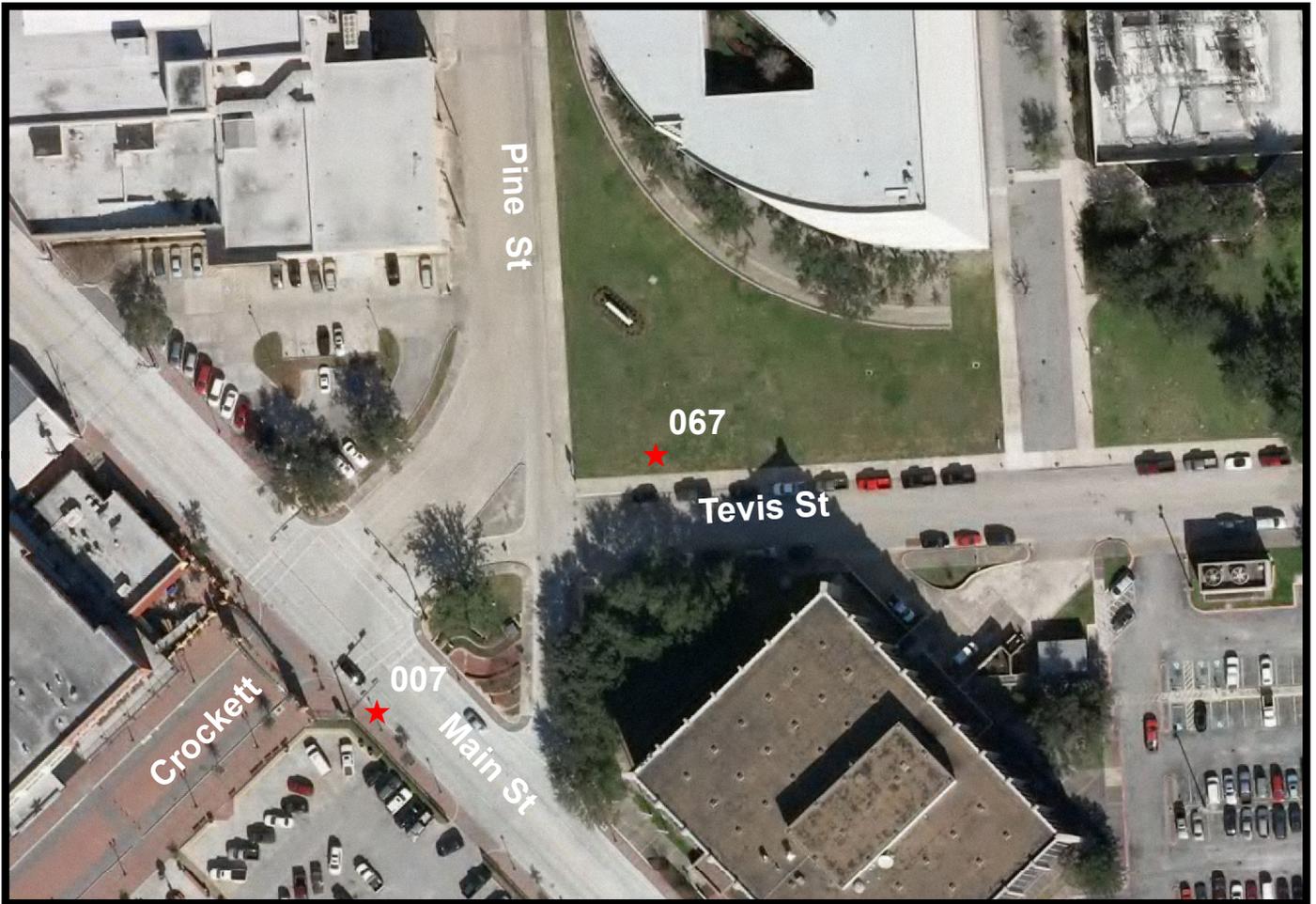
**UTM East: 415591**

**UTM North: 3289389**



1 inch = 100 feet

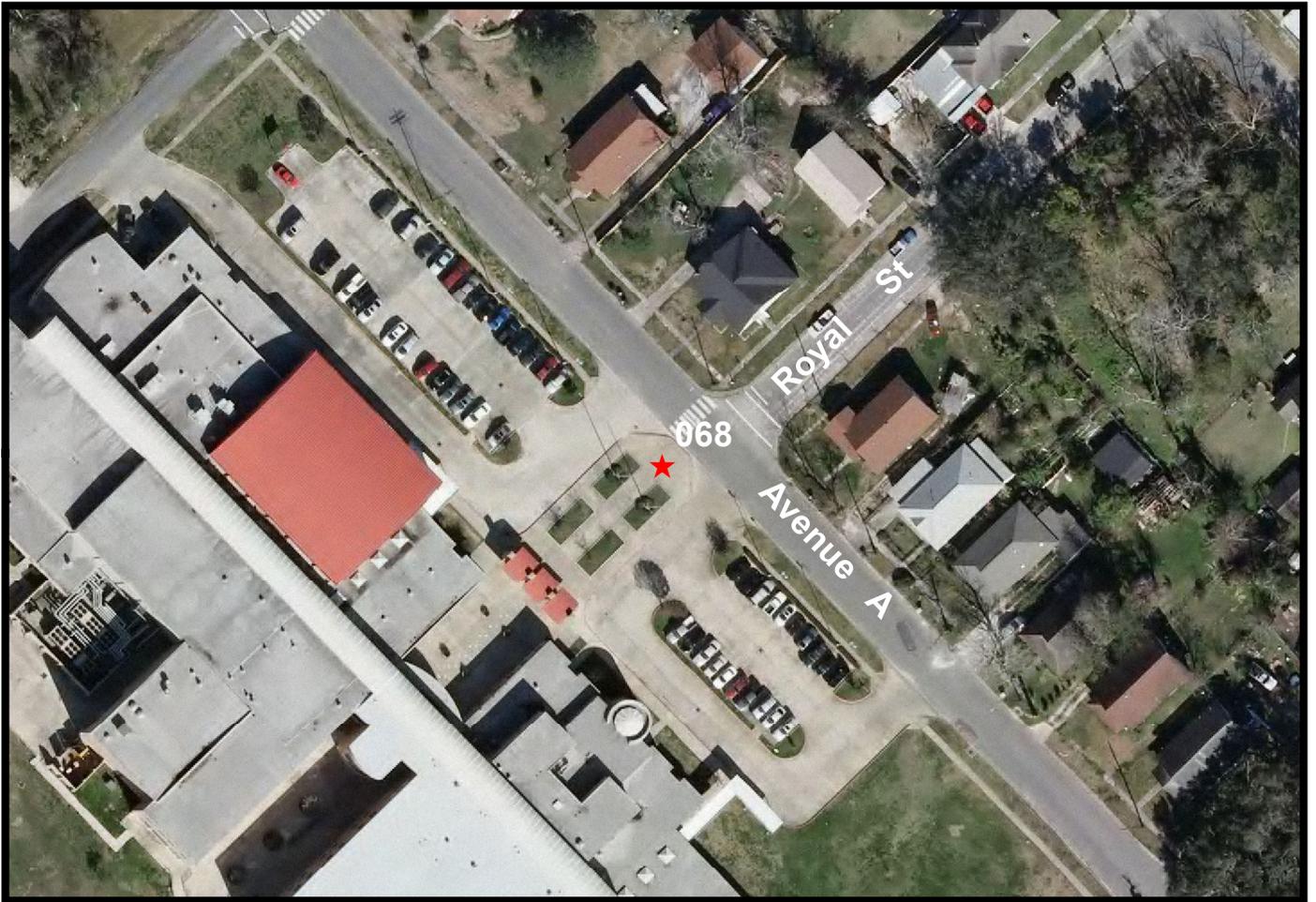
Description: As tension mounted between the United States and Spain during the late 1890s, U.S. Representative Samuel Bronson Cooper of Texas recommended the War Department begin plans for the defense of the strategic Sabine Pass area. Maj. James B. Quinn of the Army Corps of Engineers in New Orleans, was authorized to direct construction of two forts on land granted by Augustus F. Kountze. Work on the batteries was under way by May 1898, one month after the formal war declaration. Military efforts were coordinated with area residents by government engineer J. L. Brownlee. Although the emplacements were soon completed, the shore guns were never part of military action here. The Spanish-American War ended December 10, 1898, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris. Later efforts were made to locate permanently a military installation at the site following the war. The plans were dropped, however, by 1901. In 1913, fifteen years after the war, the fortifications were the site of a tragic accident, in which a Sabine boy was killed when an abandoned ammunition cache exploded. Evidence of the fortifications has been severely damaged by hurricanes over the years, but the site remains a symbol of an important era in U.S. history.



**County ID#: 067**  
**State ID#: 10577**  
**Title: Travis Street Substation**  
**Year Established: 1983**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394326**  
**UTM North: 3328996**



**Description:** When Gulf States Utilities Company built this Travis Street substation building in 1929, a new era of progress began in Beaumont and all of southeast Texas. Additional farms, homes, and industries received access to dependable and economic electric power. In spite of the Great Depression, the company expanded to include 22 more communities. This substation provided street lighting and power for railway cars and switchboards, as well as electrical service for rice irrigation, cotton gins, gravel pit operations, and underground oil pumping to refineries.



**County ID#: 068**

**State ID#: 10505**

**Title: David Crockett Middle  
School (RAZED)**

**Year Established: 1984**

**Marker Size: Medallion & Plate**

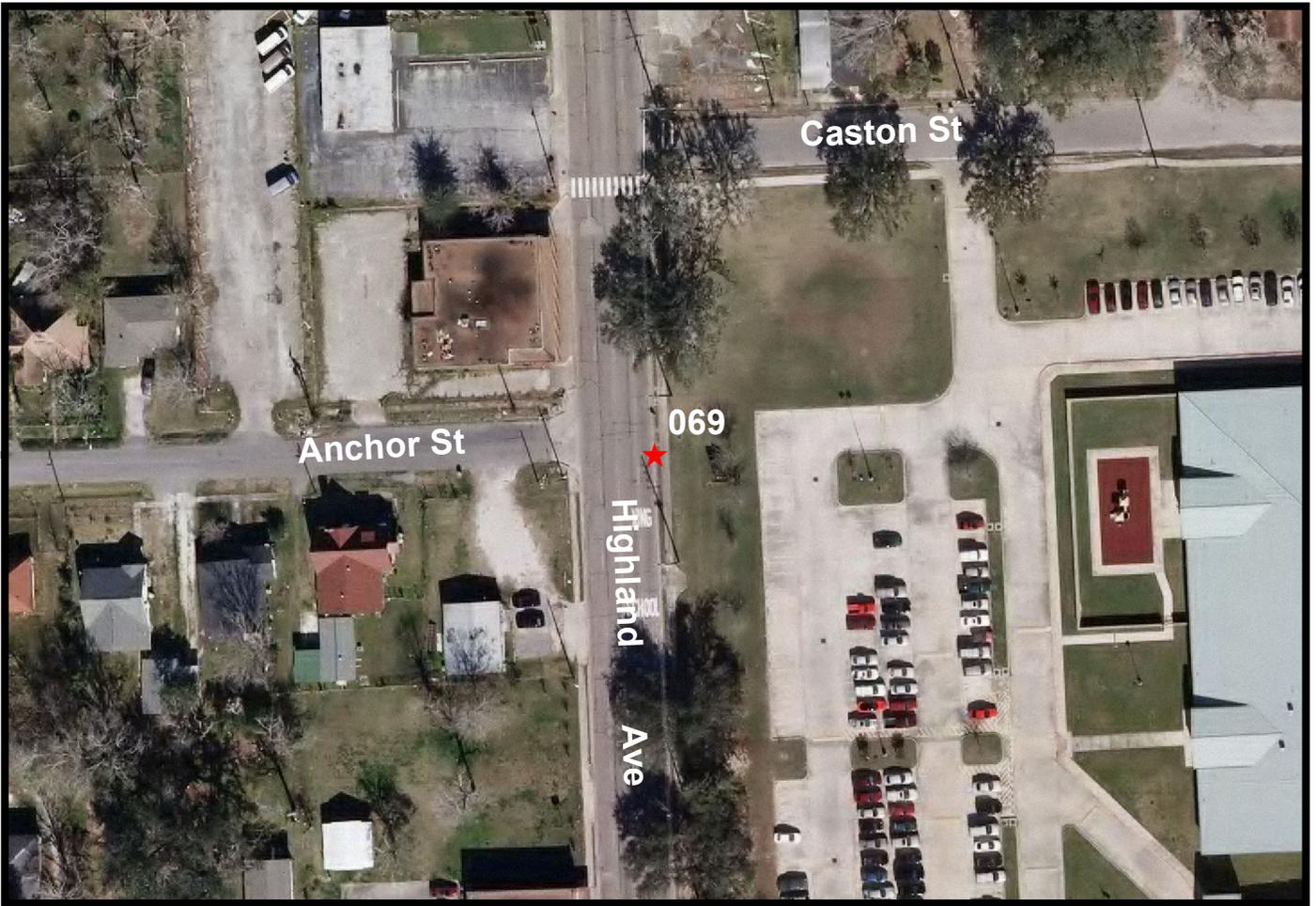
**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 393864**

**UTM North: 3326742**



Description: Originally known as South End Junior High School, this structure was designed and built in 1923 by the Austin architectural firm of C. H. Page. The first classes were held here in the fall of 1924, and in 1926 the students voted to change the school's name to honor Texas hero David Crockett. A good example of schoolhouse architecture from the post-World War I period, the building features decorative stonework and an entry arch in the Tudor Gothic revival style. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1984



**County ID#: 069**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Pietzsch Elementary School**

**Year Established:**

**Marker Size:**

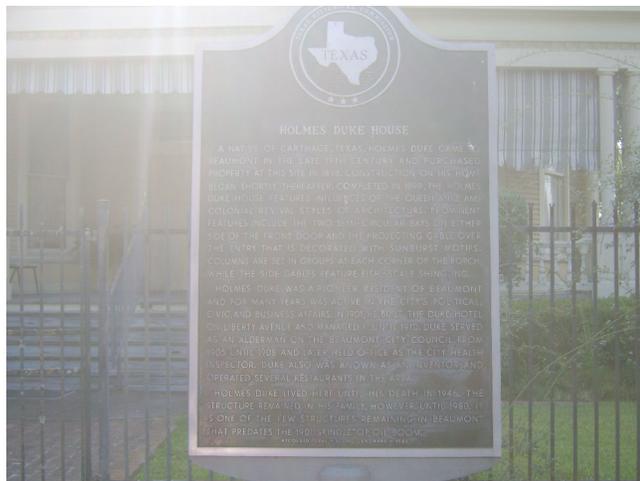
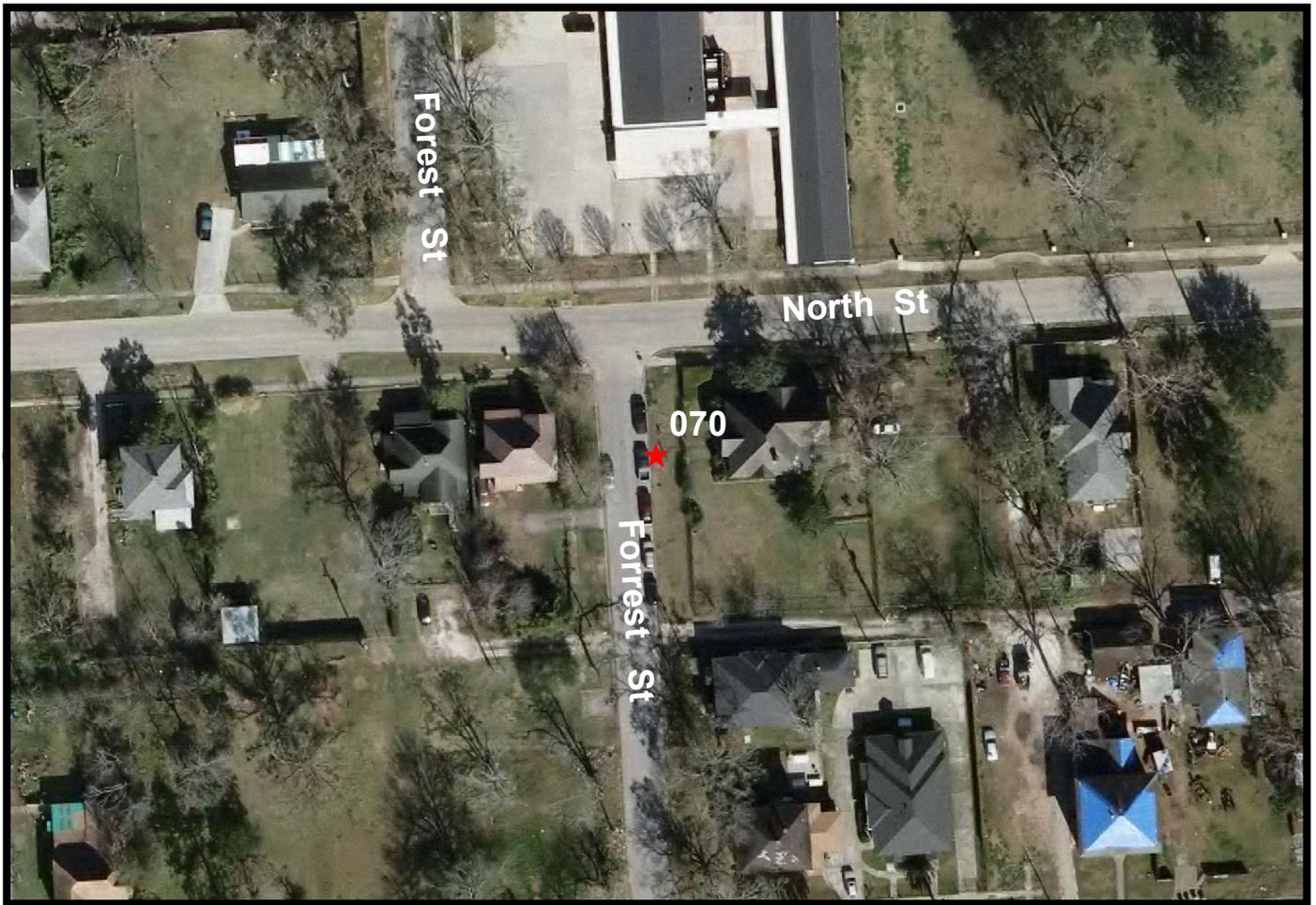
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**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



Description:

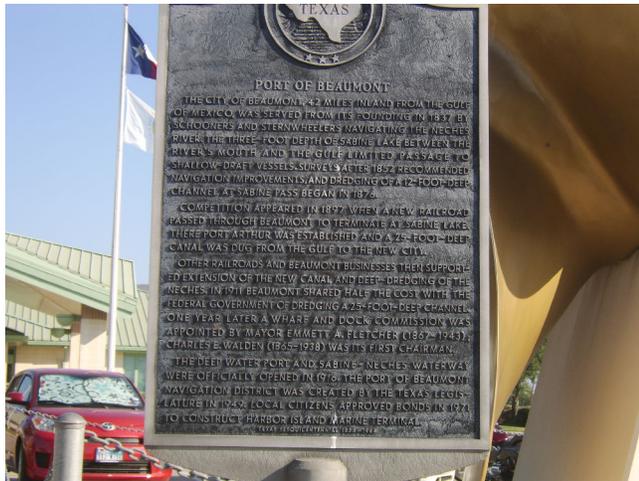


**County ID#: 070**  
**State ID#: 10511**  
**Title: Holmes Duke House**  
**Year Established: 1986**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415591**  
**UTM North: 3289389**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** A native of Carthage, Texas, Holmes Duke came to Beaumont in the late 19th century and purchased property at this site in 1898. Construction on his home began shortly thereafter. Completed in 1899, the Holmes Duke house features influences of the Queen Anne and colonial revival styles of architecture. Prominent features include the two semi-circular bays on either side of the front door and the projecting gable over the entry that is decorated with sunburst motifs. Columns are set in groups at each corner of the porch, while the side gables feature fish-scale shingling. Holmes Duke was a pioneer resident of Beaumont and for many years was active in the city's political, civic, and business affairs. In 1901, he built the Duke Hotel on Liberty Avenue and managed it until 1910. Duke served as an alderman on the Beaumont City Council from 1905 until 1908 and later held office as the city health inspector. Duke also was known as an inventor and operated several restaurants in the area. Holmes Duke lived here until his death in 1946. The structure remained in his family, however, until 1980. It is one of the few structures remaining in Beaumont that predates the 1901 Spindletop oil boom.  
 Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1986

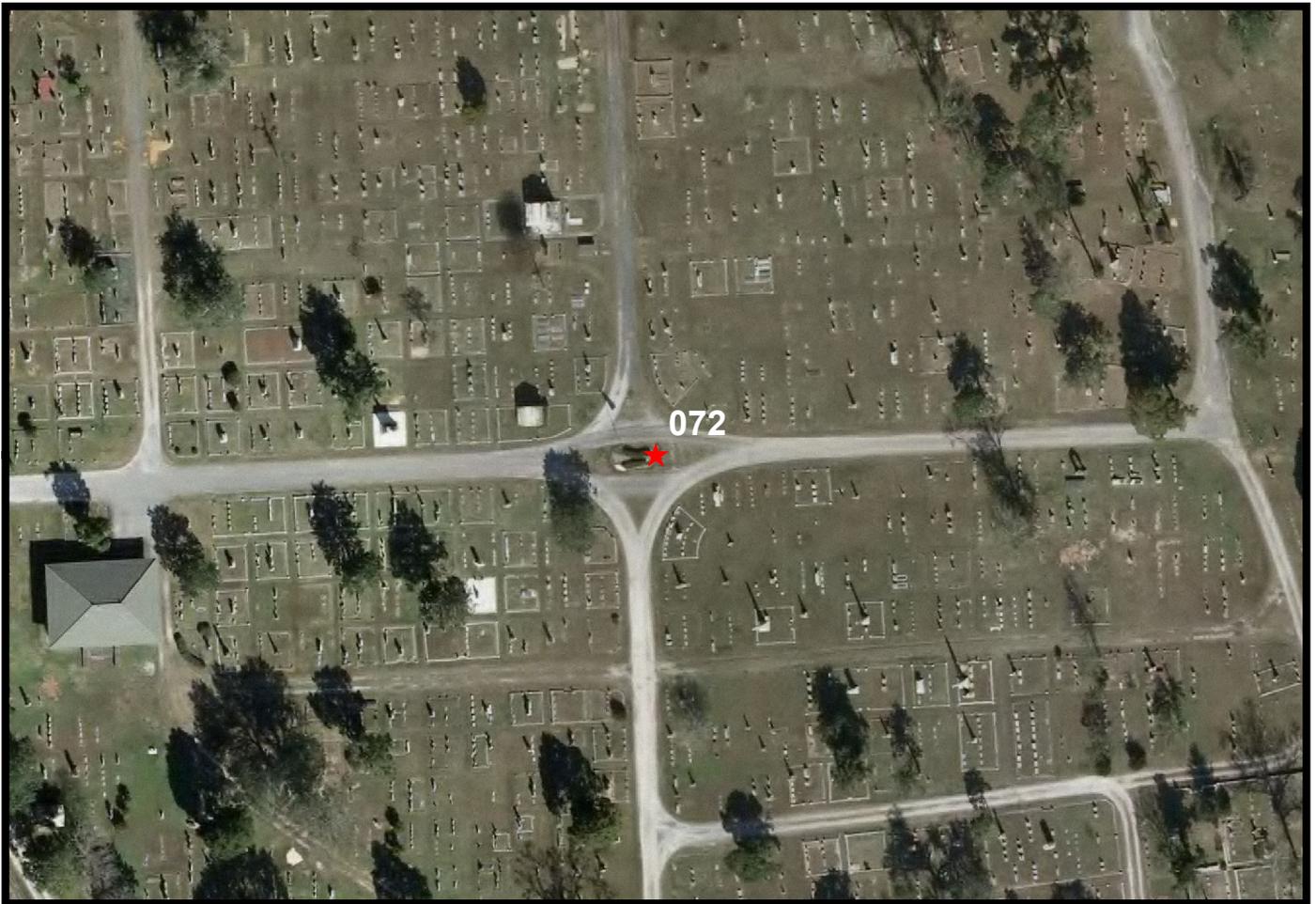


**County ID#: 071**  
**State ID#: 10554**  
**Title: Port of Beaumontt**  
**Year Established: 1986**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394832**  
**UTM North: 3327680**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The city of Beaumont, 41 miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico, was served from its founding in 1837 by schooners and sternwheelers navigating the Neches River. The three-foot depth of Sabine Lake between the river's mouth and the Gulf limited passage to shallow-draft vessels. Surveys after 1852 recommended navigation improvements, and dredging of a 12-foot-deep channel at Sabine Pass began in 1876. Competition appeared in 1897 when a new railroad passed through Beaumont to terminate at Sabine Lake. There Port Arthur was established and a 25-foot deep canal was dug from the Gulf to the new city. Other railroads and Beaumont businesses then supported extension of the new canal and deep-dredging of the Neches. In 1911 Beaumont shared half the cost with the Federal government of dredging a 25 foot deep channel. One year later a Wharf and Dock Commission was appointed by Mayor Emmett A. Fletcher (1867-1943); Charles E. Walden (1865-1938) was its first chairman. The deep water port and Sabine-Neches waterway were officially opened in 1916. The Port of Beaumont Navigation District was created by the Texas Legislature in 1949. Local citizens approved bonds in 1971 to construct Harbor Island Marine Terminal. (Texas Sesquicentennial 1836 - 1986)

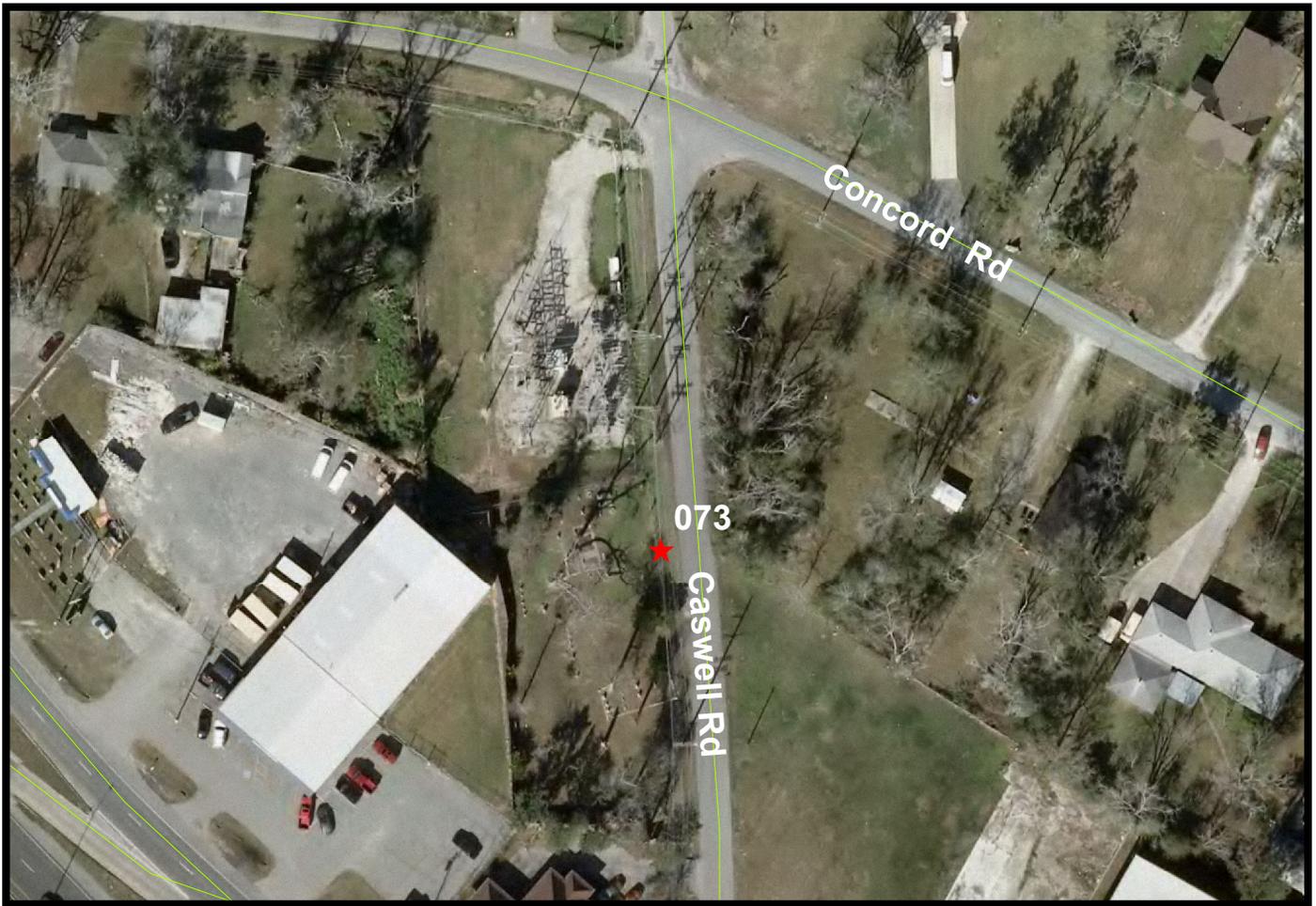


**County ID#: 072**  
**State ID#: 10543**  
**Title: Magnolia Cemetery**  
**Year Established: 1986**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394049**  
**UTM North: 3330817**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The Magnolia Cemetery Company was granted a charter by the State of Texas on August 3, 1887. The following month the company's five trustees purchased thirteen acres of land on which to locate the graveyard, and burials were soon taking place in the cemetery. Land acquisitions and expansions over the years have surrounded the Hebrew Rest Cemetery just north of the original thirteen acres, as well as two other burial grounds -- the I.O.O.F (Odd Fellows) Cemetery and a plot deeded in 1876 to "white citizens of Beaumont" (later known as the Public Grounds.) Adjacent to Magnolia Cemetery, but separately held, are the Knights of Pythias and St. Michael's Orthodox cemeteries. Many early settlers and residents of Beaumont are interred here, including two veterans of the Texas Revolution. The oldest grave markers pre-date the official founding of Magnolia Cemetery and are representative of burials which were moved here from private family cemeteries. A variety of grave markers can be seen here, from simple stones to elaborately sculpted angels and family mausoleums. (Texas Sesquicentennial 1836 - 1986)



**County ID#: 073**  
**State ID#: 10570**  
**Title: Spell Cemetery**  
**Year Established: 1988**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 387212**  
**UTM North: 3334654**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The land on which this graveyard is located was designated a family cemetery in 1873 by the Marble family. The earliest known burial is that of Martha Marble (d. 1864), whose husband John S. Marble was also buried here in 1873. Their daughter and son-in-law, Noley and David E. Spell, owned the land until 1924, when it was officially designated a cemetery in county deed records. Notable local citizens interred here include Sam H. Tevis and Daniel Comstock. A cemetery association, organized in 1983 by Spell family descendants, maintains the historic graveyard.



**County ID#: 074**

**State ID#: 15011**

**Title: Port Arthur College Radio Tower**

**Year Established: 1988**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

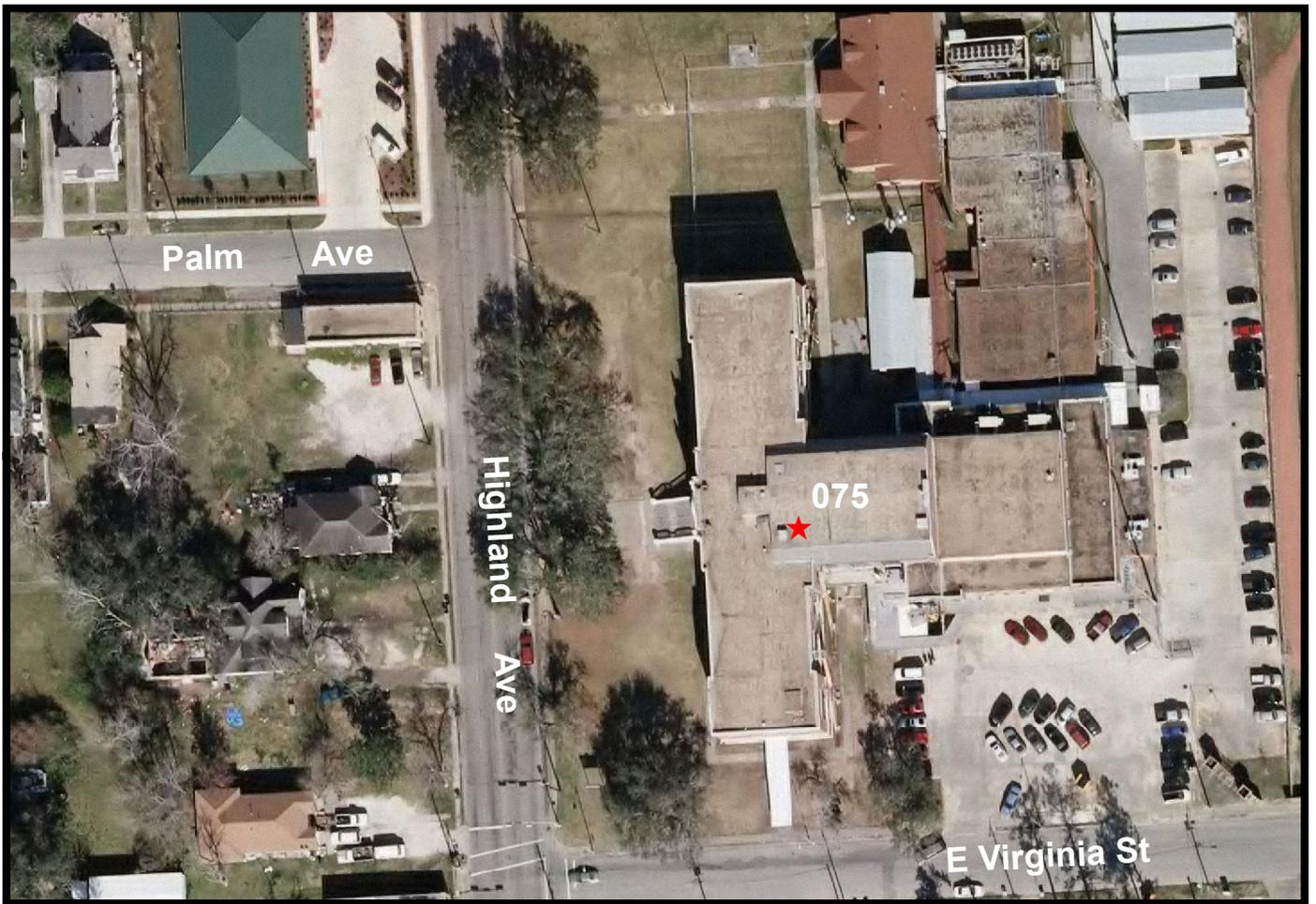
**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 075**

**State ID#: 10566**

**Title: South Park High School**

**Year Established: 1988**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

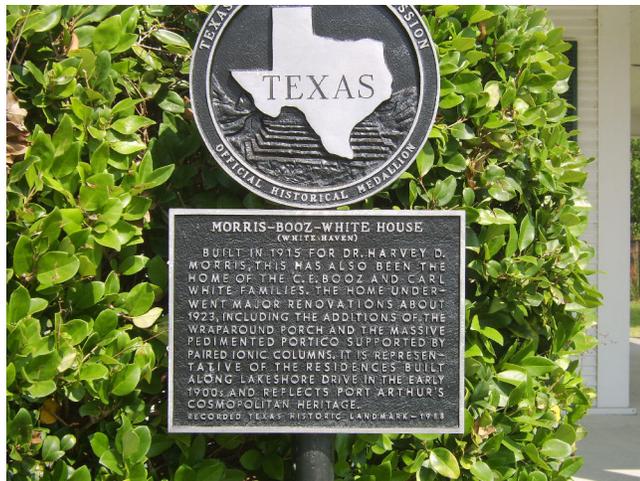
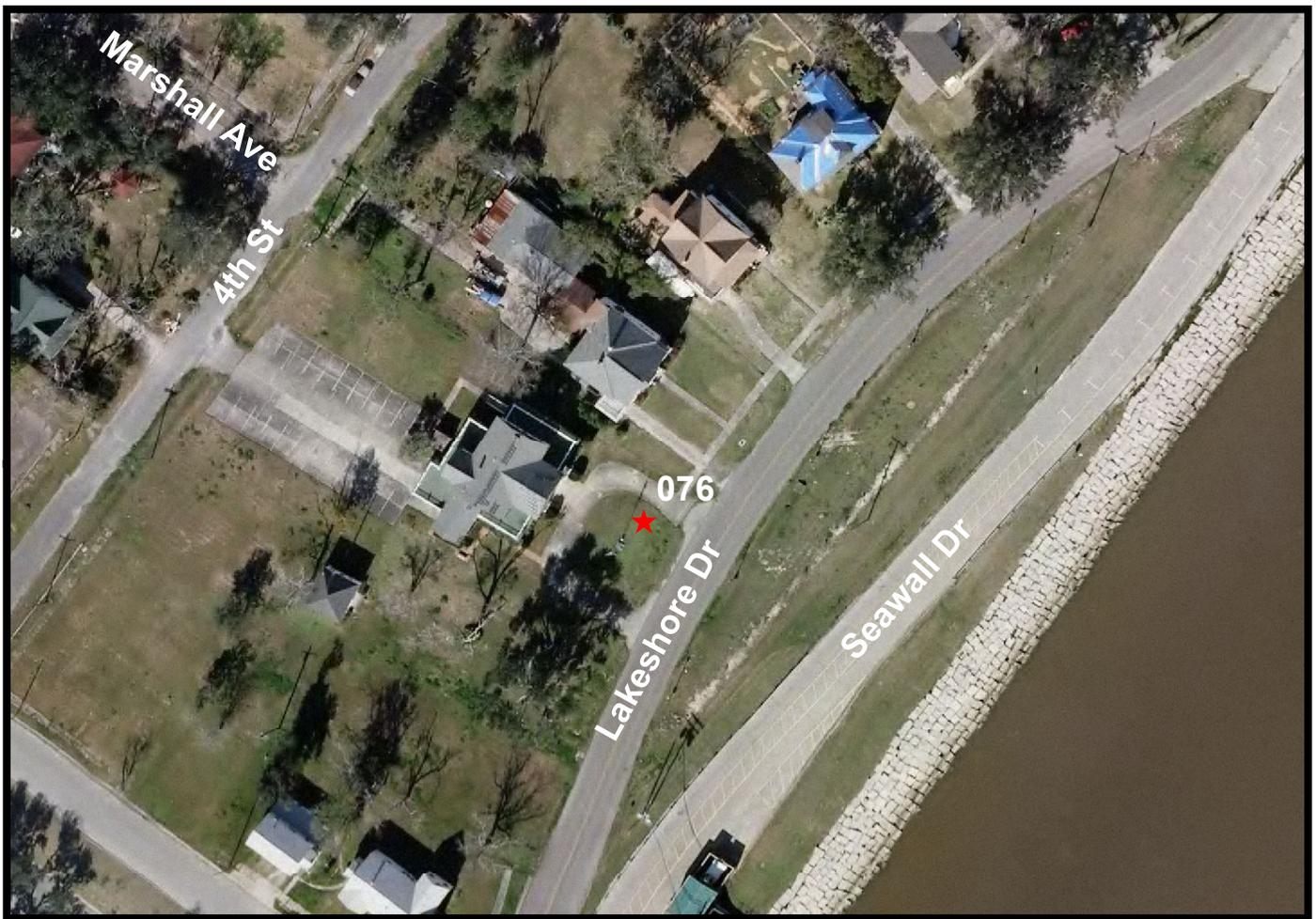
**UTM East: 395428**

**UTM North: 3324056**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Built by the South Park Independent School District in 1922-1923, this structure also housed classes of South Park Junior College for ten years. Renamed Lamar Junior College in 1932 and Lamar University in 1971, the college institution moved to its own campus in 1942. South Park High School remained at this location until 1986, when it was merged with West Brook High School and this facility became a junior high school. South Park High School represents both the past and future of education in Beaumont.

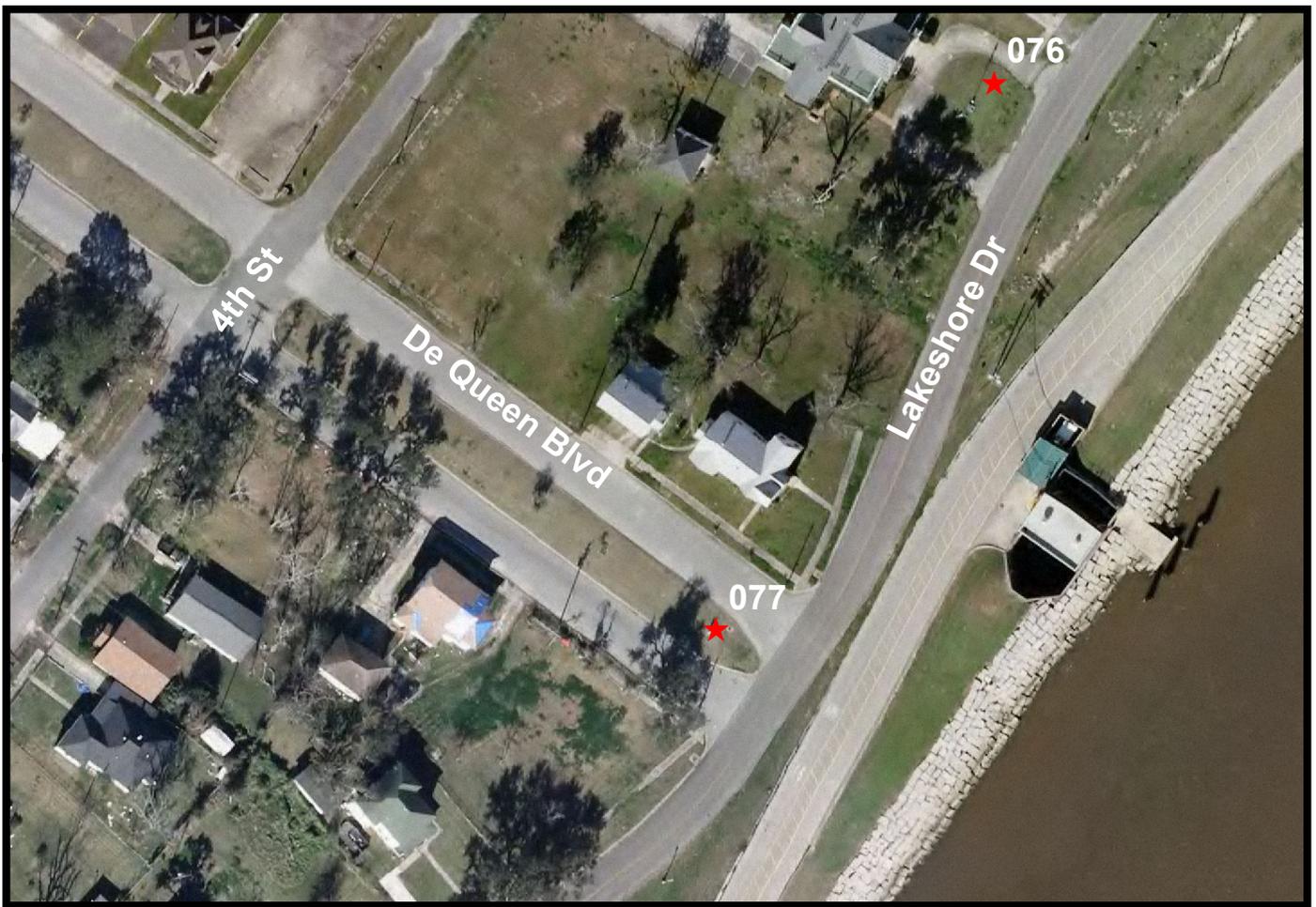


**County ID#: 076**  
**State ID#: 10545**  
**Title: Morris-Booz-White House**  
**Year Established: 1988**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 411391**  
**UTM North: 3306680**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (White Haven) Built in 1915 for Dr. Harvey D. Morris, this has also been the home of the C. E. Booz and Carl White families. The home underwent major renovations about 1923, including the additions of the wraparound porch and the massive pedimented portico supported by paired Ionic columns. It is representative of the residences built along Lakeshore Drive in the early 1900s and reflects Port Arthur's cosmopolitan heritage. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1988

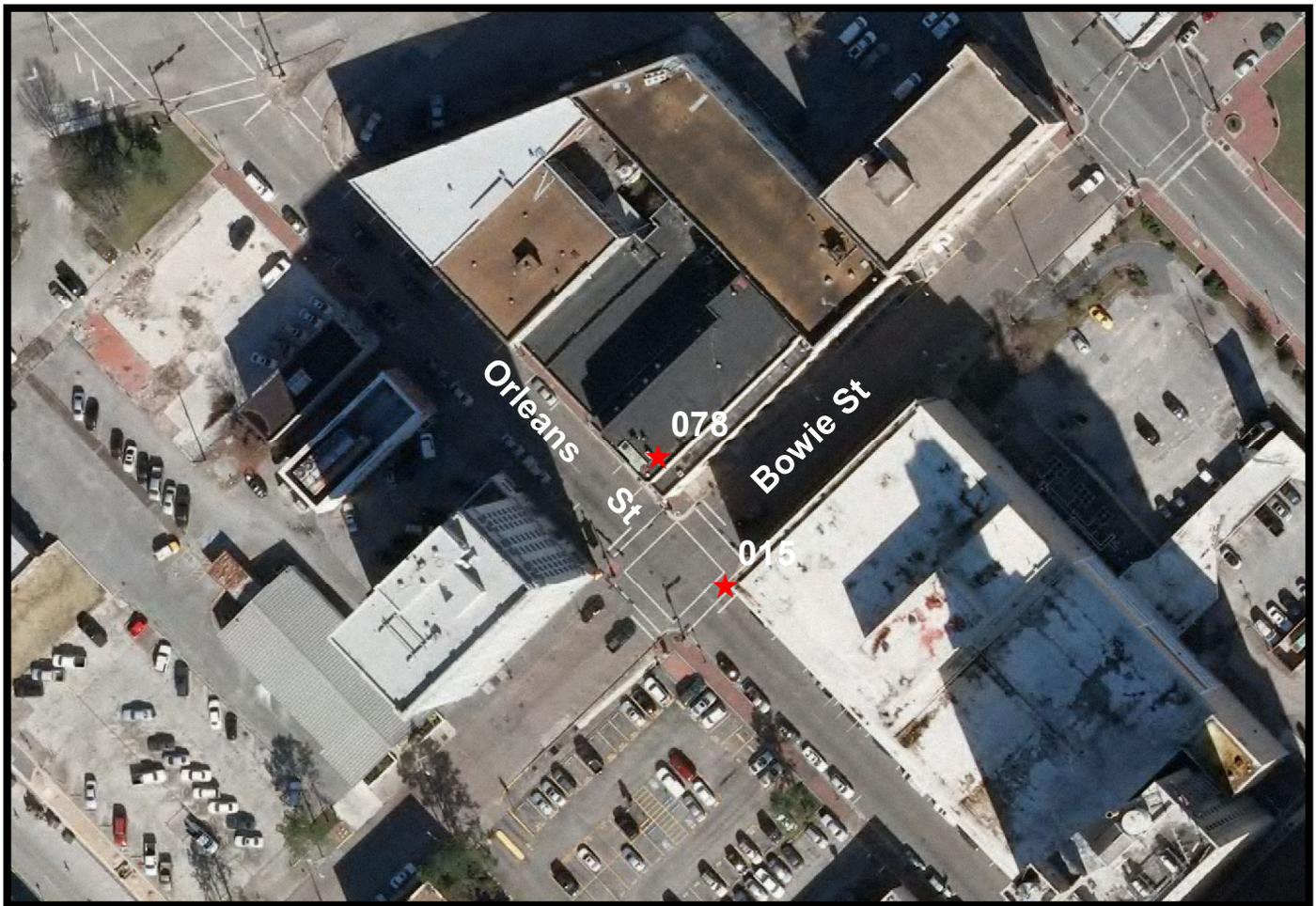


**County ID#: 077**  
**State ID#: 10569**  
**Title: Sparks Settlement Cemetery**  
**Year Established: 1989**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 411451**  
**UTM North: 3306220**



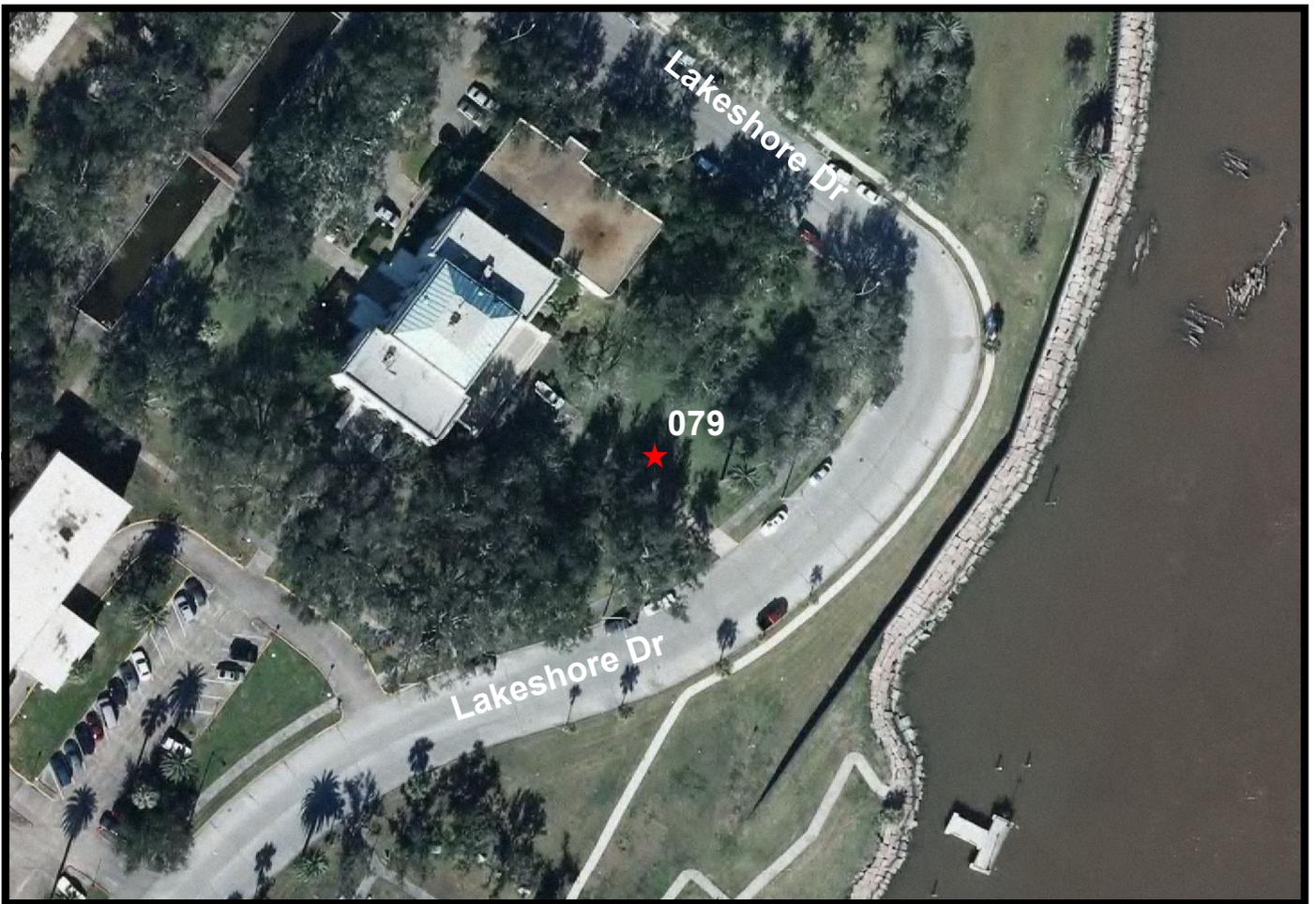
1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** John and Melinda Sparks and their family came to southeast Texas from Tennessee in 1838. They settled on the Jeremiah Mixon headright on Lake Sabine and later set aside land for a family burial ground. The land was acquired by the Port Arthur Land Company in 1896. Although Melinda and John Sparks, along with family members and neighbors, were buried in the cemetery, all that remains to mark the site is a monument erected in 1948 in memory of a ten-day-old child, Arthur Stilwell Smith, who was born and died in May 1896.



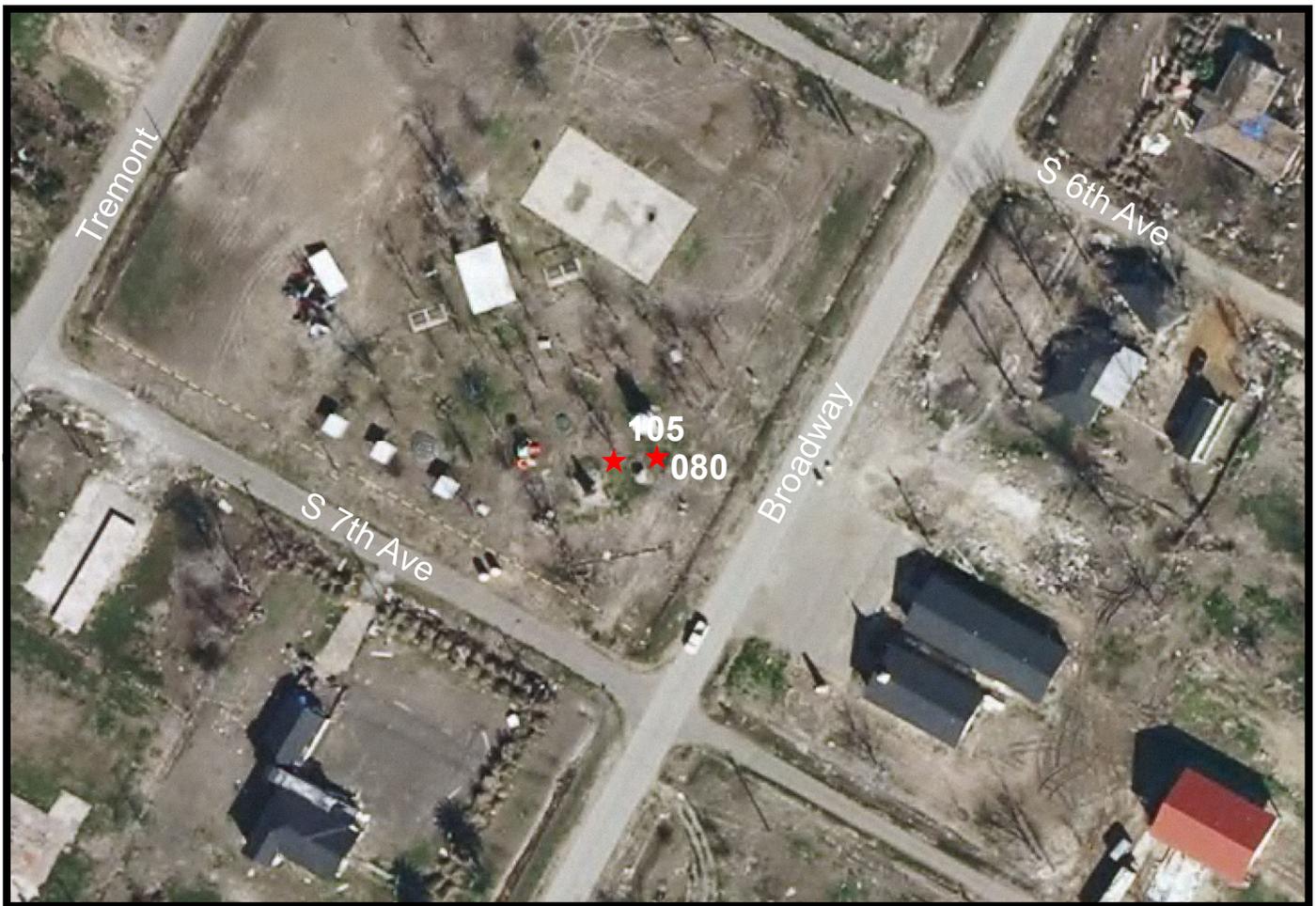
**County ID#: 078**  
**State ID#: 10521**  
**Title: First National Bank Building**  
**Year Established: 1989**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 394066**  
**UTM North: 3328476**

**Description:** Founded on April 9, 1889, the First National Bank of Beaumont enjoyed an economic revitalization in the 1930s after the area's second major oil boom. A special meeting of the bank's board of directors was held on January 16, 1935, to discuss plans to erect a new building. Present at the meeting were board members W. C. Gilbert, P. B. Doty, E. E. Plumly, C. H. Chambers, T. F. Rothwell, J. S. Gordon, W. P. H. McFaddin, Dr. Tom Andrus, Stuart Smith, H. A. Dodd, J. H. Phelan, Robert Corley, C. E. Broussard, and T. S. Reed. The two architectural firms of Steinman, Steinman, & Goldman and Stone & Pitts were chosen to design the new building, and the construction contract was awarded to the Knutson Construction Company. The bank moved into the building in February 1937, with armed guards employed to move the cash deposits. Outstanding features of the art deco limestone and granite building include stepped-back massing and decorative friezes depicting various aspects of banking and such local industries as shipping, lumber, agriculture, and oil. The bank continued to operate in this building until 1963, when it moved to new facilities across the street.  
 Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1989



**County ID#: 079**  
**State ID#: 10565**  
**Title: South County Office Building**  
**Year Established: 1989**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410013**  
**UTM North: 3304772**

Description: The growth of the petrochemical industry in the southern part of Jefferson County in the early 1930s resulted in the need for extended county government services. State legislation was required in order to enable the county to build a "subcourthouse" in Port Arthur. Introduced in the Legislature by local elected officials, a bill was passed on April 30, 1931, and plans were made to build a new south county office facility to serve this part of the county. Funded as a project of the Federal Public Works Administration (PWA), construction of the building began on August 10, 1935, and was completed the following year. The first floor housed offices of county commissioners and other officials; the second floor contained court facilities; and the third floor was occupied by a jail. Still in service as a county facility, the structure is an ornamental example of the art moderne style as typically interpreted by PWA projects in the 1930s. Prominent features include stylized classical detailing, eagles capping the pilasters at the entry, floral banding, and allegorical medallions. A one-story addition was built in the 1970s. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1989



**County ID#: 080**  
**State ID#: 10500**  
**Title: City of Sabine and Sabine Pass**  
**Year Established: 1989**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 413650**  
**UTM North: 3289666**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The first known settlers in this area were John McGaffey and Thomas Courts, who arrived in 1832. Sam Houston assisted Manuel de los Santos Coy in acquiring a land grant here in 1833. Two years later Houston and two partners purchased Coy's property holdings. On January 19, 1839, Gen. Sam Houston signed the charter that established the city of Sabine. Houston was active in promoting the sale of 2,060 town lots. The city soon flourished. Houston and his partners lost title to the town when the General Land Office determined that John McGaffey held original claim to the lands. The city of Sabine developed into a major port. In 1860 the State Legislature, in approving a new charter for the city, changed the name to Sabine Pass. It was the scene of a major Civil War engagement in 1863, with Confederate forces preventing a Union attempt to capture the port and gain major inroads into Texas. The Federal Harbor Act of 1882 led to construction of jetties here and development of inland ports along the Neches and Sabine rivers. By the early 20th century Sabine Pass began to decline due to hurricane damage which prevented railway maintenance.



**County ID#: 081**  
**State ID#: 10567**  
**Title: Spaight's 11th Battalion**  
**Year Established: 1990**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415591**  
**UTM North: 3289389**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Commanded by Col. Ashley W. Spaight, the 11th Battalion of Texas Volunteers, Confederate States Army, was nicknamed the "Swamp Angels." Tracing its origins to the "Sabine Pass Guards" militia formed in 1861, the battalion served during the Civil war to defend the Texas Gulf Coast and Louisiana borders from Federal incursions. Many of them lost their lives during an 1862 yellow fever epidemic at Sabine Pass. The battalion was comprised of southeast Texas residents, many of whom became community and business leaders after the war.

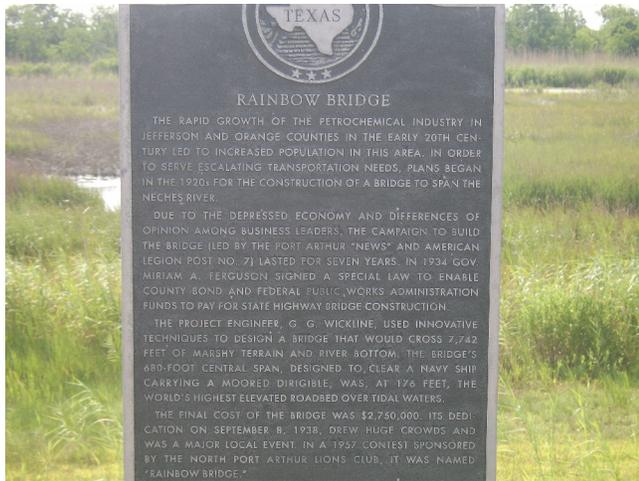


**County ID#: 082**  
**State ID#: 10506**  
**Title: Kate Dorman**  
**Year Established: 1990**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415591**  
**UTM North: 3289389**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Georgia native Kate Dorman and her husband, Arthur Magill, owned and operated the catfish Hotel at Sabine Pass as early as 1847. Arthur Magill was killed in an accident in 1859, and the following year Kate, a widow with two young daughters, married John Dorman. In 1862 the Catfish Hotel became a temporary hospital, where Kate nursed victims of a yellow fever epidemic. A strong supporter of the Confederacy, Kate traveled through enemy fire to provide food to Lt. Dick Dowling's troops during the Battle of Sabine Pass in 1863. (1990)

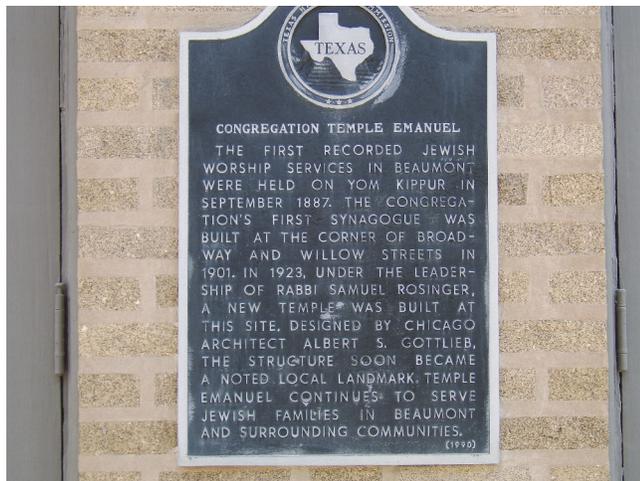
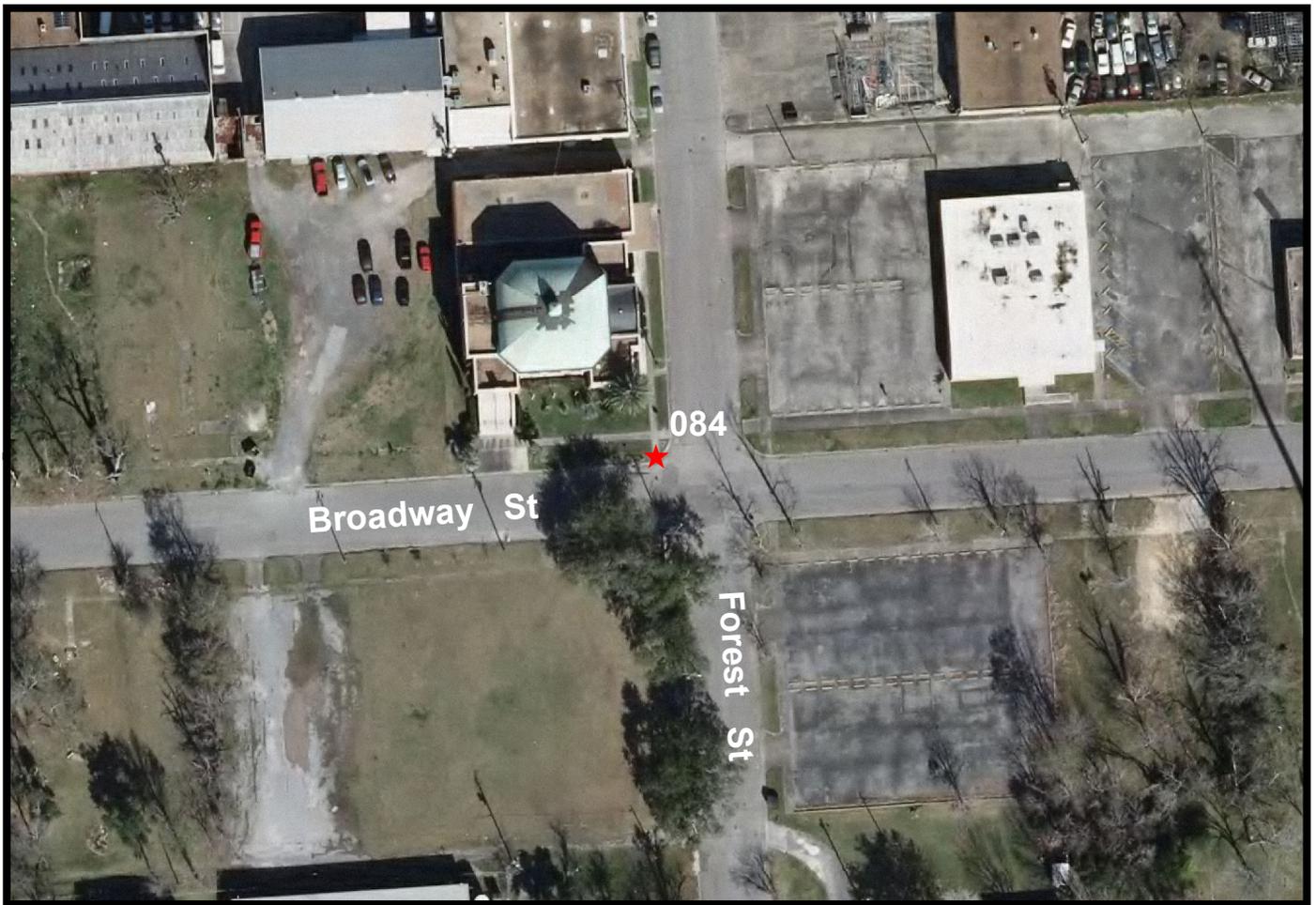


**County ID#: 083**  
**State ID#: 10555**  
**Title: Rainbow Bridge**  
**Year Established: 1990**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 415682**  
**UTM North: 3315562**



1 inch = 100 feet

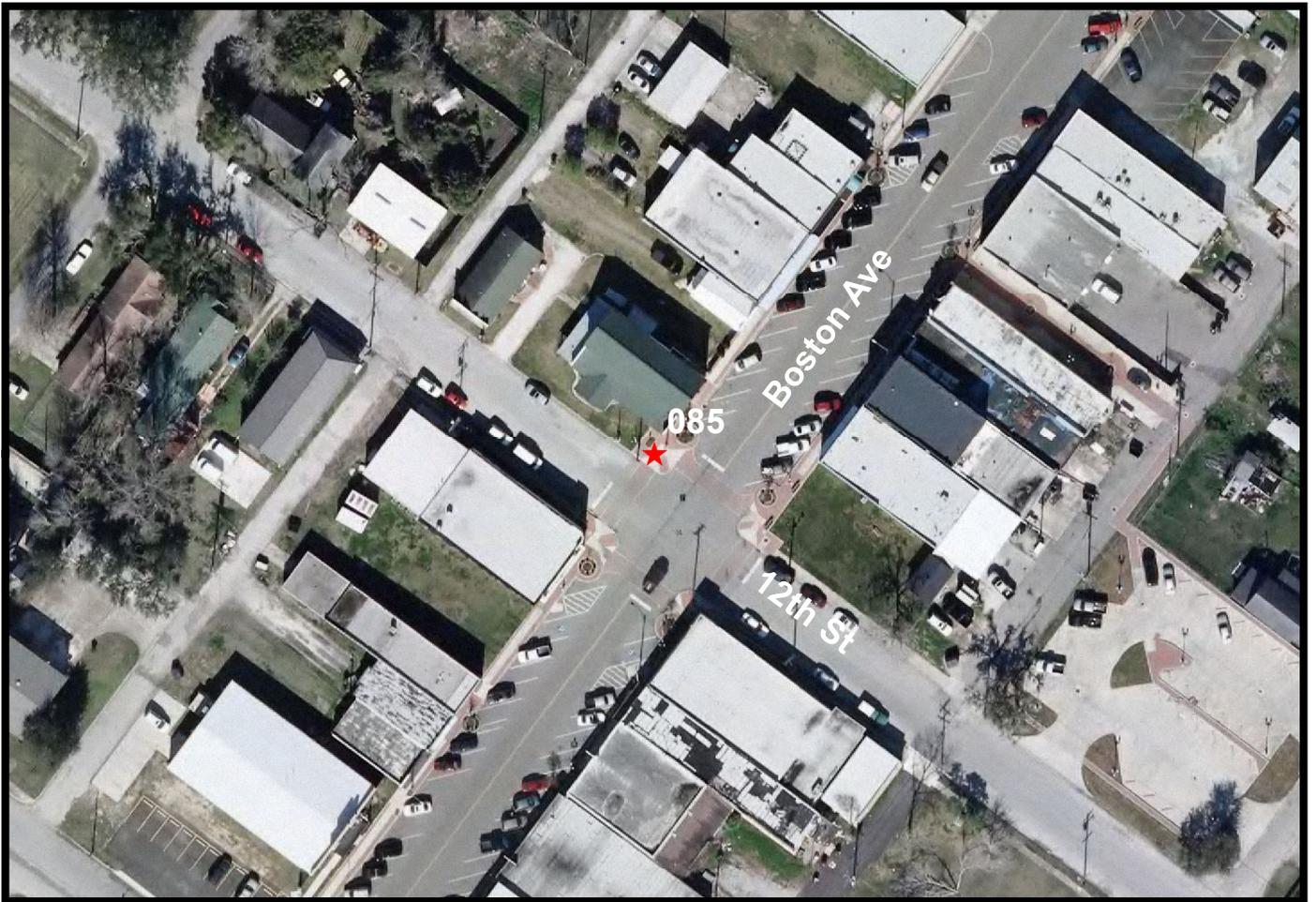
**Description:** The rapid growth of the petrochemical industry in Jefferson and Orange counties in the early 20th century led to increased population in this area. In order to serve escalating transportation needs, plans began in the 1920s for the construction of a bridge to span the Neches River. Due to the depressed economy and differences of opinion among business leaders, the campaign to build the bridge (led by the Port Arthur "News" and American Legion Post No. 7) lasted for seven years. In 1934 Gov. Miriam A. Ferguson signed a special law to enable county bond and Federal Public Works Administration funds to pay for state highway bridge construction. The project engineer, G. G. Wickline, used innovative techniques to design a bridge that would cross 7,742 feet of marshy terrain and river bottom. The bridge's 680-foot central span, designed to clear a Navy ship carrying a moored dirigible, was, at 176 feet, the world's highest elevated roadbed over tidal waters. The final cost of the bridge was \$2,750,000. Its dedication on September 8, 1938, drew huge crowds and was a major local event. In a 1957 contest sponsored by the North Port Arthur Lions Club, it was named "Rainbow Bridge."



**County ID#: 084**  
**State ID#: 10503**  
**Title: Congregation Temple Emanuel**  
**Year Established: 1990**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 392161**  
**UTM North: 3328592**



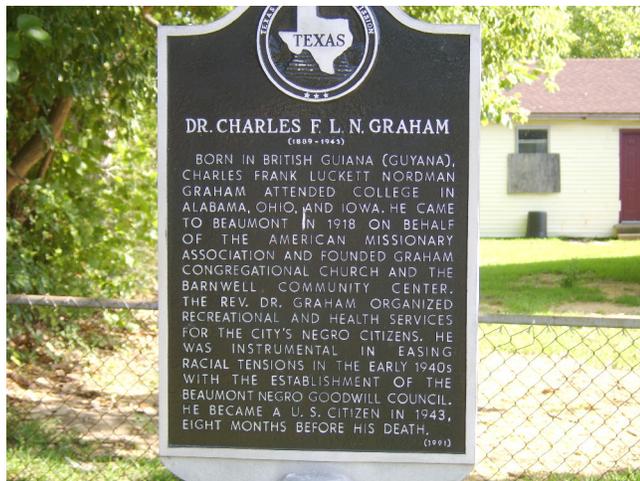
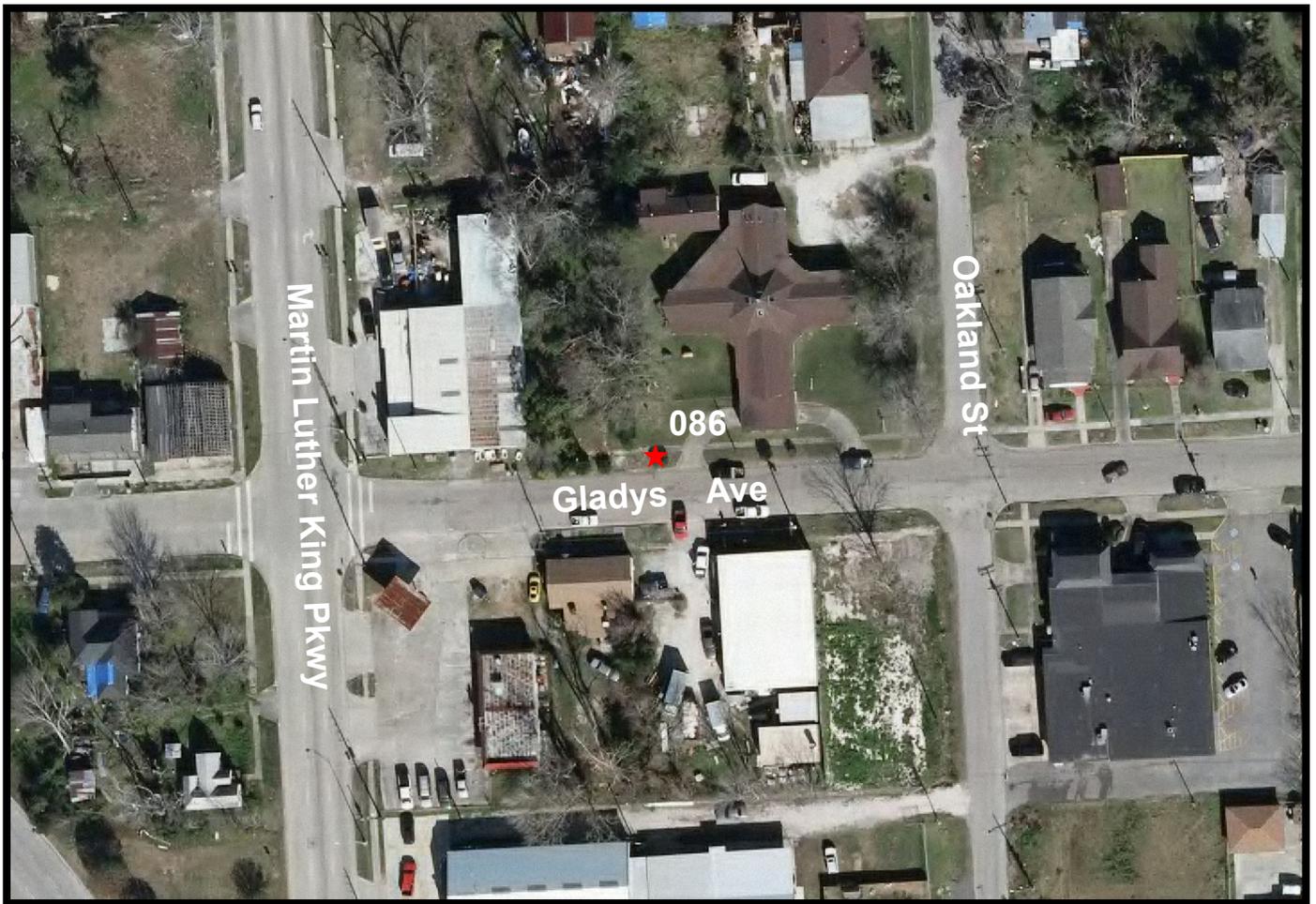
**Description:** The first recorded Jewish worship services in Beaumont were held on Yom Kippur in September 1887. The congregation's first synagogue was built at the corner of Broadway and willow streets in 1901. In 1923, under the leadership of Rabbi Samuel Rosinger, a new temple was built at this site. Designed by Chicago architect Albert s. Gottlieb, the structure soon became a noted local landmark. Temple Emanuel continues to serve Jewish families in Beaumont and surrounding communities.



**County ID#: 085**  
**State ID#: 10520**  
**Title: Site of First Mercantile Building**  
**Year Established: 1991**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 404505**  
**UTM North: 3316392**



Description: As agent for the Port Arthur Land Company, Dutch immigrant G. W. Kilsdonk, Jr., worked to encourage people from his native Holland to settle in this area in the late 1890s. He built a number of businesses to serve the developing community, including a two-story mercantile store at this site. In addition to its function as a supply center, the Mercantile building also served as a community gathering place and meeting hall for many organizations, businesses, churches, and social groups. The original Mercantile building was destroyed by fire in 1909.

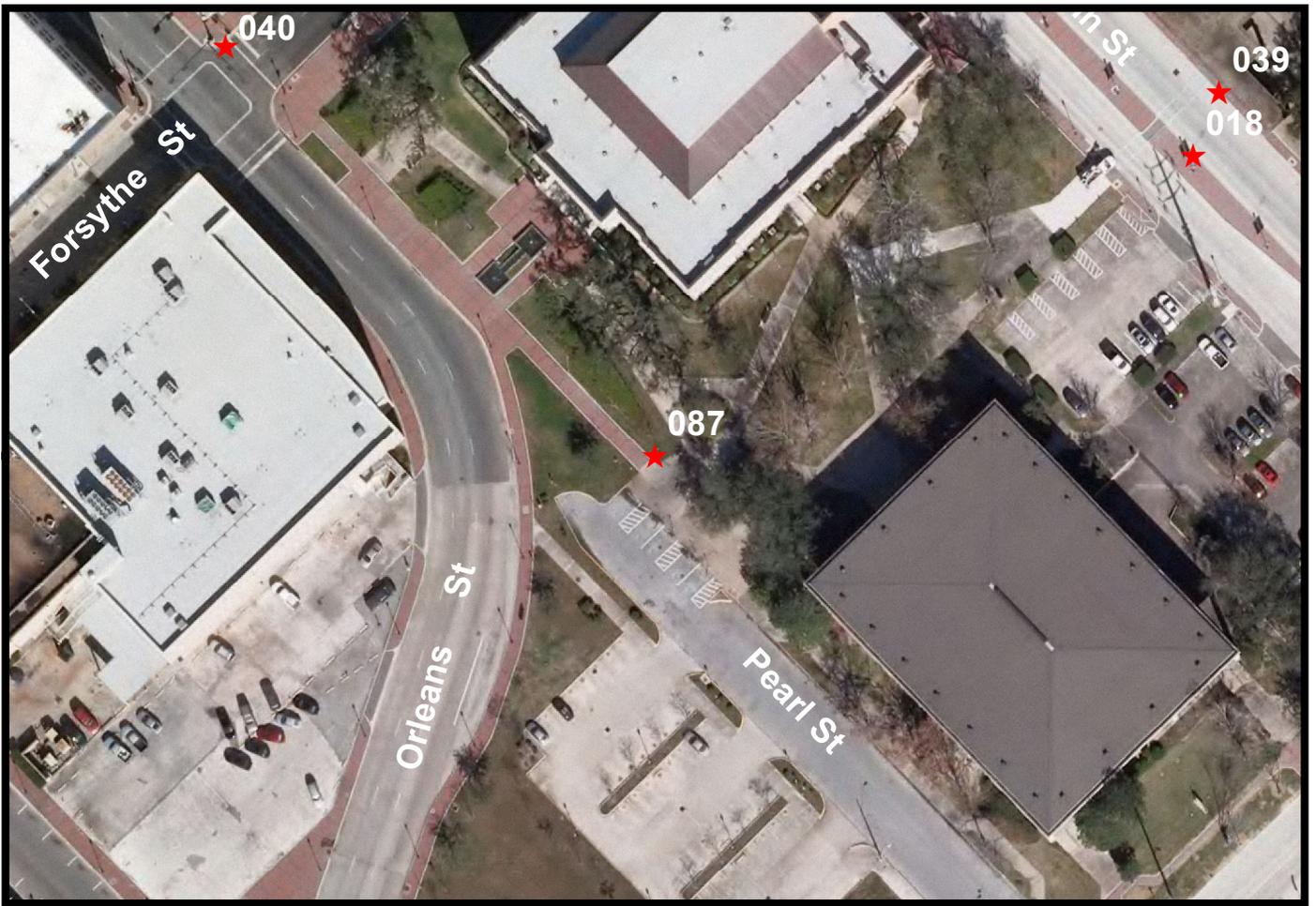


**County ID#: 086**  
**State ID#: 10531**  
**Title: Dr. Charles F. L. N. Graham**  
**Year Established: 1991**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 392995**  
**UTM North: 3329547**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (1889-1943) Born in British Guiana (Guyana), Charles Frank Lockett Nordman Graham attended college in Alabama, Ohio, and Iowa. He came to Beaumont in 1918 on behalf of the American Missionary Association and founded Graham Congregational Church and the Barnwell Community Center. The Rev. Dr. Graham organized recreational and health services for the city's Negro citizens. He was instrumental in easing racial tensions in the early 1940s with the establishment of the Beaumont Negro Goodwill Council. He became a U. S. citizen in 1943, eight months before his death.

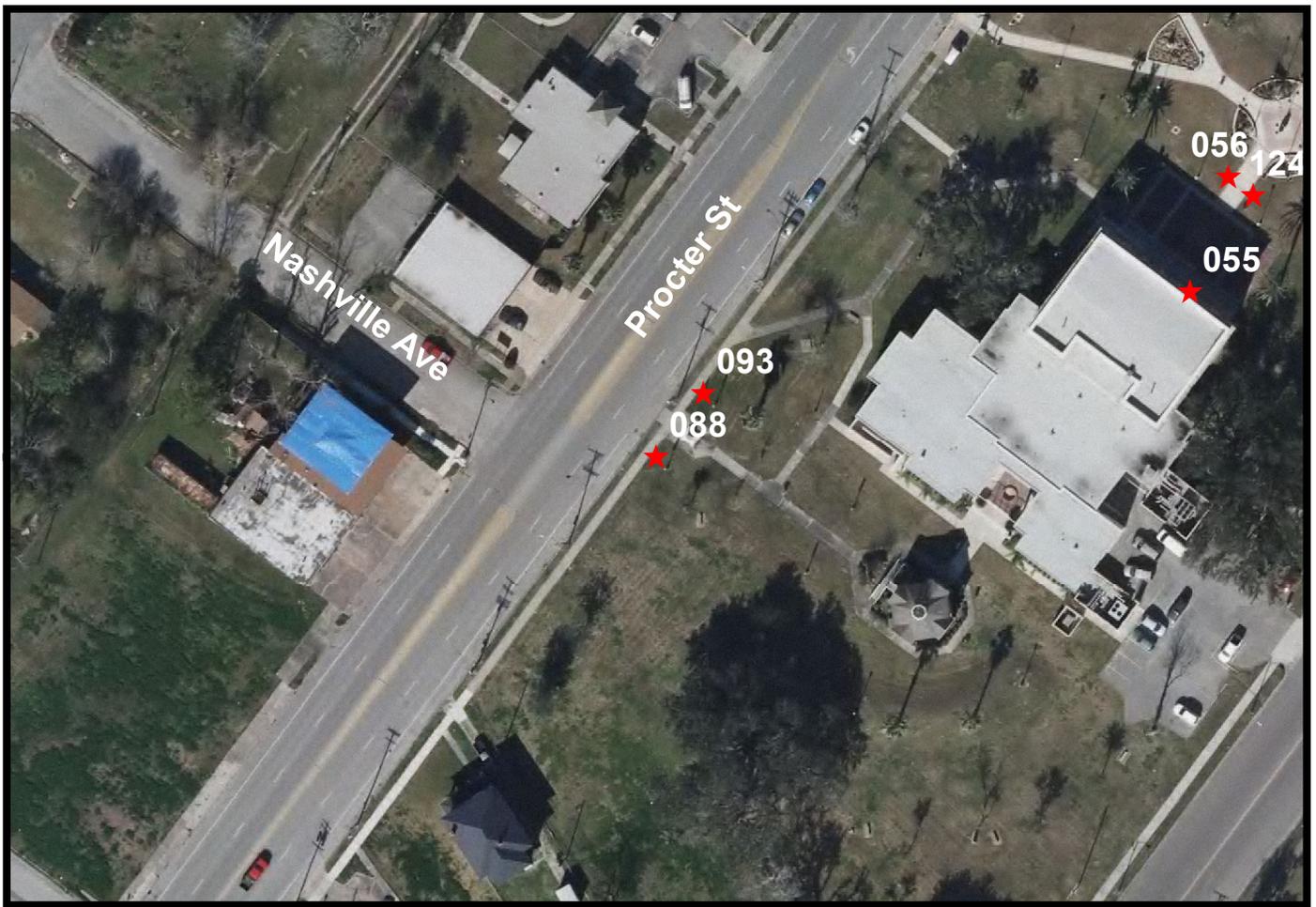


**County ID#:** 087  
**State ID#:** 10544  
**Title:** Henry Millard  
**Year Established:** 1991  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 394401  
**UTM North:** 3328286



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** A native of Saratoga County, New York, Henry Millard moved to Missouri with his family while still a child. As a young man he moved to Natchez, Mississippi, where in 1826 he married Mary Warren Beaumont. While living in Natchez they became the parents of two sons, and Millard opened a mercantile business with his brother-in-law, Franklin Beaumont. The family relocated to New Orleans in 1832, and Millard went into partnership in a drugstore with Samuel Mason. After his partner's death in 1833 and his wife's death in 1834, Millard migrated to Texas in 1835. With his new partner, J.P. Pulsifer, he bought land along the Neches River between the settlements of Santa Anna and Tevis Bluff. He laid out a townsite and named it Beaumont, his wife's maiden name. Embracing the political life of his new homeland, Millard served as a delegate to the Consultation of 1835 and, as a Lt. Colonel in the Texas Army, commanded infantry at the Battle of San Jacinto. He later served as chief justice, alderman, and justice of the peace in Beaumont and Jefferson County, as well as tax assessor in Galveston after his move there in 1842. He died in Galveston in August 1844 and was buried there in the Episcopal Cemetery.

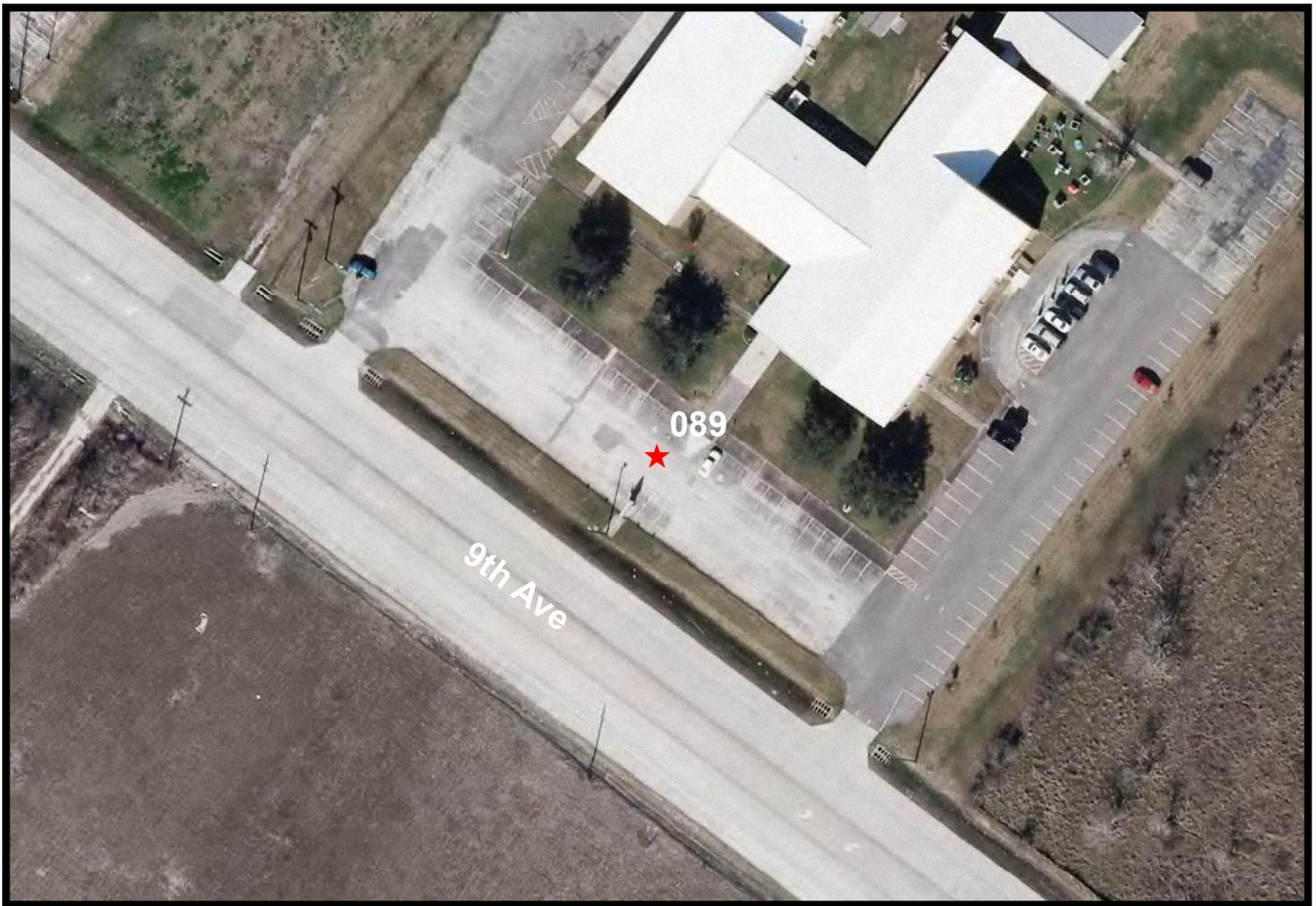


**County ID#: 088**  
**State ID#: 10539**  
**Title: Lakeshore/Lions Park**  
**Year Established: 1991**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410421**  
**UTM North: 3305728**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The Port Arthur Townsite Company, planning the layout of Port Arthur in 1898, set aside Lakeshore Park along the Sabine Lake shoreline. In 1920 a portion of the park was named Lions Park in honor of the Lions Club members who made numerous improvements there. Through the years, the Lions Club provided playground equipment, water fountains, landscaping, picnic tables, and a two-story southern colonial style bandstand. The bandstand in the center of the park became a focal point of community social, political and recreational activities. The park was an especially popular gathering place for citizens of all ages during the long, hot summer months. Texas Senator (and future governor) Allan Shivers, campaigning successfully for reelection in 1938, appeared at political rallies in the park. W. Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel, successful candidate for Governor of Texas that same year, and his band, the Light Crust Doughboys, also appeared in a rally at the park. City records indicate that the bandstand was razed in 1954. The park was donated to Lamar University, Port Arthur in September 1989 and has become a focal point of Lamar's campus.



**County ID#: 089**

**State ID#: 10519**

**Title: First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Port Arthur**

**Year Established: 1992**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 407539**

**UTM North: 3311910**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: This congregation traces its history to 1898, when a small group of people began meeting informally for Bible studies. In 1904, under the leadership of B. J. Waugh, First Christian Church was chartered with 72 members. Services were held regularly in various locations until 1906, when a small wooden tabernacle was built at 620 Fifth Street. It was replaced by a modern brick structure in 1915. The church has since relocated twice to better serve its growing membership and continues to serve the community with a variety of ministries.

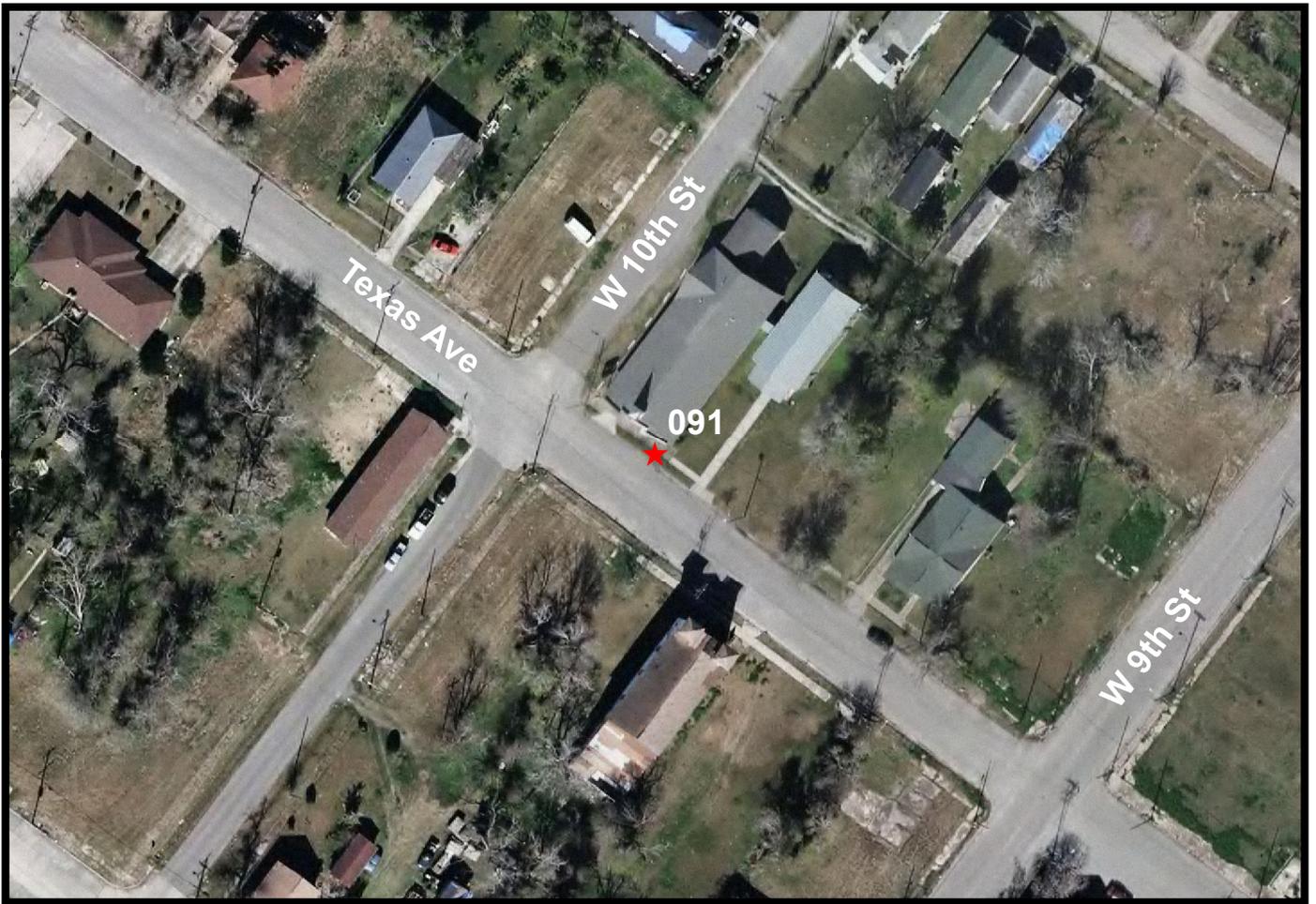


**County ID#: 090**  
**State ID#: 15062**  
**Title: Site of Santa Anna**  
**Year Established: 1992**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 396021**  
**UTM North: 3326866**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The Santa Anna townsite was platted in 1835 by surveyor and land speculator David Brown of San Augustine County. It became the center of political and military activities for the area west of the Neches River to the present western boundary of Jefferson County, including southern Hardin County. Thomas Huling of Jasper and Henry Millard, later an officer in the Republic of Texas Army, owned a store in Santa Anna which they hired Joseph Pulsifer to manage. Pulsifer arrived on July 21, 1835, and in letters to his sister in Connecticut he recounted activities in this area before and after the Texas Revolution. His letters, a valuable written record of early Jefferson County history, referred to families living in the vicinity and the existence of two stores and a school building in Santa Anna. Following the Texas Revolution the boundary of Jefferson County was extended westward. The town of Beaumont, founded by Henry Millard, Nancy Tevis, and Joseph Grigsby, and consisting of only three houses in April 1836, was organized and became county seat. The growth of Beaumont, absentee land ownership, and the death of town founder David Brown in 1847 led to the demise of Santa Anna.



**County ID#: 091**  
**State ID#: 10535**  
**Title: Israel Chapel A. M. E. Church**  
**Year Established: 1993**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 408834**  
**UTM North: 3304734**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Frederick Shepherd, who helped the Rev. Napoleon Harris establish an African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) mission in nearby Sabine in 1902, founded this church at his Port Arthur home in 1903 with the Rev. Harris serving as pastor. The first sanctuary, built here in 1904 on property donated by the Port Arthur Townsite and Land Company, also housed the area's first public school for African Americans. As membership expanded successively larger sanctuaries were built. The name Israel Chapel A.M.E. Church was officially recorded in 1959. The church continues to serve the community.

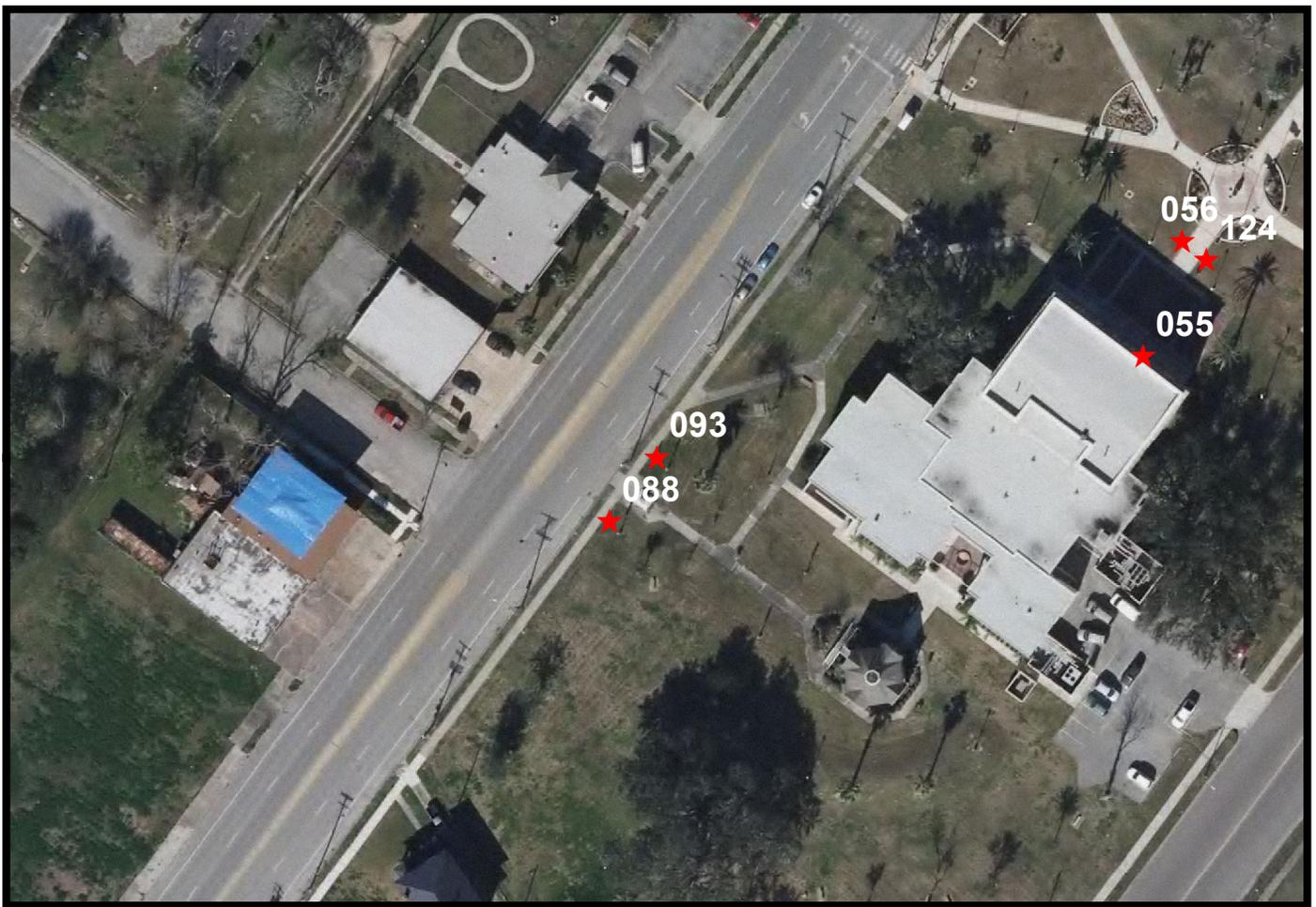


**County ID#: 092**  
**State ID#: 10518**  
**Title: First Christian Church of Beaumont**  
**Year Established: 1994**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 389099**  
**UTM North: 3328326**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Dallas evangelist A. J. Bush heeded the call of a local group of Christians and conducted a number of religious meetings in the area in 1894. A structure donated by a local Episcopal church was relocated and used as a sanctuary for First Christian Church beginning in 1899. First Christian's Ladies Aid Society helped raise funds to erect a new church building at a nearby site in 1904. Growth in church membership prompted the building of a new sanctuary/fellowship hall and other facilities here in 1962. The church helped establish and nurture Beaumont's Washington Blvd. Christian Church, Northwood Christian Church, and University Christian Church. Camp Wildurr, a youth camp developed by the congregation on 50 acres in 1955-56, was donated to the Texas Association of Christian Churches. The camp later was acquired by the Beaumont Independent School District. During the 1960s and 1970s the church organized a Mother's Day Out program; a Meals for the Elderly project; and helped establish an interfaith preaching series and "Some Other Place," an outreach program providing food, clothing, and other help to the needy. The congregation continues to provide spiritual guidance for the religious community of Beaumont.



**County ID#: 093**  
**State ID#: 10572**  
**Title: Arthur Edward Stilwell**  
**Year Established: 1994**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410421**  
**UTM North: 3305728**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Son of Charles H. and Mary Stilwell, was born on October 21, 1859, in Rochester, New York. Young Arthur was greatly influenced by his grandfather, railroad builder Hamlin Stilwell, and according to family tradition vowed to be a railroad builder himself one day. He married Virginian Jennie A. Wood in 1879 and after many business successes set his sights on building a railroad system from the farming region of the midwestern U.S. to the Texas Gulf Coast. Stilwell established the town of Port Arthur here on 4,000 acres in 1895. He later extended the Kansas City, Pittsburg, and Gulf Railroad from Shreveport south through western Louisiana to its terminus at Port Arthur. To promote settlement of the area Stilwell established a successful experimental farm, drilled water wells, and built a hotel, indoor swimming pool, and pleasure pier. In 1897 Port Arthur contained about 1,100 inhabitants. by 1900 Stilwell had completed a canal from Mesquite Point (7 miles south at Sabine Pass) to substantial port facilities at Port Arthur. By fulfilling a childhood dream Arthur Stilwell not only founded the town of Port Arthur but in large measure laid the foundation for its future prosperity. Stilwell died on September 26, 1928, and was cremated. Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845 - 1995



**County ID#: 094**  
**State ID#: 10528**  
**Title: Jacob Harmon Garner**  
**Year Established: 1993**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 412505**  
**UTM North: 3287876**

**Description:** (1814-1887) Louisiana native Jacob H. Garner, son of Bradley and Sarah Harmon Garner, settled in Jefferson, a village on Cow Bayou in present-day Orange County, Texas, in 1825. In 1835 he took part in the Grass Fight and Siege of Bexar while serving one of two enlistments in the Texas Army for which he later received land and bounty grants. He married Matilda Hayes in 1838. A prominent citizen of Jefferson County, he served as Jefferson County justice of the peace in 1843, district clerk from 1846 to 1850, Sabine Pass alderman in 1857, and as a third lieutenant in the Confederate Army in 1861. Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845 - 1995



**County ID#:** 095  
**State ID#:** 10563  
**Title:** Niles F. Smith  
**Year Established:** 1994  
**Marker Size:** 18" x 28"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 412505  
**UTM North:** 3287876

**Description:** A native of New York, came to Texas with Robertson's colony in 1834. He served as a soldier in the Texas Revolution. In 1839 he moved to Jefferson County, and settled in Sabine Pass in 1841. He held many official positions in the Republic of Texas government, including the first banking commissioner, collector of customs and land agent. A developer of Sabine Pass, he built the first steam sawmill and the first church in Jefferson County. Smith supported the annexation of Texas to the United States in 1845. He is buried here along with his wife Abigail and their two sons.  
Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845 - 1995



**County ID#: 096**  
**State ID#: 10579**  
**Title: Vuylstekke House**  
**Year Established: 1996**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 410781**  
**UTM North: 3306085**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Born in Rotterdam, Holland, Adrianus Jacobus Maria Vuylstekke (1873-1912) immigrated to the U. S. in 1893. In 1894-96 he moved to Texas and helped plat the town of Port Arthur. Following his marriage to Nettie Minerva White in 1898, they settled in Port Arthur. Vuylstekke was an agent for various shipping lines and assistant secretary of the American Land and Oil Company. In 1903 he was appointed Dutch Vice-Consul in Port Arthur, and Dutch Consul in 1906, both by royal decree of the Netherlands. Built for the Vuylstekke family in 1905, this house was constructed by J. E. Alexander in about 75 days. Reflecting the Dutch heritage of its original owner, the colonial revival style house features a full width balustraded porch with classical columns, a pedimented entry bay, centered dormers, and pilasters that articulate the corners of the building. The Vuylstekkes sold the house in 1908 to John W. Tryon, mayor of Port Arthur from 1917 to 1921. Subsequent owners Howard and Olive Fuss moved the home in 1939 to this location. Later remodeled into apartments, it gradually deteriorated and was vacant. The home was purchased by the Port Arthur College Foundation in 1980 and restored by 1986. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1996



**County ID#: 097**  
**State ID#: 10507**  
**Title: Kate Dorman**  
**Year Established: 1997**  
**Marker Size: Grave Marker**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 412505**  
**UTM North: 3287876**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (1828-1897) Georgia native Kate Dorman and her husband Arthur McGill owned the Catfish Hotel at Sabine Pass as early as 1847. McGill died in an accident in 1858, and in 1859 Kate married John Dorman. In 1862 the Catfish Hotel became a temporary hospital, and Kate nursed victims of a yellow fever epidemic. A strong supporter of the Confederacy, Kate Dorman assisted Lt. Dick Dowling's troops the day of the Battle of Sabine Pass in September 1863.

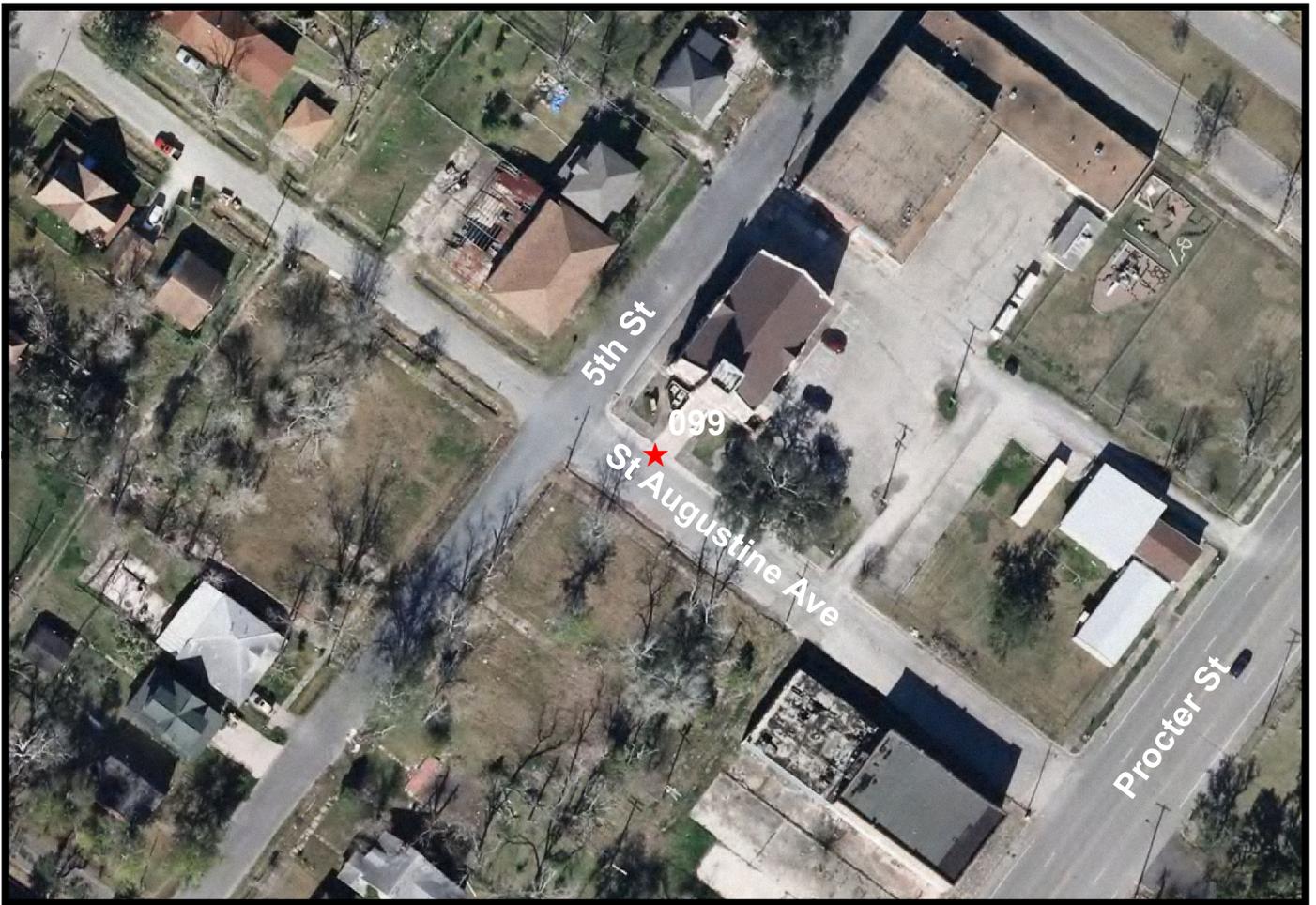


**County ID#: 098**  
**State ID#: 11949**  
**Title: Sabine Pass Cemetery**  
**Year Established: 1999**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The oldest continually used cemetery in Jefferson County, This graveyard has served the citizens of the Sabine Pass area since the 1840s. The earliest documented grave is that of a 12-year-old John A. Dashiell, son of William V.C. and Mary Dashiell, who died on August 27, 1847. The large site now known as Sabine Pass Cemetery represents a combination of five formerly distinct burial grounds. Included in what was once called "The Colored Peoples Cemetery" is the unmarked grave of 108-year-old Louis Williams. Born a slave in Mississippi in 1813, Williams died on June 23, 1921. Among the burials in this historic graveyard are those of many distinguished military veterans. Able Coffin (1792-1862) and Burwell Jackson (1783-1864) fought in the War of 1812. Jacob Harmon Garner (1814-1887), Benjamin Johnson (1815-1872) and Niles F. Smith (1800-1858) were Texas Revolution veterans. Soldiers and sailors from both the Union and Confederate forces of the Civil War also are interred here. The two Union sailors Patrick Ferlin and Albert W. Marshall, died of wounds sustained during the offshore naval encounter on January 21, 1863, while serving on the ship Morning Light. A number of Confederate veterans rest in the cemetery, as does Kate Dorman, dubbed "the heroine of Sabine Pass" for her assistance of the southern troops. A number of graves have been specially marked with military or state historical markers. Maintained by Jefferson County and cared for by local volunteer organizations, the Sabine Pass Cemetery remains in use by citizens of the area. Its historic gravestones and monuments provide a unique component of the cultural history of Jefferson County.



**County ID#: 099**  
**State ID#: 11953**  
**Title: Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Year Established: 1999**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

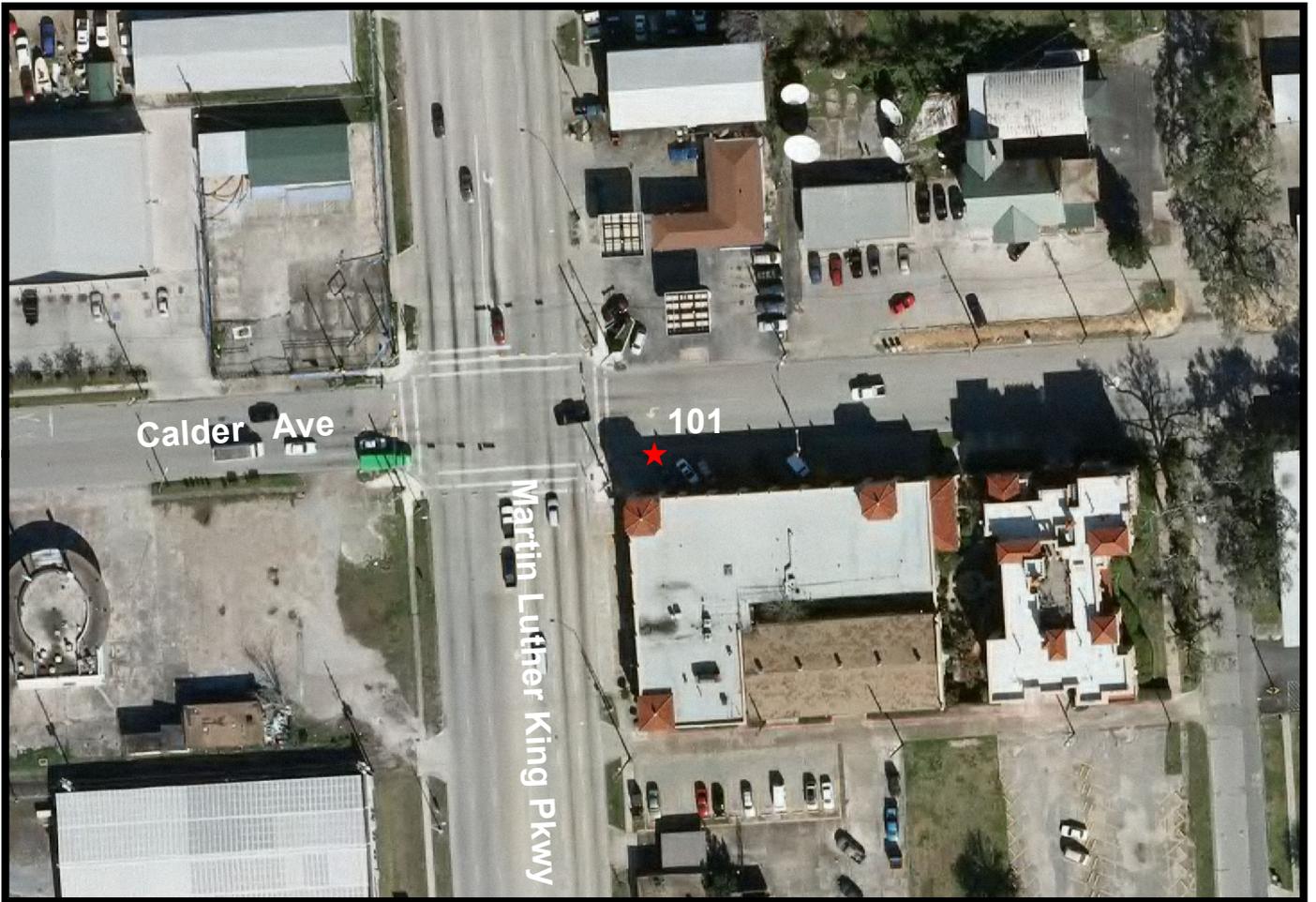
**Description:** Twelve people heard the Rev. C. G. Kuppler of Louisiana deliver the first German Lutheran sermon in this area in early 1899. The small group applied for a regular pastor; the Lutheran Mission Commission sent Dan Poellot, a theological student, who served about six months. In August 1899 Pastor Kuppler installed Concordia Seminary graduate H. C. Gaertner of New Orleans as pastor of the church in Port Arthur, and assigned him to minister to Lutherans in Beaumont and Orange as well. The Port Arthur congregation established a church constitution in 1899 and incorporated as "The Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession" in 1901. The church and its school burned in 1902, but the congregation rebuilt by 1903. The church membership doubled in size and was self-supporting by 1904. The industrialization following the Spindletop oil boom and during World War I caused Port Arthur to grow rapidly. A new building two miles from the old church was dedicated in 1924. The old structure became a mission, first attended by Trinity members who lived near the old site. It soon grew to become St. Paul Lutheran Church. Trinity helped organize more missions which became full churches: Good Shepard, Port Arthur, in 1947; St. Mark, Port Arthur, in 1950; and Holy Cross, Nederland, in 1957. Trinity's school enrollment declined in the 1980s with the wane of Port Arthur's oil industry. The school closed in 1987 after 85 years of operation, but the church initiated new programs and remains active. Hoi Thanh Tin Lanh, a mission for the growing Vietnamese population, was established in 1991.



**County ID#: 100**  
**State ID#: 11948**  
**Title: Presbyterian Church of the Covenant**  
**Year Established: 1999**  
**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



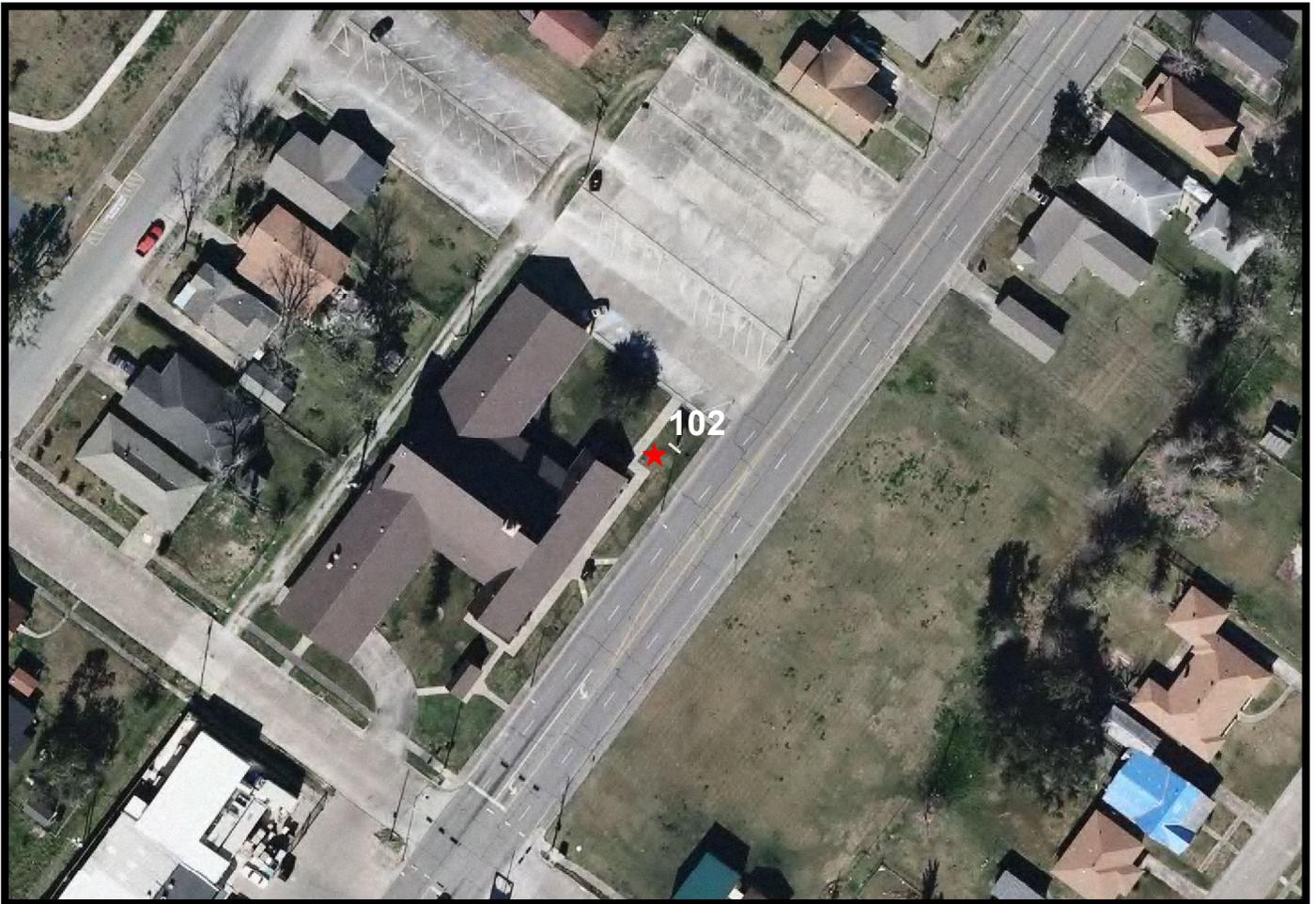
Description: The first Presbyterian Church of Port Arthur was organized with 18 charter members on February 18, 1900, by the Rev. F. E. Robbins of the First Presbyterian Church of Beaumont. The Port Arthur congregation called its own pastor the Rev. F. J. Pankey, in September. The Rev. W. A. Ziegler and 43 members established the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Port Arthur on October 19, 1924. The Rev. Frank W. Langham was called as first pastor. As both congregations grew, they each relocated to new facilities. In 1966 First Presbyterian Church dedicated a church building on this site. First Presbyterian and Westminster Presbyterian churches merged on April 8, 1979, adopting the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant. The congregation continues a tradition of worship, religious education and service.



**County ID#: 101**  
**State ID#: 11946**  
**Title: Mildred Buildings**  
**Year Established: 1999**  
**Marker Size: 16" x 12"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



Description: Constructed in 1929-1930 for \$700,000, this complex was built by Miles Frank Yount and named for his daughter. Yount was a founder and partner in the Yount-Lee Oil Company, which made its fortune in the second Spindletop Oil Boom in 1925. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, the complex includes an apartment building, commercial-retail building, and garage. The core of the complex is the three-story apartment building, featuring terra cotta glazed brick, projecting bays, hipped-roof porches, parapet walls, and a red tile roof. It is a fine example of the Mediterranean revival style in Texas. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1999

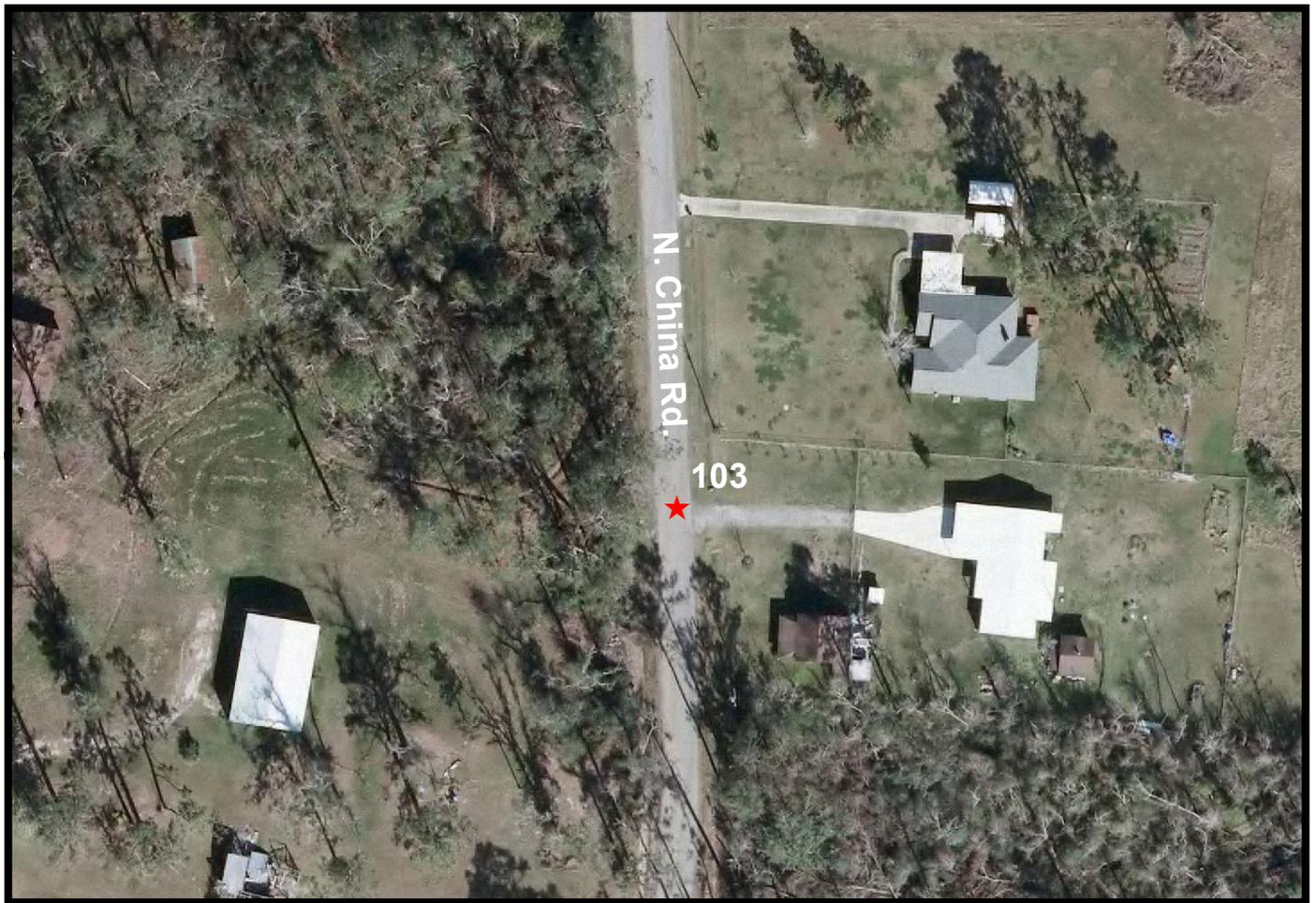


**County ID#: 102**  
**State ID#: 11947**  
**Title: New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**  
**Year Established: 1999**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** This congregation was first organized in early 1906 by the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, Nancy Copeland (Coplan), Laura Herbert and Sharlit Bill (Beal). As the local African American population grew, eleven more people joined the group. They called the Rev. A. D. Hendon as pastor and officially established the first Baptist church for African Americans in Port Arthur. They named the church New Hope Baptist Church. Church officers were Professor A. J. Criner, head of the Young People's Union and chairman of the deacon board, and W. M. Richardson, Sunday School superintendent. Early services were held in a horse stable which members cleared out on the weekends for church use. Other church programs included a woman's home mission society. The congregation erected its first building in 1909 during the pastorate of the Rev. J. E. Nelson, but it was destroyed by storms and flooding. The second building met the same fate, and many early church records were destroyed. This pattern continued for many years and was a common problem before the seawall was built in Port Arthur. The congregation cultivated a strong relationship with nearby Israel Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church and the two groups occasionally shared facilities. Another close bond was forged with West Tabernacle Baptist Church of Beaumont between 1910 and 1920 when the Rev. J. W. Williams served both churches simultaneously. The church thrived throughout the 20th century, calling pastors and repairing worship structures as needed. The congregation sponsored many community service efforts and was host to several community organizations. In 1982 a new sanctuary was dedicated. New Hope Baptist Church members continue to worship in the traditions of their founders. (2000) Incise on base: Officially Organized August 12, 1906



**County ID#: 103**

**State ID#: 11954**

**Title: Site of World War II Prisoner of War Camp**

**Year Established: 2000**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The reduction of the labor force in the United States during World War II prompted the use of prisoners of war as laborers for various agricultural interests. The responsibility of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University, the program in Jefferson County was supervised by J.M. Combs, county extension agent. Combs determined the farm labor needs of the county and analyzed the local labor supply to coordinate his efforts with those of the base P.O.W. camp in Huntsville. The camp at Huntsville, one of the largest base camps in Texas, opened early in 1943. Its first prisoners were members of Rommel's Afrika Korps who had been captured in north Africa. German prisoners came from the European theater of operations, as well. Temporary branch camps were established in areas such as China which were too distant from the base camp for daily round trips. The China branch camp opened in September 1944 on this site. The U.S. government leased the property from the Stanolind Oil & Gas Company. Local farmers and others wishing to use the day labor provided by prisoners picked them up at the camp in the morning and returned them each night. German soldiers performed general farm labor at twenty-five cents per hour and harvested rice for three dollars a day. They also worked as loggers. In January 1945 there were 148 prisoners at the China camp. At its peak in August 1945, the camp housed 403 prisoners. The China camp was open only 15 months. It closed in December 1945 and its 350 prisoners returned to Huntsville, then eventually to Germany. At the dawn of the 21st century the only remnant of the China base camp was the water well.



**County ID#: 104**

**State ID#: 12334**

**Title: Texas Company Refinery at Port Arthur  
(Port Arthur Works)**

**Year Established: 2000**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

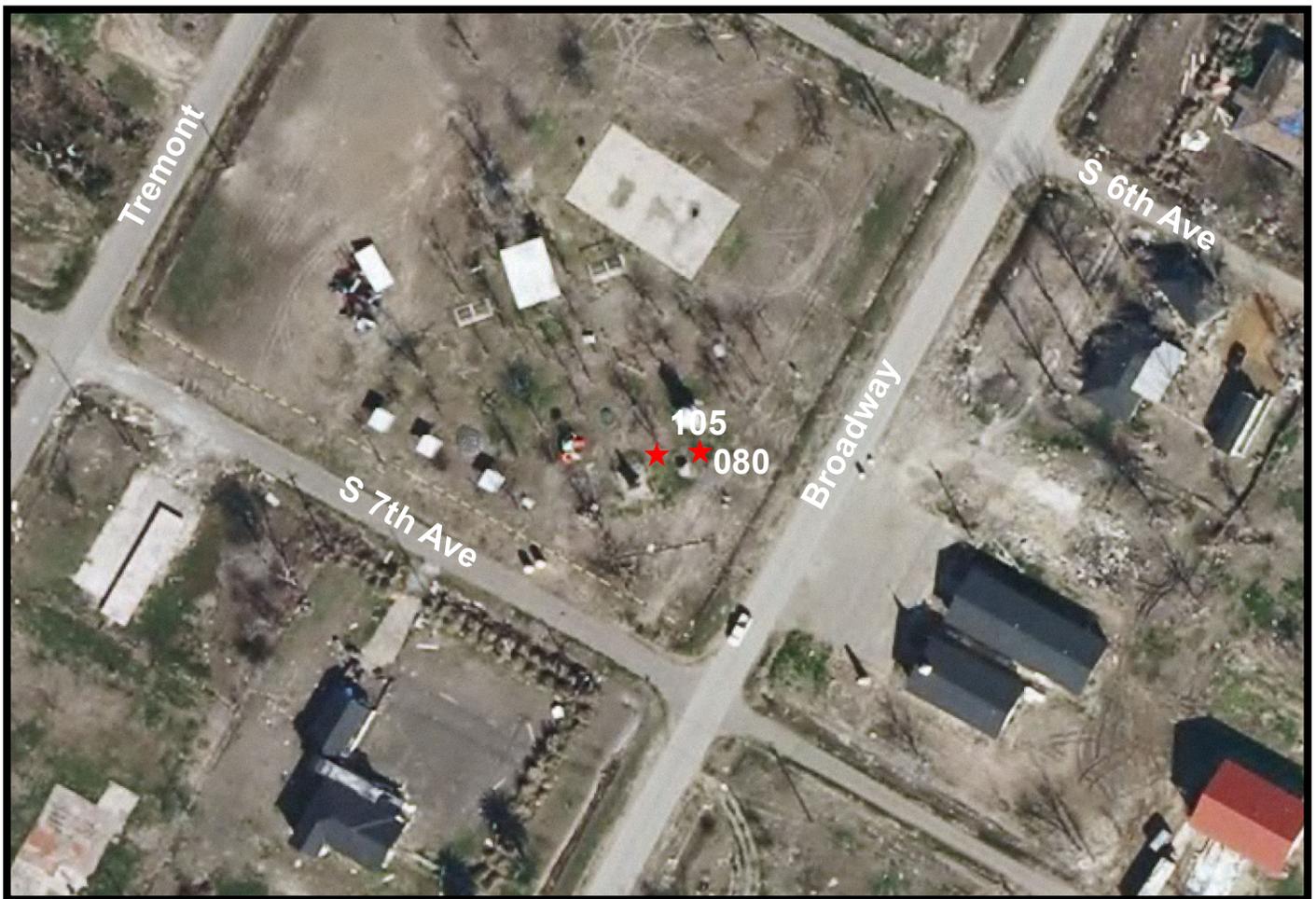
**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The Beaumont-Port Arthur area was booming at the turn of the 20th century after the January 10, 1901, discovery of oil at Spindletop. The Texas Fuel Company was formed on March 28, 1901, by J. S. Cullinan, a Pennsylvania oilman and veteran of the Corsicana fields; Arnold Schlaet, manager of the oil business of the New York-based Lapham Brothers; and former Texas governor James S. Hogg and his partner, J. W. Swayne. The company purchased a small tract of land on this site in February 1902, and was reorganized as the Texas Company in April. The Port Arthur Works began operations with two tar stills in April 1903. The refinery's first crude still started on Nov. 13, 1903, producing 1,000 barrels per day, primarily of fuel oil. Kerosene and gasoline were manufactured beginning in 1904. Such innovations as the thermal cracking process, which increased the quantity of gasoline produced from a barrel of crude oil, were perfected here. By the end of 1940, the Port Arthur Works had grown to about 5,000 acres and 3,897 employees. It processed 35,214,000 barrels of crude in 1941. The Texas Company participated in the World War II effort by exchanging technologies with other oil and gas companies to perfect the new fluid catalytic cracking process to produce high-octane gasoline and feedstock for the new synthetic rubber process. World War II also increased the requirements of all lubricating oils. The Texas Company became Texaco in 1959, and the Port Arthur plant grew throughout the second half of the 20th century as Texaco became one of the world's largest oil companies. It is the only surviving company of the many created during the Spindletop oil boom.



**County ID#: 105**

**State ID#: 12425**

**Title: 1886 Hurricane at Sabine Pass**

**Year Established: 2001**

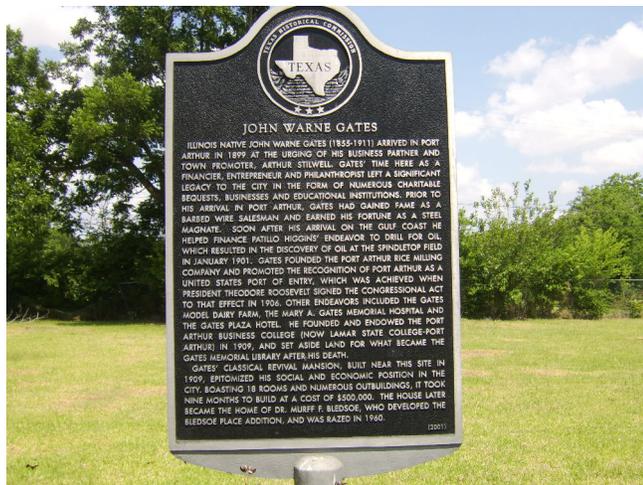
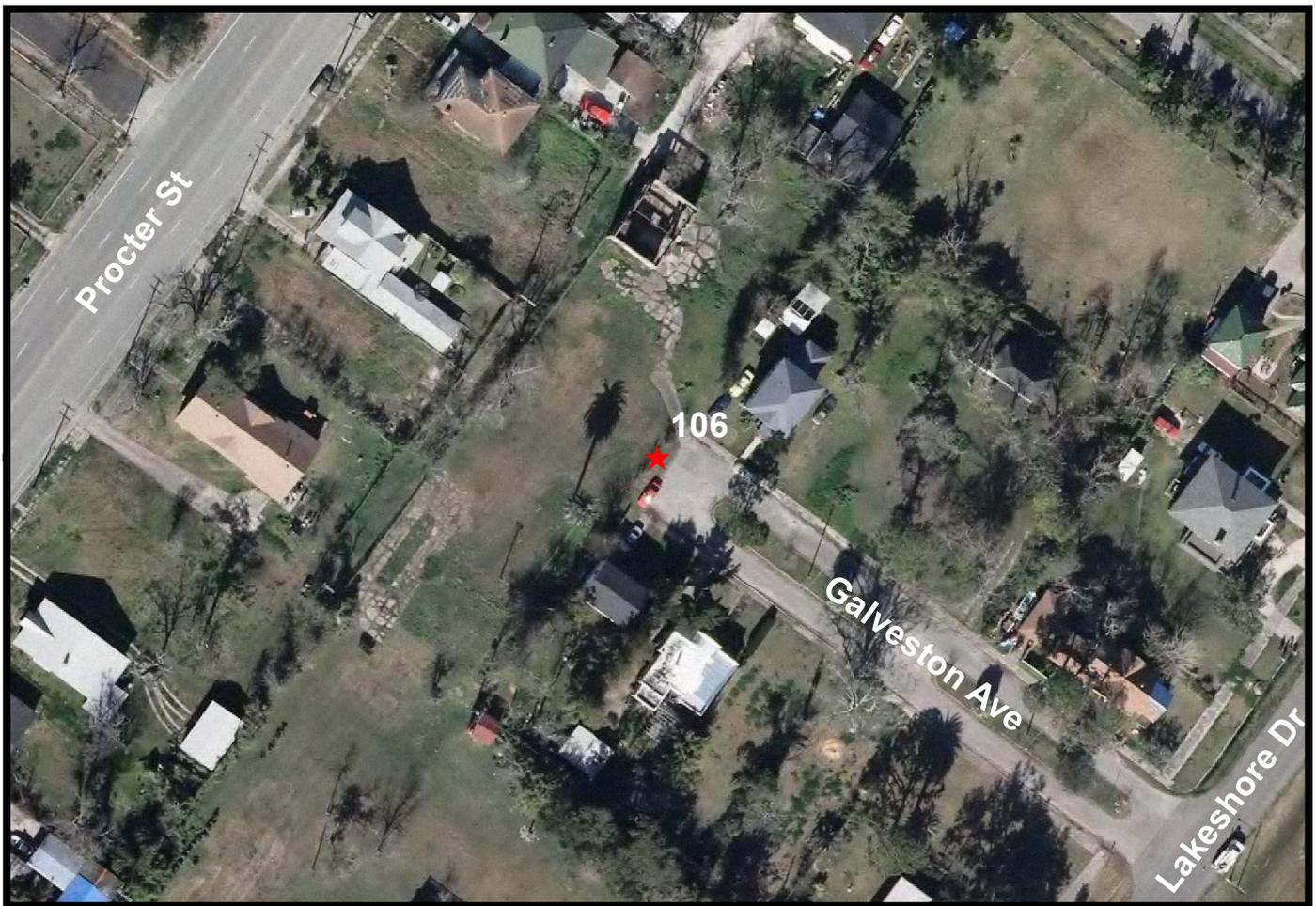
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**

**Description:** In October 1886, Sabine Pass was the second largest town in Jefferson County, boasting a new rail line and an optimistic outlook on continued growth as a major coastal port. On the afternoon of October 12, just two months after a hurricane had destroyed the Texas port of Indianola (200 mi. SW), a fierce storm ravaged the town of Sabine Pass. The hurricane's strength lay in its 100 mile-per-hour winds and the swiftly rising water that swept homes off their foundations and carried people and animals as far as 25 miles away. Eighty-six people, including entire families, were killed, and only two of 77 houses remained intact after the waters subsided. Stories of survival are documented as well, signifying the determination of residents to endure the storm. Rescue and cleanup efforts began promptly, with the citizens of Beaumont, Orange, Galveston, and Houston providing boats, rescue teams and financial assistance. Special legislative action provided tax relief for the storm-ravaged area, exempting citizens from payment of state and county taxes in 1886. As one of several difficulties Sabine Pass faced in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the 1886 hurricane contributed significantly to the town's decline in the years to come. (2001)

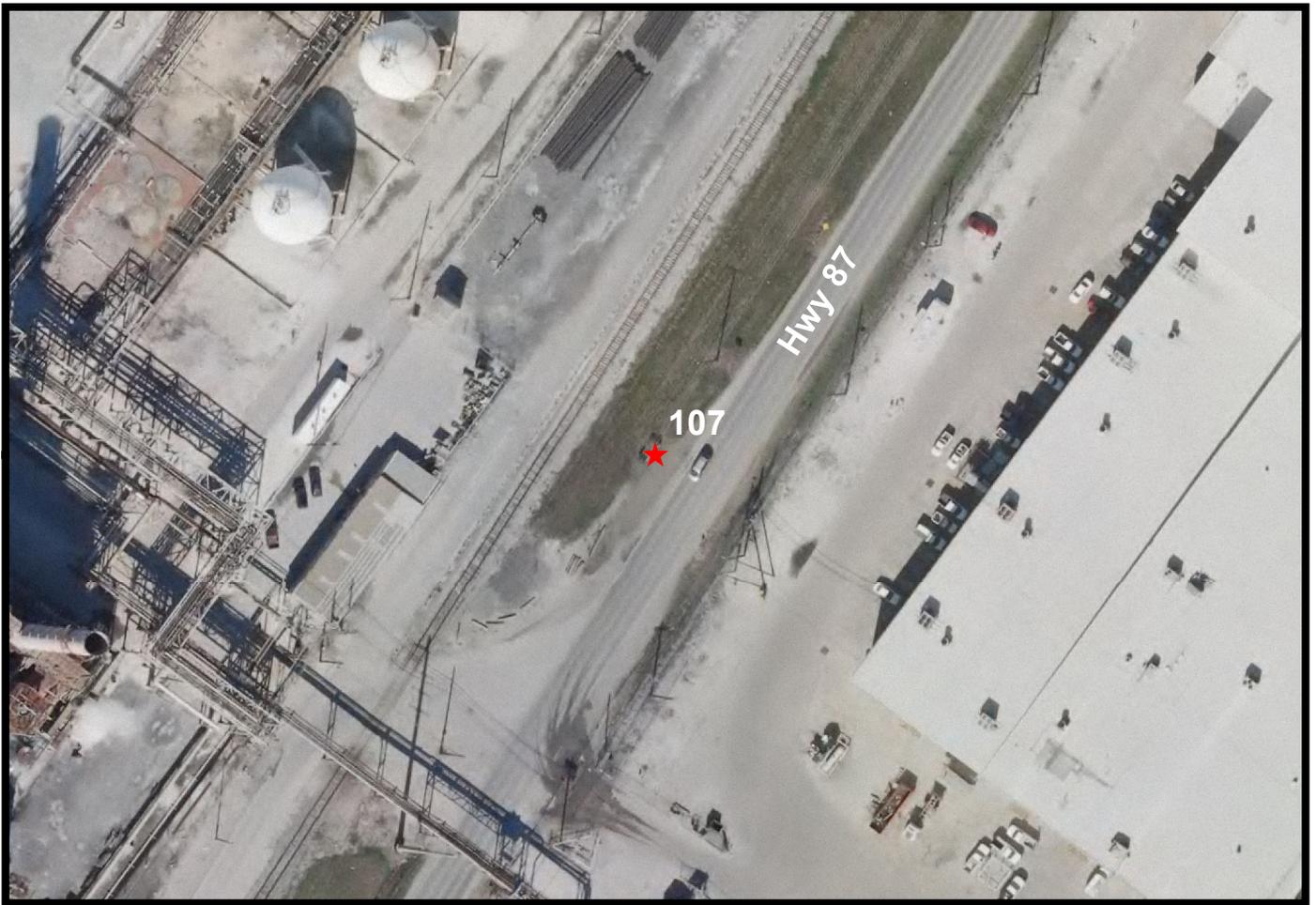


**County ID#: 106**  
**State ID#: 12501**  
**Title: John Warne Gates**  
**Year Established: 2001**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Illinois native John Warne Gates (1855-1911) arrived in Port Arthur in 1899 at the urging of his business partner and town promoter, Arthur Stilwell. Gates' time here as a financier, entrepreneur and philanthropist left a significant legacy to the city in the form of numerous charitable bequests, businesses and educational institutions. Prior to his arrival in Port Arthur, Gates had gained fame as a barbed wire salesman and earned his fortune as a steel magnate. Soon after his arrival on the Gulf Coast he helped finance Patillo Higgins' endeavor to drill for oil, which resulted in the discovery of oil at the Spindletop field in January 1901. Gates founded the Port Arthur Rice Milling Company and promoted the recognition of Port Arthur as a United States port of entry, which was achieved when President Theodore Roosevelt signed the congressional act to that effect in 1906. Other endeavors included the Gates model dairy farm, the Mary A. Gates Memorial Hospital and the Gates Plaza Hotel. He founded and endowed the Port Arthur Business College (now Lamar State College - Port Arthur) in 1909, and set aside land for what became the Gates Memorial Library after his death. Gates' Classical Revival mansion, built near this site in 1909, epitomized his social and economic position in the city. Boasting 18 rooms and numerous outbuildings, it took nine months to build at a cost of \$500,000. The house later became the home of Dr. Murff F. Bledsoe, who developed the Bledsoe Place addition, and was razed in 1960. (2001)

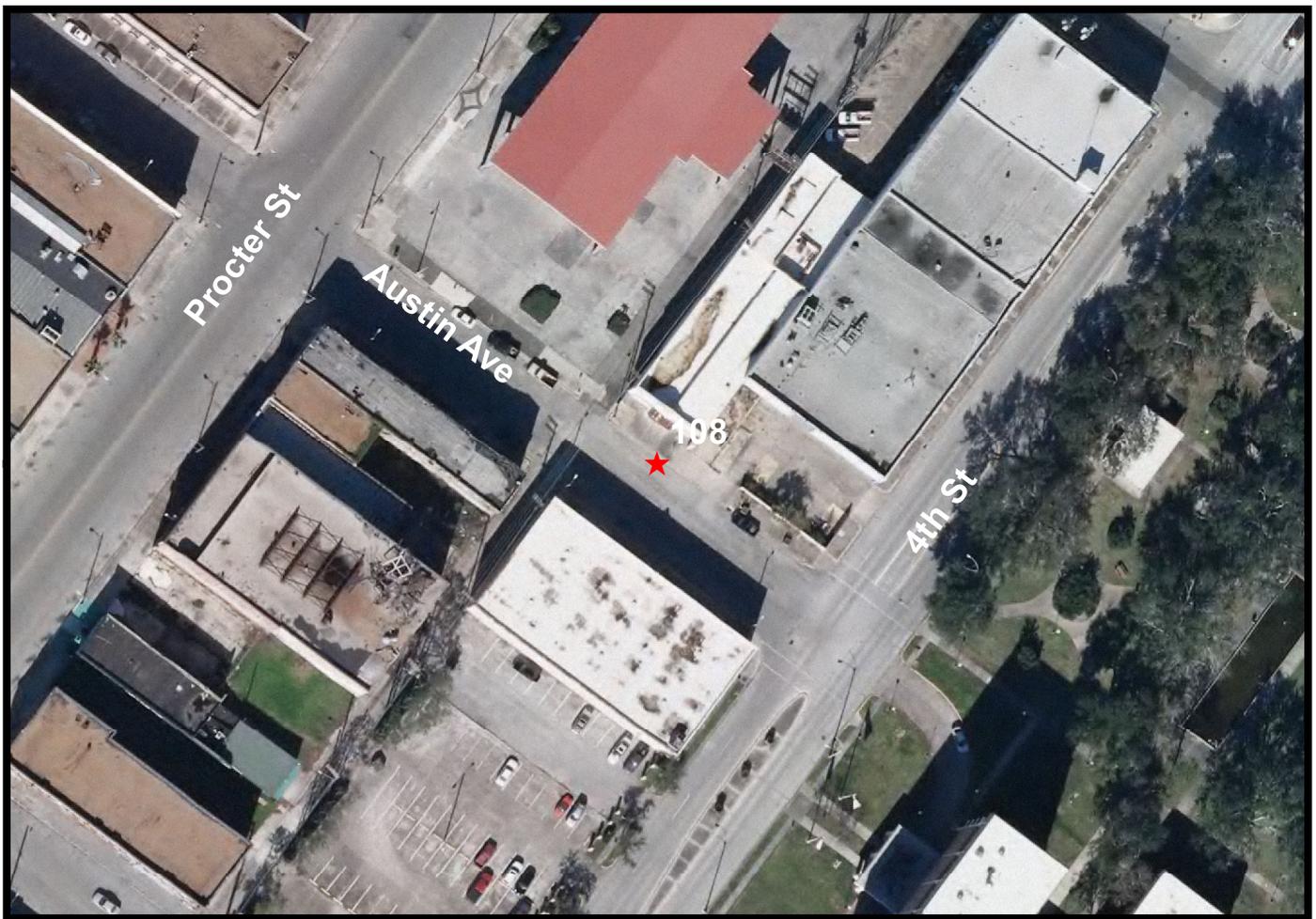


**County ID#:** 107  
**State ID#:** 10562  
**Title:** The Port Arthur Refinery  
**Year Established:** 2001  
**Marker Size:** 18" x 28"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** The eruption of the Lucas Gusher at the Spindletop Oil Field in January 1901 established Texas as a major oil source and signaled the beginning of a significant economic boom to the state. The new town of Port Arthur benefited tremendously from its proximity to the oil field. In early 1901, a consortium of men from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, formed the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company to finance and develop an industry for the oil from its Spindletop leases. In need of refining facilities and a sales organization, the consortium chartered the Gulf Refining Company on November 10, 1901, and built a refinery at Port Arthur for the purpose of making the crude oil into a usable commodity. Early products of the refining company included gasoline, kerosene and engine oil. In 1907, assets of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum and Gulf Refining companies were merged into the Gulf Oil Corporation. At the end of 1910, Port Arthur was the company's lone refinery until a second was built in Fort Worth the following year. Innovative production, refining and retailing techniques after World War I kept the company on solid economic footing. Expansion continued after World War II, and by 1955, Gulf Oil was the nation's largest producer of ethylene. By 1960, the Port Arthur facility was refining 270,000 barrels of crude oil per day into 600 different products. Gulf Oil became part of Chevron in 1984. In 1995, Clark Refining took ownership of the Port Arthur plant, and in 2000, Clark's name was changed to Premcor. Upholding an excellent safety record, the Port Arthur refinery has been a significant factor in the city's development as a major petrochemical center. (2001)

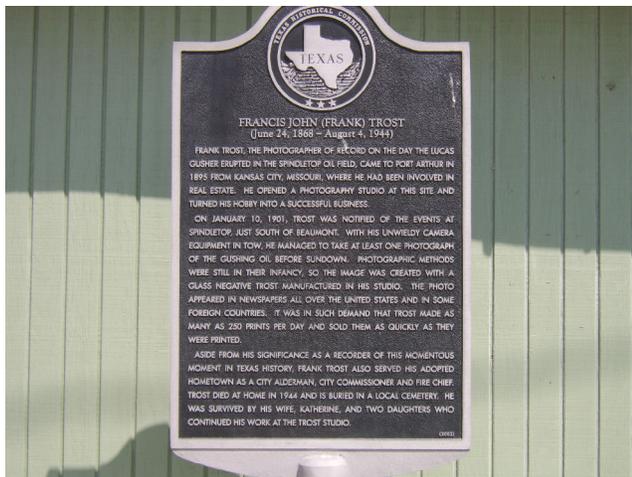
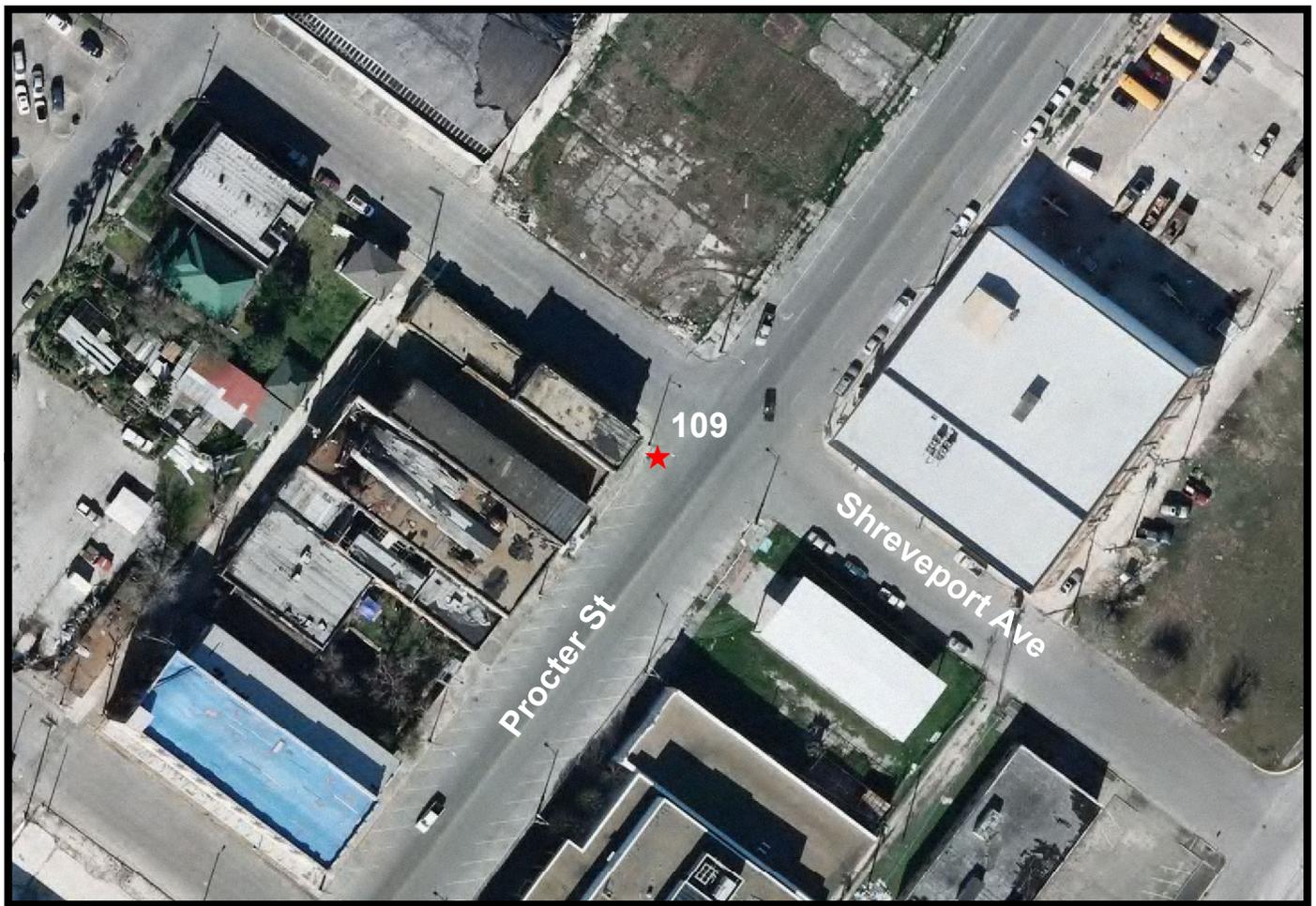


**County ID#: 108**  
**State ID#: 12783**  
**Title: Port Arthur-Beaumont Interurban Railway**  
**Year Established: 2001**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 409798**  
**UTM North: 3304662**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: "Port Arthur-Beaumont Interurban Railway Electric railways known as Interurbans existed in Texas from 1901 until the 1940s to provide frequent opportunities for the public to travel between urban centers. Interurban service between Beaumont and Port Arthur began on December 16, 1913, lasting until competition from automobiles and buses caused passenger use of the rail line to decline. The Jefferson County Traction Company and the Beaumont Traction Company, subsidiaries of the East Texas Electric Company, owned and operated the Port Arthur-Beaumont Interurban Railway. Tickets were 90 cents for a round trip. Passengers departed from Port Arthur at a terminal station and maintenance facility at this site and could board or get off the interurban at any of 10 stops along the route. The electric rail cars seated 48 people, but often there were many more on board. The cars could also be chartered for group trips and were popular for weekend excursions. The interurban service was used to evacuate Port Arthur citizens fleeing the 1915 hurricane until the high water caused a power failure. Some passengers were stranded in the cars for 12 hours. The last recorded trip of the Port Arthur-Beaumont Interurban was August 15, 1932. By that time, private automobiles had become the more popular mode of transportation, while increased consumption and new demands for electricity more than made up for the electric company's loss of the interurban's need for electric power.



**County ID#: 109**

**State ID#: 12784**

**Title: Francis John (Frank) Trost  
(June 24, 1868 - August 4, 1944)**

**Year Established: 2001**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East: 409945**

**UTM North: 3304982**



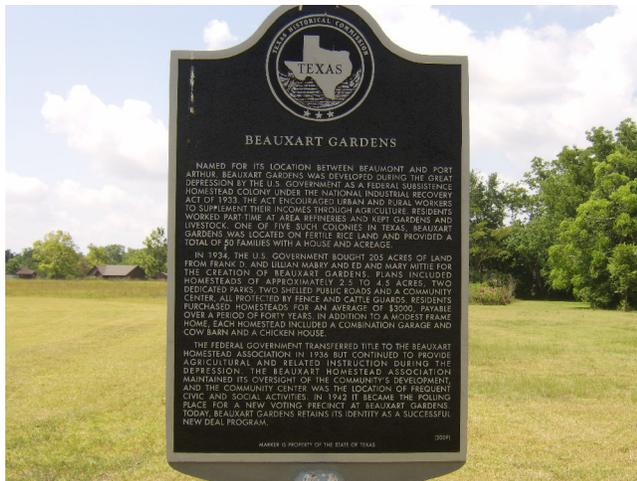
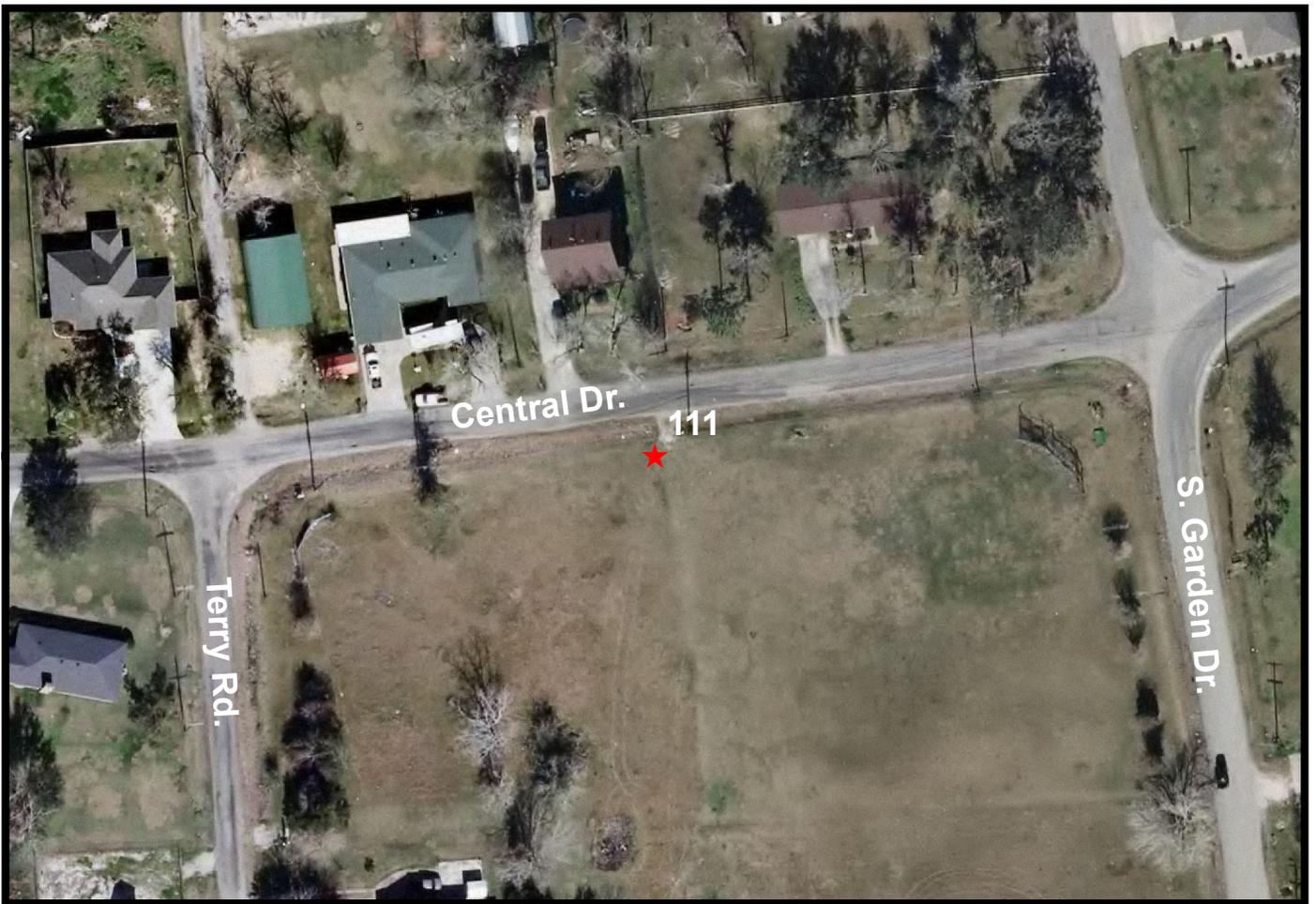
1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** "Francis John (Frank) Trost (June 24, 1868 - August 4, 1944) Frank Trost, the photographer of record on the day the Lucas Gusher erupted in the Spindletop Oil Field, came to Port Arthur in 1895 from Kansas City, Missouri, where he had been involved in real estate. He opened a photography studio at this site and turned his hobby into a successful business. On January 10, 1901, Trost was notified of the events at Spindletop, just south of Beaumont. With his unwieldy camera equipment in tow, he managed to take at least one photograph of the gushing oil before sundown. Photographic methods were still in their infancy, so the image was created with a glass negative Trost manufactured in his studio. The photo appeared in newspapers all over the United States and in some foreign countries. It was in such demand that Trost made as many as 250 prints per day and sold them as quickly as they were printed. Aside from his significance as a recorder of this momentous moment in Texas history, Frank Trost also served his adopted hometown as a city alderman, city commissioner and fire chief. Trost died at home in 1944 and is buried in a local cemetery. He was survived by his wife, Katherine, and two daughters who continued his work at the Trost Studio.



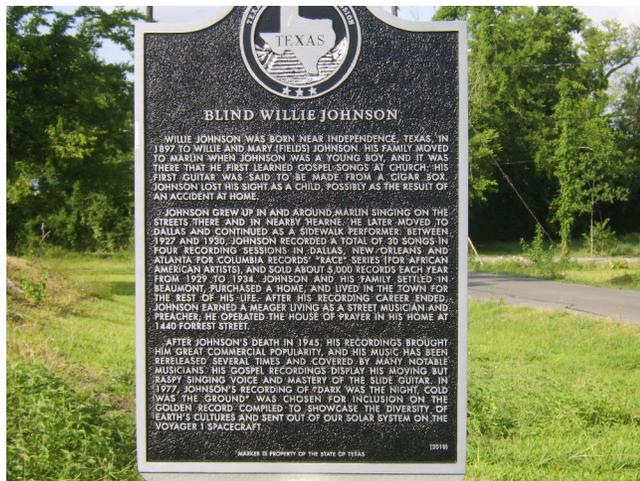
**County ID#: 110**  
**State ID#: 13645**  
**Title: Beach Road**  
**Year Established: 2007**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 413449**  
**UTM North: 3289476**

**Description:** The Beach Road is the coastal section of the Texas Highway 87 system. Stretching along the Gulf of Mexico from Sabine Pass through Chambers County to Port Bolivar in Galveston County, it follows a historic route that proved vital to the early development of Jefferson County. Native Americans, early settlers, traders, cattlemen and Republic of Texas mail carriers all used the road. During the Civil War, Confederate forces used the route, which was generally known as the "Road from Galveston." By 1920, local residents found it difficult to travel on the unmaintained Beach Road. In 1923, commissioner W.A. Vaughan worked to improve the route using shell deposits from along the coast. Soon traffic to McFaddin Beach and westward to Port Bolivar increased dramatically, leading to a business boom in the area as firms built facilities for visitors. A larger effort by the state in the late 1920s called for a paved road with a ferry connection to Galveston. The project moved slowly, but in 1931, the Texas Highway Commission named the new roadway as part of State Highway 87. In the 1940s, during World War II, the highway contributed to coastal defense preparedness. The U.S. Immigration Service set up a barricaded checkpoint for through traffic and the Coast Guard patrolled it during that time. Over the years, hurricanes battered the highway and eroded the nearby coastline, resulting in tidal zone encroachment. Destruction caused by two storms in 1989 forced its closure, though sections of the route remain in use for local traffic.



**County ID#: 111**  
**State ID#: 15932**  
**Title: Beauxart Gardens**  
**Year Established: 2009**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**

Description: Named for its location between Beaumont and Port Arthur, Beauxart Gardens was developed during the Great depression by the U.S. Government as a Federal Subsistence Homestead Colony under the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933. The Act encouraged urban and rural workers to supplement their incomes through Agriculture. Residents worked part-time at area refineries and kept gardens and livestock. One of five such colonies in Texas, Beauxart Gardens was located on fertile rice land and provided a total of 50 families with a house and acreage. In 1934 the U.S. Government bought 205 acres of land from Frank D. and Lillian Mabry and Ed and Mary Mittie for the creation of Beauxart Gardens. Plans included homesteads of approximately 2.5 to 4.5 acres, two dedicated parks, two shelled public roads and a community center, all protected by fence and cattle guards. Residents purchased homesteads for an average of \$3000 payable over a period of forty years. In addition to a modest frame home, each homestead included a combination garage and cow barn and a chicken house. The Federal Government transferred title to the Beauxart Homestead Association in 1936 but continued to provide agricultural and related instruction during the Depression. The Beauxart Homestead Association maintained its oversight of the communities development, and the community center was the location of frequent civic and social activities. In 1942 it became the polling place for a new voting precinct at Beauxart Gardens. Today, Beauxart Gardens retains its identity as a successful New Deal Program.

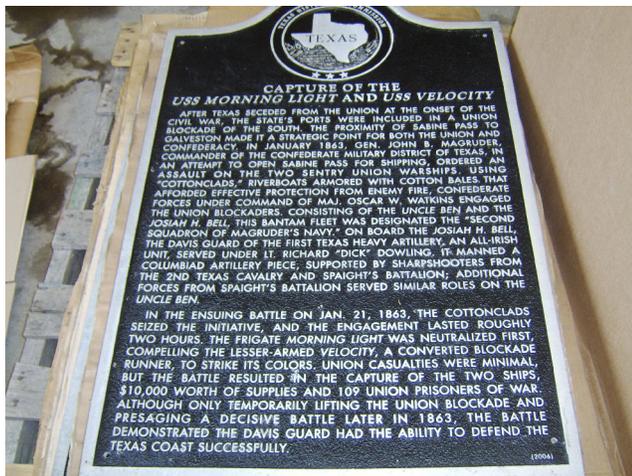


**County ID#:** 112  
**State ID#:**  
**Title:** Blind Willie Johnson  
**Year Established:** 2010  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Willie Johnson was born near Independence, Texas, in 1897 to Willie and Mary (Fields) Johnson. His family moved to Marlin when Johnson was a young boy, and it was there that he first learned gospel songs at church. His first guitar was said to be made from a cigar box. Johnson lost his sight as a child, possibly as the result of an accident at home. Johnson grew up in and around Marlin singing on the streets there and in nearby Hearne. He later moved to Dallas and continued as a sidewalk performer. Between 1927 and 1930, Johnson recorded a total of 30 songs in four recording sessions in Dallas, New Orleans and Atlanta for Columbia Records' "Race" Series (for African American Artists), and sold about 5,000 records each from 1929 to 1934. Johnson and his family settled in Beaumont, purchased a home and lived in the town for the rest of his life. After his recording career ended, Johnson earned a meager living as a street musician and preacher; he operated the House of Prayer in his home at 1440 Forrest Street. After Johnson's death in 1945, his recording brought him great commercial popularity and his music has been rereleased several times and covered by many notable musicians. His gospel recordings display his moving but raspy singing voice and mastery of the slide guitar. In 1977, Johnson's recording of 'Dark was the Night, Cold was the Ground' was chosen for inclusion on the golden record compiled to showcase the diversity of earth's cultures and sent out of our solar system on the Voyager 1 spacecraft.

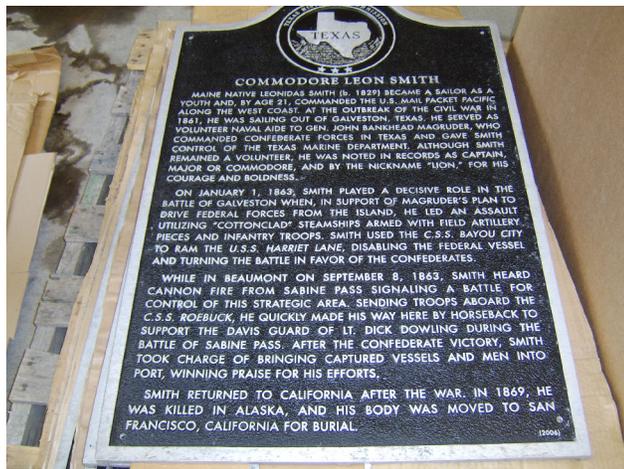


**County ID#: 113**  
**State ID#: 13429**  
**Title: Capture of the USS Morning Light and USS Velocity**  
**Year Established: 2006**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 414569**  
**UTM North: 3289006**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** After Texas seceded from the Union at the onset of the Civil War, the state's ports were included in a Union blockade of the South. The proximity of Sabine Pass to Galveston made it a strategic point for both the Union and Confederacy. In January 1863, Gen. John B. Magruder, commander of the Confederate Military District of Texas, in an attempt to open Sabine Pass for shipping, ordered an assault on the two sentry Union warships. Using "cottonclads," riverboats armored with cotton bales that afforded effective protection from enemy fire, Confederate forces under command of Maj. Oscar W. Watkins engaged the Union blockaders. Consisting of the Uncle Ben and the Josiah H. Bell, this bantam fleet was designated the "Second Squadron of Magruder's Navy." On board the Josiah H. Bell, the Davis Guard of the First Texas Heavy Artillery, an all-Irish unit, served under Lt. Richard "Dick" Dowling. It manned a Columbia artillery piece, supported by sharpshooters from the 2nd Texas Cavalry and Spaight's Battalion; additional forces from Spaight's Battalion served similar roles on the Uncle Ben. In the ensuing battle on Jan. 21, 1863, the cottonclads seized the initiative, and the engagement lasted roughly two hours. The frigate Morning Light was neutralized first, compelling the lesser-armed Velocity, a converted blockade runner, to strike its colors. Union casualties were minimal, but the battle resulted in the capture of the two ships, \$10,000 worth of supplies and 109 Union prisoners of war. Although only temporarily lifting the Union blockade and presaging a decisive battle later in 1863, the battle demonstrated the Davis Guard had the ability to defend the Texas coast successfully.

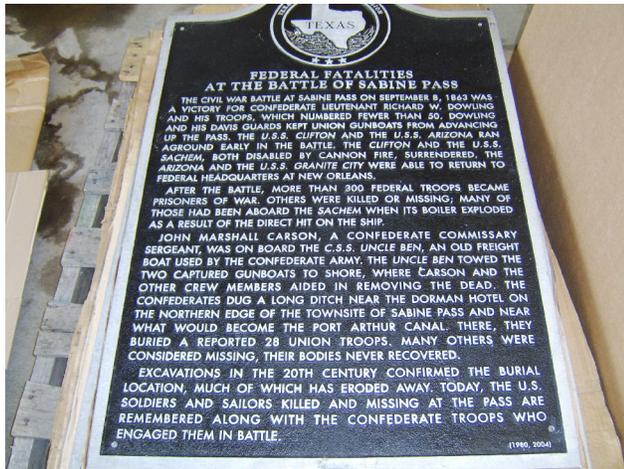


**County ID#: 114**  
**State ID#: 15458**  
**Title: Commodore Leon Smith**  
**Year Established: 2004**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: Maine native Leonidas Smith (b. 1829) became a sailor as a youth and by age 21, commanded the U.S. Mail Packet 'Pacific' along the west coast. At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, he was sailing out of Galveston, Texas. He served as volunteer naval aid to Gen. John Bankhead Magruder, who commanded Confederate Forces in Texas, and gave Smith control of the Texas Marine Department. Although Smith remained a volunteer, he was noted in records as Captain, Major or Commodore, and by the nickname 'Lion' for his courage and boldness. On January 1, 1863, Smith played a decisive role in the Battle of Galveston when in support of Magruder's plan to drive Federal Forces from the island, he led an assault utilizing 'cottonclad' steamships armed with field artillery pieces and infantry troops. Smith used the C.S.S. Bayou City to ram the U.S.S. Harriet Lane, disabling the federal vessel and turning the battle in favor of the Confederates. While in Beaumont on September 8, 1863, Smith heard cannon fire from Sabine Pass signaling a battle for control of this strategic area. Sending troops aboard the C.S.S. Roebuck, he quickly made his way here by horseback to support the Davis Guard of Lt. Dick Dowling during the Battle of Sabine Pass. After the Confederate victory, Smith took charge of bringing captured vessels and men into port, winning praise for his efforts. Smith returned to California after the war. In 1869 he was killed in Alaska and his body was moved to San Francisco, California for burial.



**County ID#:** 115

**State ID#:** 10558

**Title:** Federal Fatalities at the Battle of Sabine Pass

**Year Established:** 1980

**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"

**UTM Zone:** 15

**UTM East:** 415591

**UTM North:** 3289389



1 inch = 100 feet

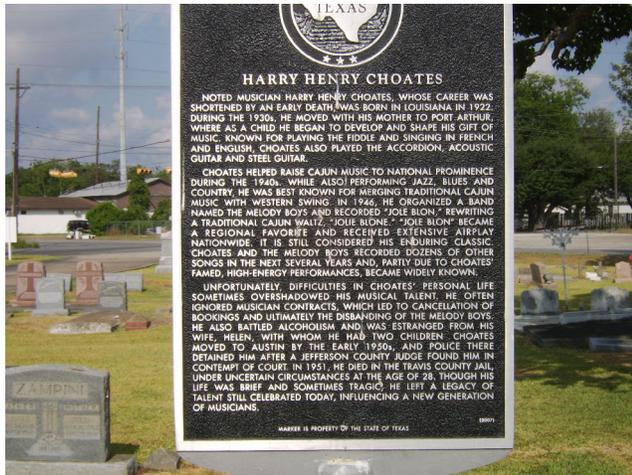
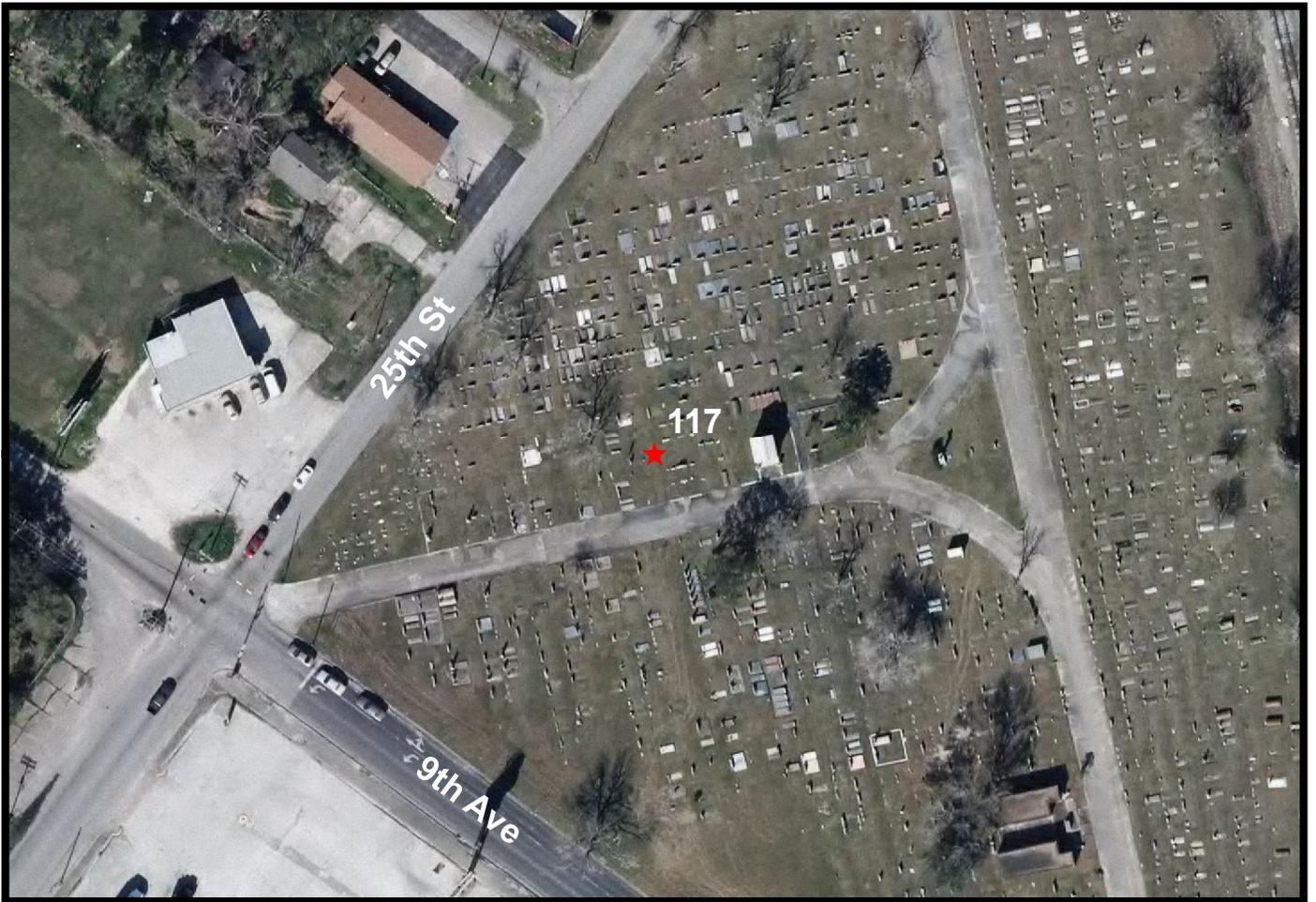
**Description:** "Federal Fatalities at the Battle of Sabine Pass The battle at Sabine Pass on September 8, 1863 was a victory for Lieutenant Richard W. Dowling and his troops, which numbered fewer than 50. Dowling and his Davis guards kept Union gunboats from advancing up the pass. The U.S.S. Clifton and the U.S.S. Arizona ran aground early in the battle. The Clifton and the U.S.S. Sachem, both disabled by cannon fire, surrendered. The Arizona and the U.S.S. Granite City were able to return to federal headquarters at New Orleans. After the battle, more than 300 federal troops became prisoners of war. Others were killed or missing; many of those had been aboard the Sachem when its boiler exploded as a result of the direct hit on the ship. John Marshall Carson, a Confederate commissary sergeant, was on board the C.S.S. Uncle Ben, an old freight boat used by the Confederate army. The Uncle Ben towed the two captured gunboats to shore, where Carson and the other crew members aided in removing the dead. The Confederates dug a long ditch near the Dorman Hotel on the northern edge of the townsite of Sabine Pass and near what would become the Port Arthur Canal. There, they buried a reported 28 Union troops. Many others were considered missing, their bodies never recovered. Excavations in the 20th century confirmed the burial location, much of which has eroded away. Today, the U.S. soldiers and sailors killed and missing at the pass are remembered along with the Confederate troops who engaged them in battle.



**County ID#:** 116  
**State ID#:**  
**Title:** First Baptist Church Port Neches  
**Year Established:**  
**Marker Size:**  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



**Description:** This Baptist church, the first in Port Neches, organized in October of 1910. Twelve charter members held baptist services in a one-room schoolhouse. These church founders were Mr. & Mrs. John Livingstone, Mr. Horace Livingstone, Mr. & Mrs. R.E. Rachford, Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Bibbs, Mr. & Mrs. Gillie Peveto, Mr. Arthur K. Peveto, Mrs. Abby Block, and Mr. Ollie Williams. In 1914 Mrs. R.E. Rachford donated property at the corner of Dearing Street and Avenue B for the construction of the church's first building, which was completed in 1917. W.H. Fortney became the church's first full time pastor in 1918, and during his tenure, the frame building was removed from the property to make way for a newer, larger brick sanctuary that was completed in 1927. A devastating fire destroyed the 1927 structure on January 10, 1940 and all early church records were lost. A replacement frame building was constructed on the site in 1941, but the congregation voted to purchase property on Magnolia Avenue in 1946; services were first held at the new location in June 1957. Church programs include Sunday School, vacation bible school, youth activities and bible study. Expansion and renovations to the church plant have allowed the church to continue its mission in the community. Adult and student mission trips, sponsership of Woodcrest Mission (1969-1983), and support of new chruches are part of the mission emphasis of the church. Today First Baptist Church of Port Neches continues to serve as a spiritual and social beacon to its congregants and to others in Port Neches and surrounding areas.



**County ID#: 117**  
**State ID#:**  
**Title: Harry Henry Choates**  
**Year Established:**  
**Marker Size:**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



Description: Noted musician Harry Henry Choates, whose career was shortened by an early death, was born in Louisiana in 1922. During the 1930s, he moved with his mother to Port Arthur where as a child he began to develop and shape his gift of music. Known for playing the fiddle and singing in French and English, Choates also played the accordion, acoustic guitar and steel guitar. Choates helped raise Cajun music to national prominence during the 1940s. While also performing jazz, blues and country, he was best known for merging traditional Cajun music with western swing. In 1946 he organized a band named the Melody Boys and recorded 'Jole Blon' rewriting a traditional Cajun waltz, 'Jolie Blone'. 'Jole Blon' became a regional favorite and received extensive airplay nationwide. It is still considered his enduring classic. Choates and the Melody Boys recorded dozens of other songs in the next several years and partly due to Choates' famed high energy performances, became widely known. Unfortunately, difficulties in Choates' personal life sometimes overshadowed his musical talent. He often ignored musician contracts, which led to cancellation of bookings and ultimately the disbanding of the Melody Boys. He also battled alcoholism and was estranged from his wife, Helen, with whom he had two children. Choates moved to Austin by the early 1950s, and police there detained him after a Jefferson County judge found him in contempt of court. In 1951 he died in the Travis County Jail under uncertain circumstances at the age of 28. Though his life was brief and sometimes tragic, he left a legacy of talent still celebrated today, influencing a new generation of musicians.



**County ID#: 118**

**State ID#: 13668**

**Title: J.P. Richardson, Jr: The Big Bopper**

**Year Established: 2005**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

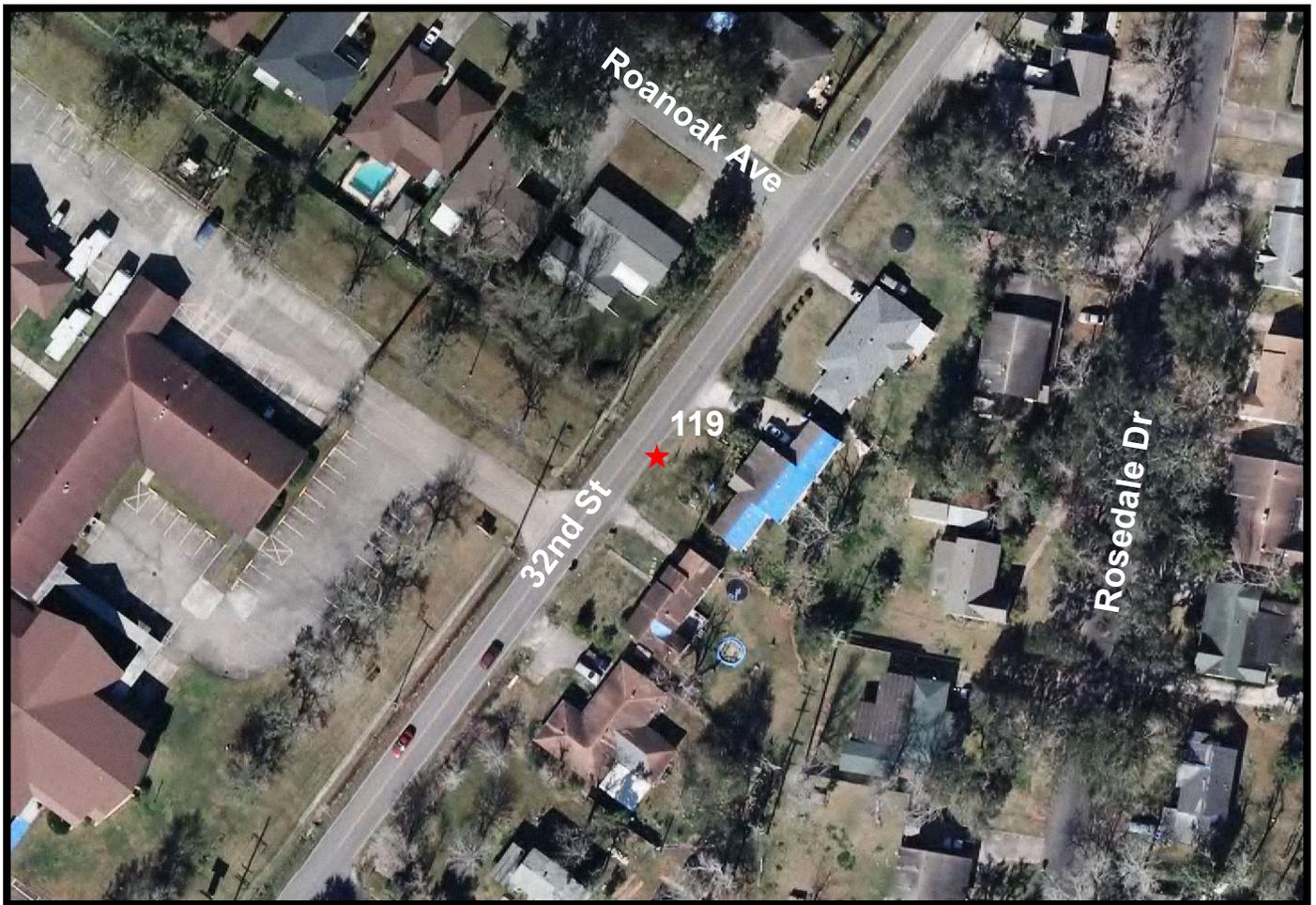
**UTM East: 394026**

**UTM North: 3333297**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** Jiles Perry "J.P." Richardson, Jr. was born on October 24, 1930 to Jiles and Elsie Bernice (Stalsby) Richardson in Sabine Pass (26 mi. SE); the family moved to Beaumont when he was six. As a teenager, Richardson began writing songs with country and western influences. Following graduation from Beaumont High School in 1947, he attended Lamar College, where he sang in the choir and played in the band. He also became a disc jockey for radio station KTRM. It was there he developed his "Big Bopper" character and his musical style shifted toward rockabilly, combining country and western with rock and roll. He served two years in the Army but returned to radio work in Beaumont, and as a DJ in 1957 Richardson raised money for charity by spinning records continuously for more than 122 hours. Around the same time, Mercury Records executive Shelby Singleton signed him to a contract, and the Big Bopper went on tour along the east coast. His recording Chantilly Lace was on the top of the charts for six weeks in 1958 and earned him a gold record after being listed among the Top 100 for 25 weeks. At the age of 28, married with two children, rock and roll star J.P. Richardson joined a group of young musicians on another national tour. Tragically, on February 3, 1959, their plane crashed in Iowa, killing him and fellow artists Buddy Holly and Ritchie Valens. Richardson's body was returned here for burial. In addition to the 21 songs he recorded as the Big Bopper, he wrote many more, including Running Bear and White Lightnin', made popular by other singers. J.P. Richardson, Jr. is remembered for his musical talent as well as his larger-than-life persona as the Big Bopper.



**County ID#: 119**

**State ID#: 13885**

**Title: Janis Lyn Joplin**

**Year Established: 2007**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

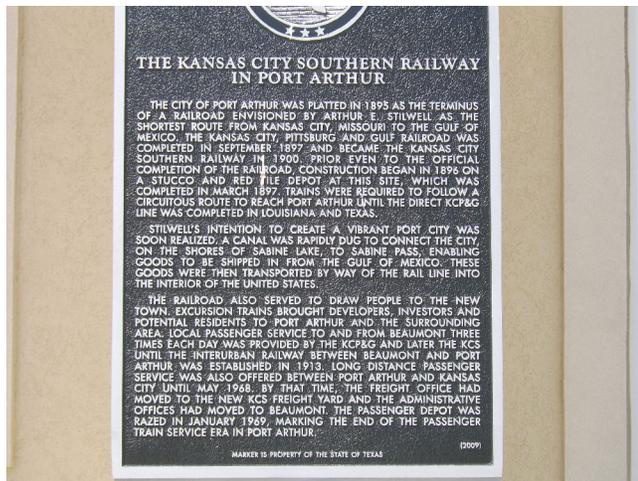
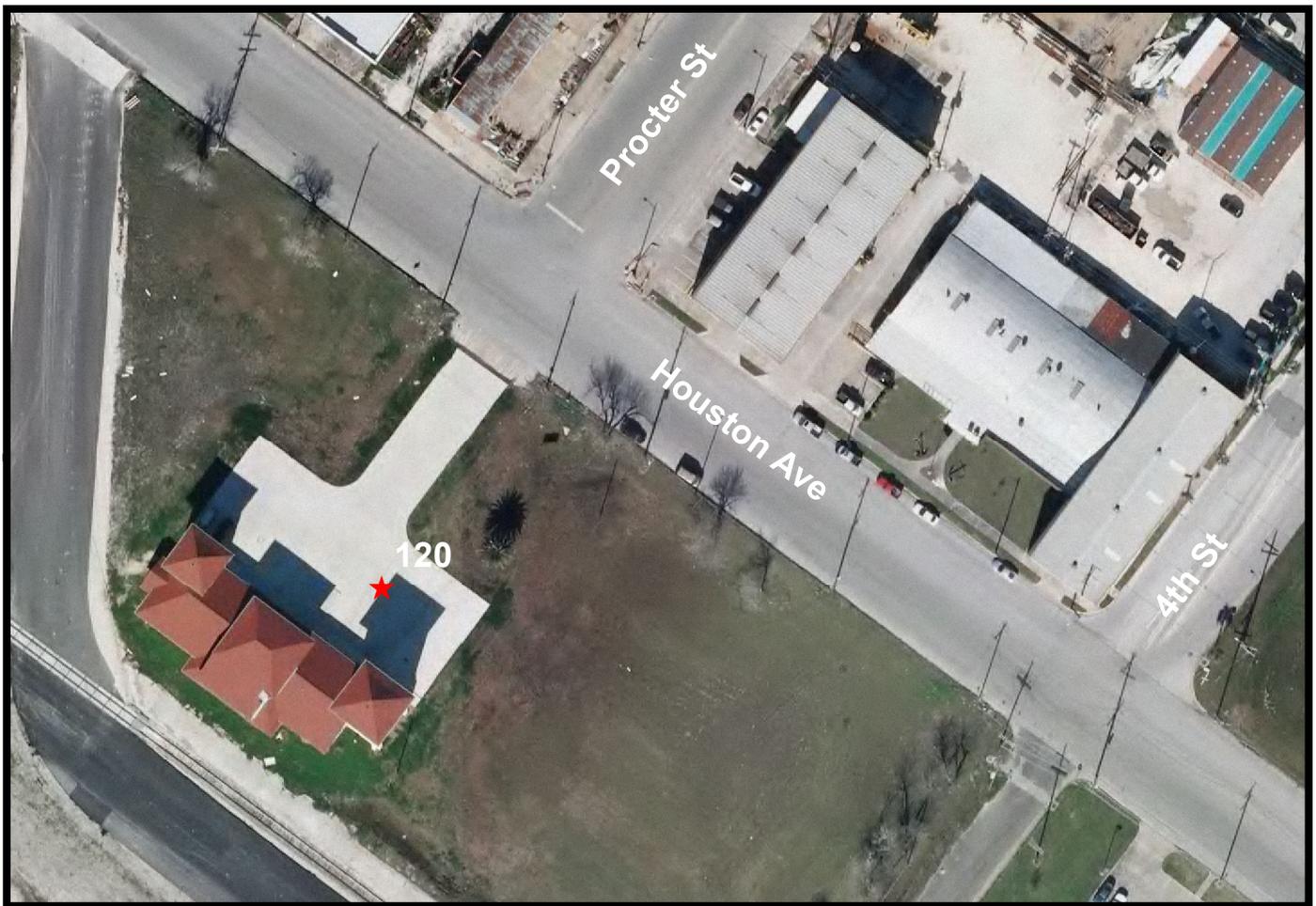
**UTM East: 410445**

**UTM North: 3310616**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** (January 19, 1943 - October 4, 1970) A native of Port Arthur, famed blues and rock and roll singer Janis Joplin lived here with her family. She graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1960 and attended Port Arthur College and Lamar State College of Technology (Lamar University) in Beaumont. A liberal and outspoken free spirit, Janis rebelled against the conservatism of her hometown, and in 1962 she moved to Austin to study art at the University of Texas. She connected to the burgeoning Austin music scene and began singing in clubs around town, most notably at Threadgill's, a bar operated by Texas country singer and yodeler Kenneth Threadgill. With her raw and raspy singing style exhibiting the blues, jazz, country, cajun, gospel and soul music influences of east Texas and Louisiana, she was a popular local performer. Searching for wider acceptance, Joplin moved to San Francisco in 1963 and quickly became part of the growing folk music and counter-culture movement of the 1960s. Her performances at the 1967 International Pop and Jazz Festivals in Monterey brought her widespread recognition. Her first album, Cheap Thrills, with the band Big Brother and the Holding Company, was a wild success even as her personal life became marred with alcohol and drug abuse. Later recording with the Kosmic Blues Band and the Full-Tilt Boogie Band, she was an international sensation by the end of the decade. In August 1970, at the height of her fame, Joplin returned to Port Arthur for her ten-year high school reunion. Just two months later, she died of an accidental overdose of heroin and alcohol; her ashes were spread along the coast of northern California. Her final album, Pearl, released after her death, earned a gold record.



**County ID#: 120**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Kansas City Southern Railway  
in Port Arthur**

**Year Established:**

**Marker Size:**

**UTM Zone: 15**

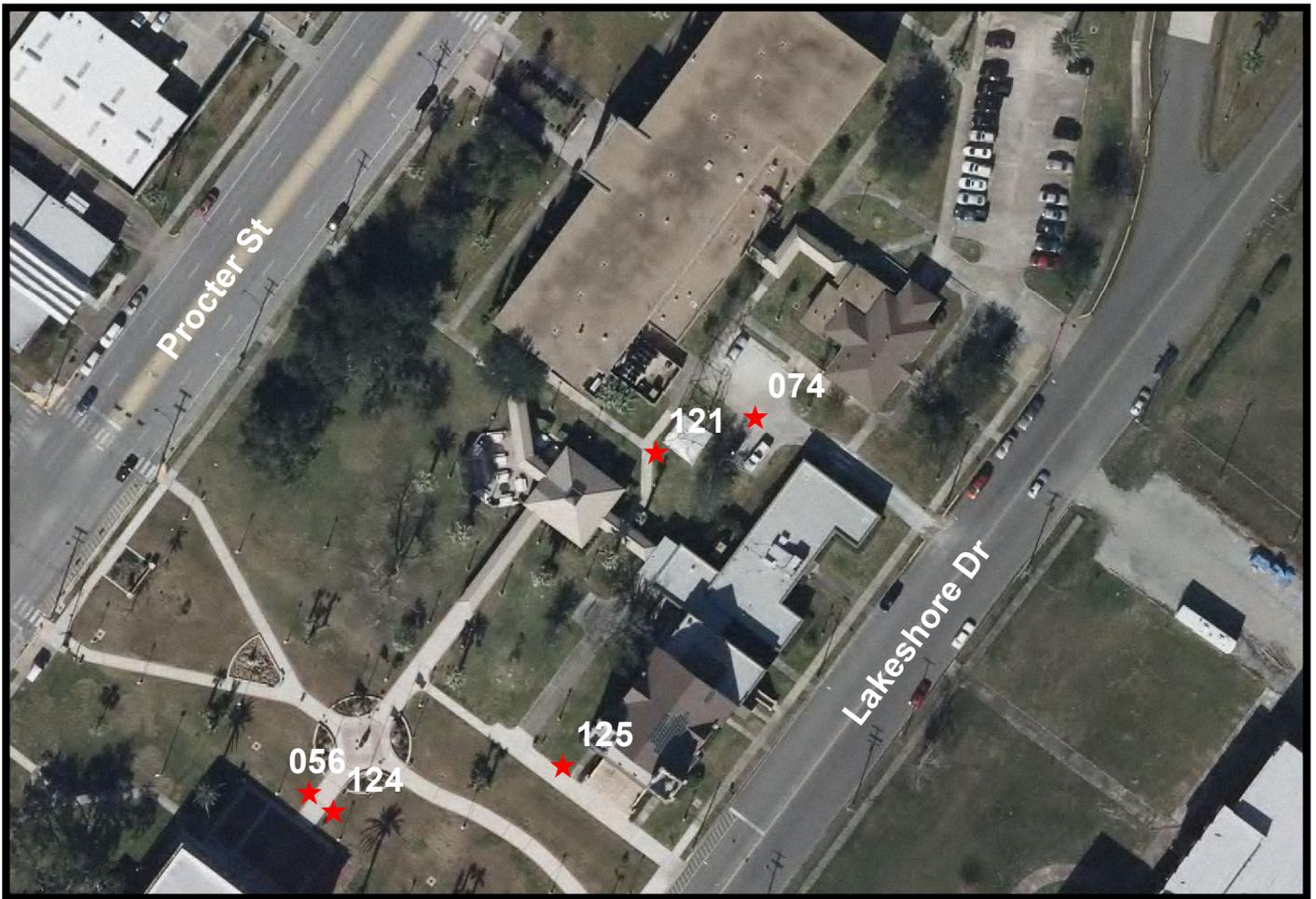
**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



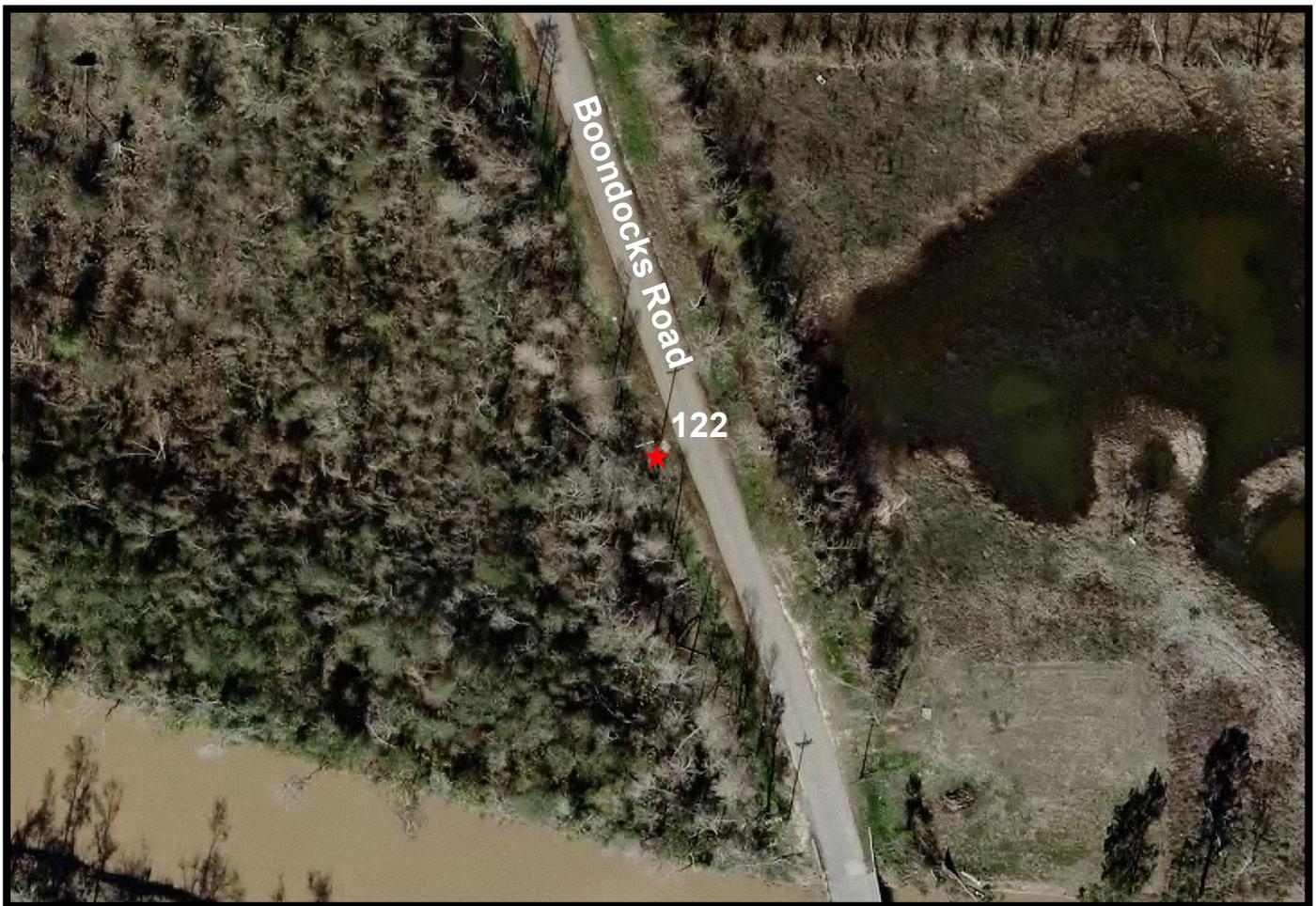
1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The City of Port Arthur was platted in 1895 as the Terminus of a railroad envisioned by Arthur E. Stilwell as the shortest route from Kansas City, Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico. The Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railroad was completed in September 1897 and became the Kansas City Southern Railway in 1900. Prior even to the official completion of the railroad, construction began in 1896 on a stucco and red tile depot at this site, which was completed in March 1897. Trains were required to follow a circuitous route to reach Port Arthur until the direct KCP&G Line was completed in Louisiana and Texas. Stilwell's intention to create a vibrant port city was soon realized. A canal was rapidly dug to connect the city on the shores of Sabine Lake, to Sabine Pass, enabling goods to be shipped in from the Gulf of Mexico. These goods were then transported by way of the rail line into the interior of the United States. The railroad also served to draw people to the new town. Excursion trains brought developers, investors and potential residents to Port Arthur and the surrounding area. Local passenger service to and from Beaumont three times each day was provided by the KCP&G and later the KCS until the Interurban railway between Beaumont and Port Arthur was established in 1913. Long distance passenger service was also offered between Port Arthur and Kansas City until May 1968. By that time the freight office had moved to the new KCS Freight Yard and the administrative offices had moved to Beaumont. The passenger depot was razed in January 1969, marking the end of the passenger train service era in Port Arthur.



**County ID#:** 121  
**State ID#:**  
**Title:** Marconi Tower  
**Year Established:**  
**Marker Size:**  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**

Description:



**County ID#: 122**  
**State ID#: 13440**  
**Title: The Mayumi Legacy**  
**Year Established: 2001**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 381645**  
**UTM North: 3303168**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The modern Texas rice industry was shaped in part by the Mayumi brothers, who arrived here from Japan in the early twentieth century. Rice had been grown in limited quantities in Jefferson County since the 1840s, but production remained relatively low for decades. Many believed that with improved agricultural practices the crop could become successful in the region. In 1902, Japanese consul general Sadatsuchi Uchinda attended a Beaumont meeting of the Rice Growers Association of America, who offered an open invitation to Japanese rice farmers. Yoshio Mayumi, a banker and landowner from Mie prefecture on the main island of Honshu, visited this area in 1904 and returned the following year to purchase more than 1,700 acres near Taylor Bayou. Mayumi brought fifteen workers from his hometown, and the farming community included a three-story house for Mayumi's family, another building for the workmen and a community dance hall. Although Yoshio's only crop was rice, he also owned and raised livestock, including hogs and cattle, and to help with farm work, mules and horses. The agricultural experiment showed early promise, but several factors led to its eventual decline. Yoshio returned to Japan in 1915 and left the operation to the management of his brother Yasuo. Economic difficulties and epressive immigration laws led the Mayumi family to sell the land in 1924. The Mayumi legacy, centered on a family fondly remembered for its many contributions to the rural community, is important because it presaged the success of the Texas rice industry, which is today and economic mainstay of the upper Texas Gulf coast.



**County ID#: 123**

**State ID#: 10551**

**Title: Pivoto-Robinson Cemetery**

**Year Established: 1997**

**Marker Size: 18" x 28"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

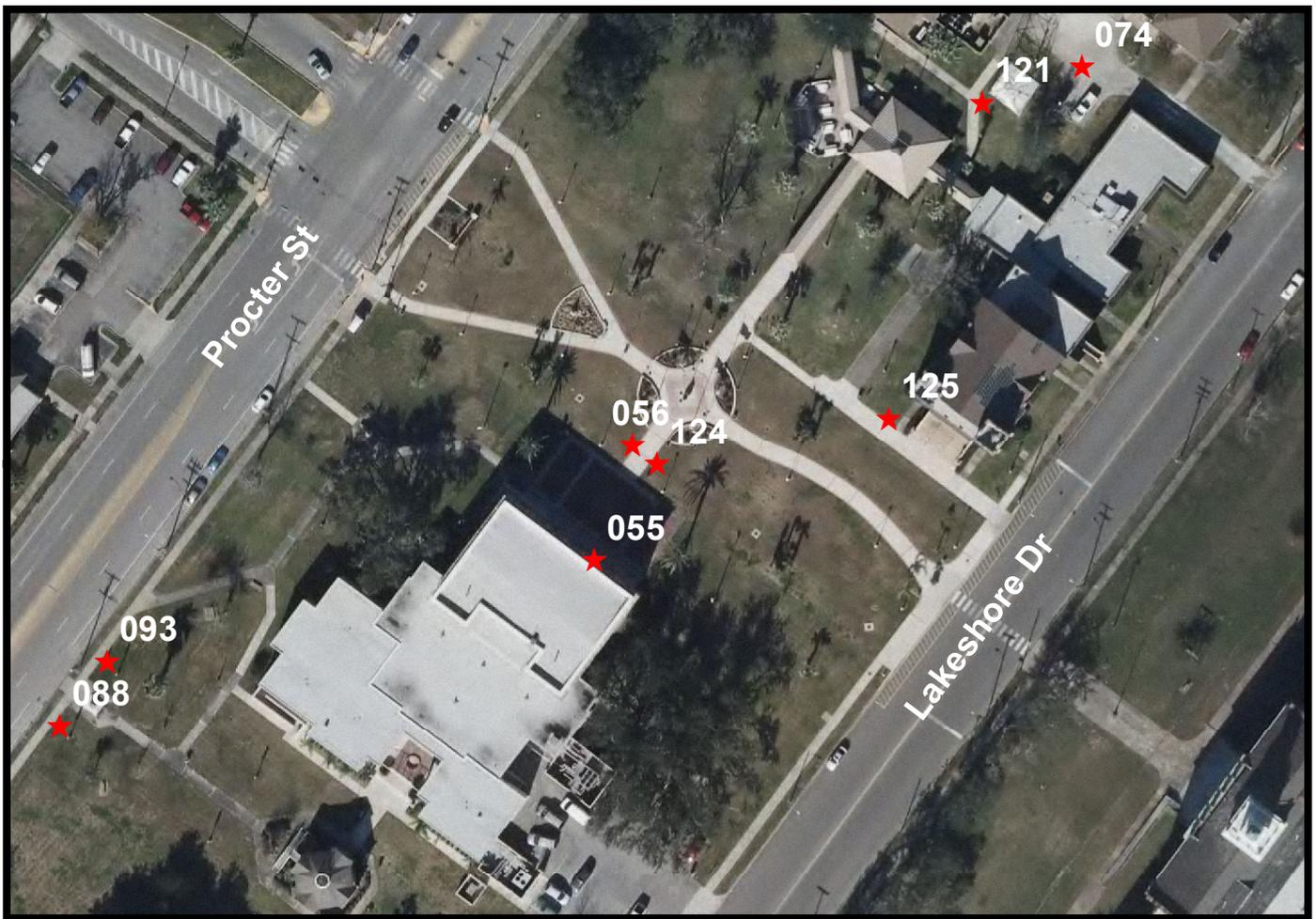
**UTM East: 362404**

**UTM North: 3322347**



1 inch = 200 feet

Description: Joseph Pivoto (1811-1876) came to Texas in the 1830s and worked as a rancher. He married Seraphine Anna Dubois (1797-1901) and moved his family here in 1848, building a house nearby. This small family cemetery began with the death of Joseph Pivoto in 1876. The Pivotos' granddaughter married Frank Robinson in 1901. Pivoto and Robinson family members are buried here along with friends. It is believed that some unmarked graves also exist. The site is owned and maintained by descendants of Joseph Pivoto who have restored the family home and the cemetery.



**County ID#: 124**  
**State ID#: 14688**  
**Title: Port Arthur College**  
**Year Established: 2008**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: John W. Gates founded Port Arthur College in 1909 as a nonprofit, non-sectarian, vocational school focusing on stenography, accounting and communications. Gates, one of the founders of the Texas Company (Texaco), envisioned a school to complement local industries. Gates proposed building a school and hospital as memorials to his mother and asked that the city donate the required property. The city council used public park land between Procter Street and Lakeshore Drive for the college. Gates appointed the original trustees, including George M. Craig as first president. The college opened for classes on October 4, 1909. Gates believed the spanish department would be especially attractive, with the opening of the Panama Canal and increased trade with Central America raising demand for bilingual secretaries and clerks. In December 1910, the board conveyed the college to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the name was changed to Port Arthur Collegiate Institute. In succeeding years, academic, music and science classes were added to the curriculum. In 1919, the M.E. Church returned management to the board of trusettes. By 1923, the college was a fully accredited commercial school. Communications courses that began with wireless telegraphy expanded to radio broadcasting and later a television station. During World War II, Port Arthur College trained approximately 1500 operators in communications for the U.S. Army Signal Corps. The college flourished and in 1975 became part of the Lamar University System, later joining the Texas State University System and changing it's name in 1999 to Lamar State College - Port Arthur. The school has grown from the first class of 35 enrolled to more then 3000 students today.



**County ID#: 125**  
**State ID#: 12784**  
**Title: Fuller, Ruby Ruth, Building**  
**Year Established: 2009**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



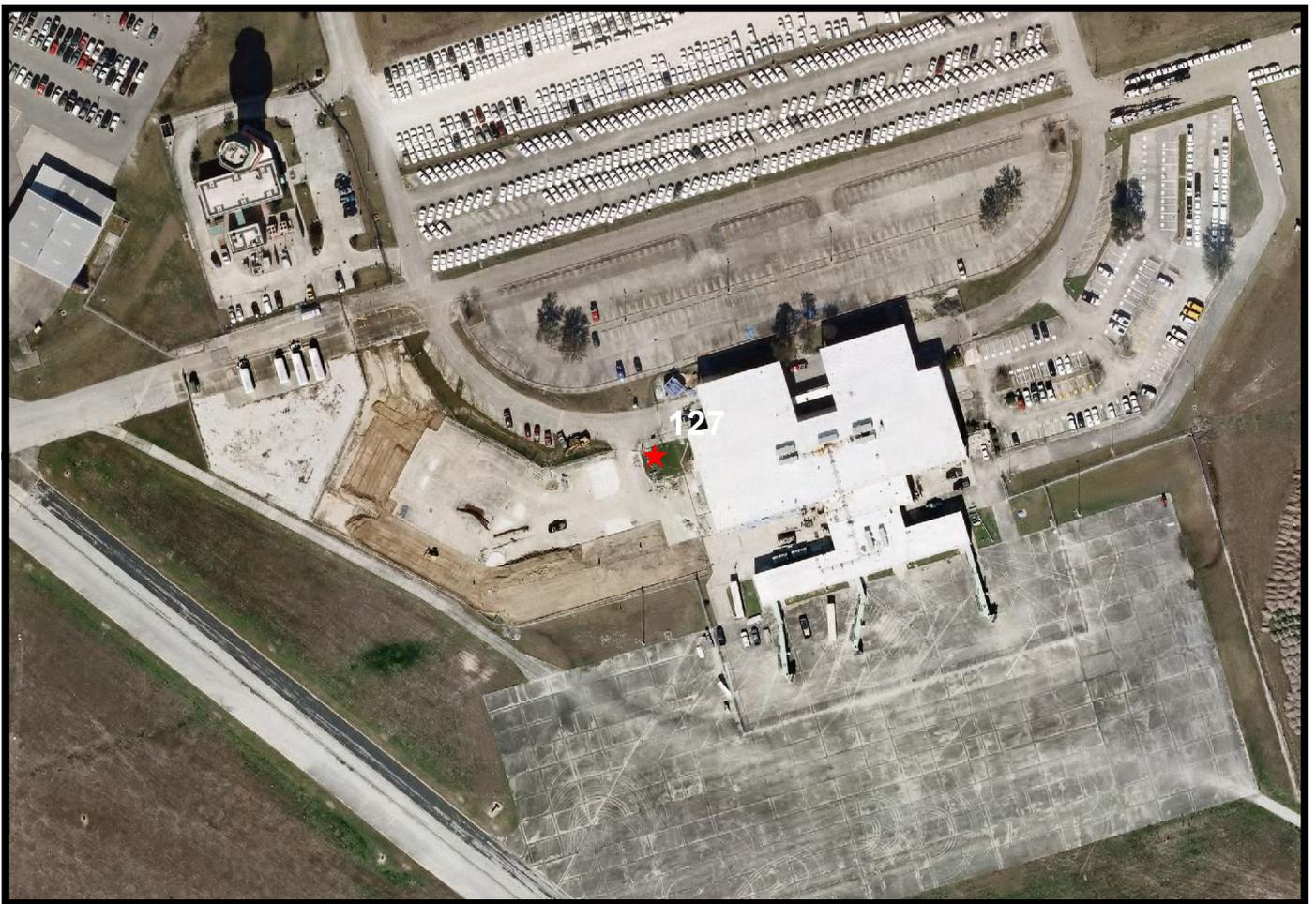
1 inch = 100 feet

Description:



**County ID#:** 126  
**State ID#:** 14028  
**Title:** Sabine-Neches Canal  
**Year Established:** 2007  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 411633  
**UTM North:** 3306667

**Description:** Situated between Port Arthur and Lake Sabine and drainages of the Sabine and Neches Rivers, the Sabine Neches Canal is a vital route for commerce from the Gulf of Mexico to port facilities in Beaumont, Port Arthur, Orange and other areas. Interest in development of the waterway increased after the success of the Port Arthur Canal, which was integral to the growth of the city. Construction of the canal began following a joint resolution of Congress in 1898 and planning by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It was to link and merge with the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW), which runs from Brownsville to Florida and north to New Jersey. The canal would run from the ICW to the Port Arthur Canal, southeast of the city. Construction began around 1908 and took two years to complete. Original plans called for it to be built through Sabine Lake; however, land companies and residents chose to have the canal sited separately, hoping it would provide a levee system against tropical storms. A drawbridge linked port Arthur with Pleasure Island. It was replaced by what is now the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge. In 1929, Governor Dan Moody signed legislation for a seawall system around Port Arthur that included the Rue Des Soldats (Street of the Soldiers) and parks. Due to its low elevation, the city closed the road in 1966, replacing it in 1981 with an improved levee system that included the elevated seawall drive along the historic Sabine Neches Canal.



**County ID#: 127**

**State ID#: 15372**

**Title: Southeast Texas Regional Airport**

**Year Established: 2007**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

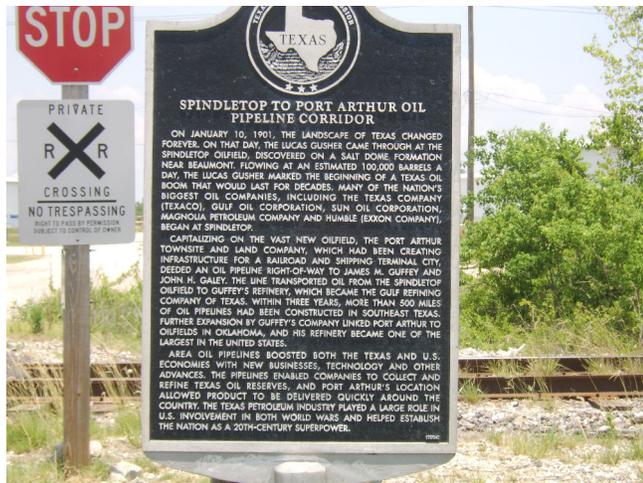
**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**

1 inch = 200 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 128**  
**State ID#: 13118**  
**Title: Spindletop to Port Arthur Oil Pipeline Corridor**  
**Year Established: 2003**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East: 402845**  
**UTM North: 3307825**



1 inch = 100 feet

**Description:** On January 10, 1901, the landscape of Texas changed forever. On that day, the Lucas Gusher came through at the Spindletop oilfield, discovered on a salt dome formation near Beaumont. Flowing at an estimated 100,000 barrels a day, the Lucas Gusher marked the beginning of a Texas oil boom that would last for decades. Many of the nation's biggest oil companies, including the Texas Company (Texaco), Gulf Oil Corporation, Sun Oil Corporation, Magnolia Petroleum Company and Humble (Exxon company), began at Spindletop. Capitalizing on the vast new oilfield, the Port Arthur Townsite and Land Company, which had been creating infrastructure for a railroad and shipping terminal city, deeded an oil pipeline right-of-way to James M. Guffey and John H. Galey. The line transported oil from the Spindletop oilfield to Guffey's refinery, which became the Gulf Refining Company of Texas. Within three years, more than 500 miles of oil pipelines had been constructed in southeast Texas. Further expansion by Guffey's company linked Port Arthur to oilfields in Oklahoma, and his refinery became one of the largest in the U.S. Area oil pipelines boosted both the Texas and U.S. economies with new businesses, technology and other advances. The pipelines enabled companies to collect and refine Texas oil reserves, and Port Arthur's location allowed product to be delivered quickly around the country. The Texas petroleum industry played a large role in U.S. involvement in both world wars and helped establish the nation as a 20th-century superpower.



**County ID#: 129**

**State ID#: 13116**

**Title: World War II Coastal Defenses  
at Sabine Pass**

**Year Established: 2003**

**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**

**UTM Zone: 15**

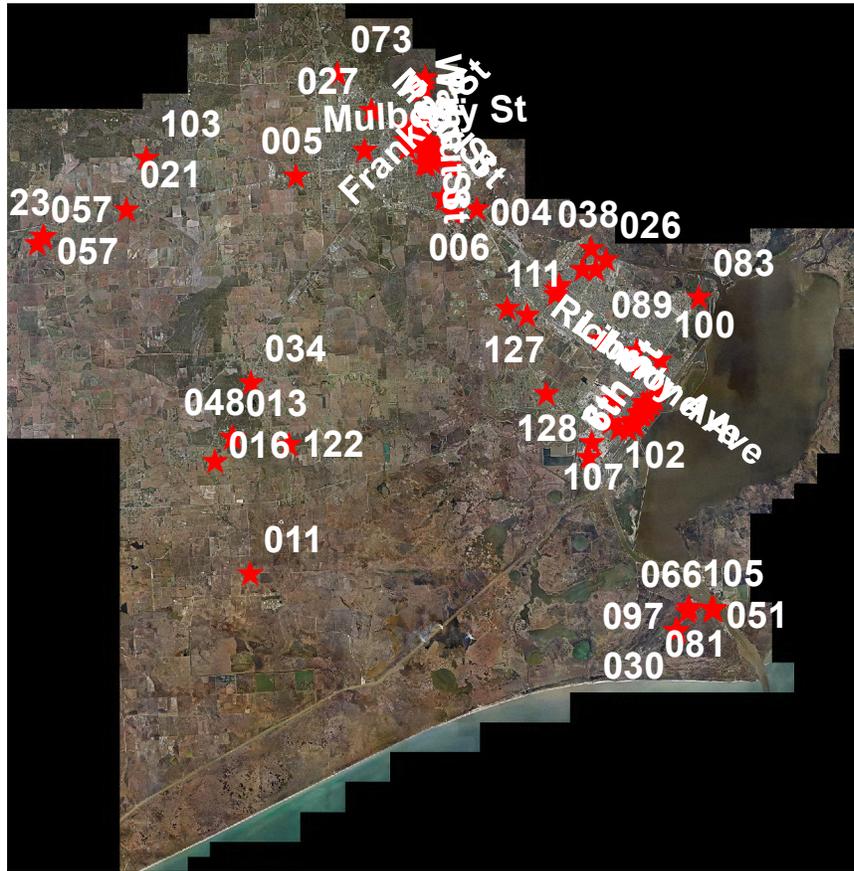
**UTM East: 416240**

**UTM North: 3287990**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: The natural coastal cut of Sabine Pass has long been an important military strategic point, as evidenced by the battle that took place here during the Civil War. It was no less significant in World War II, when it became one of the primary points of defense along the United States Gulf Coast. In 1941, the U.S. Navy established a Harbor Entrance Control Post (HECP) at the pass to provide defenses against potential enemy activity in the area. Soon after, the U.S. Army installed artillery emplacements at Texas Point (3.62 mi. S) that included two 155mm Howitzer guns on Panama mounts, as well as four munitions magazines at this site. The Army's lease of land at Sabine Pass resulted in the location of a temporary harbor defense unit manned by the 256th Coastal Artillery Regiment at Texas Point. Other elements of the defense system included two base end stations, an observation tower, signal stations, large coastal searchlights, a battery commander post and part of the Coast Guard lifeboat station, originally established in the 1870s as part of the U.S. life-saving service. The munitions magazines also held other ordnance for area installations. Working together, the HECP and the Army post utilized these storage magazines to service the war effort. The defense system remained in full operation until 1944, when the naval section base at Sabine Pass was decommissioned and patrols were discontinued. A caretaker force remained for some time, but the Army declared the post surplus and abandoned it in January 1945. Today, these munitions magazines serve as evidence of military preparedness and the strategic value of Sabine Pass during World War II.

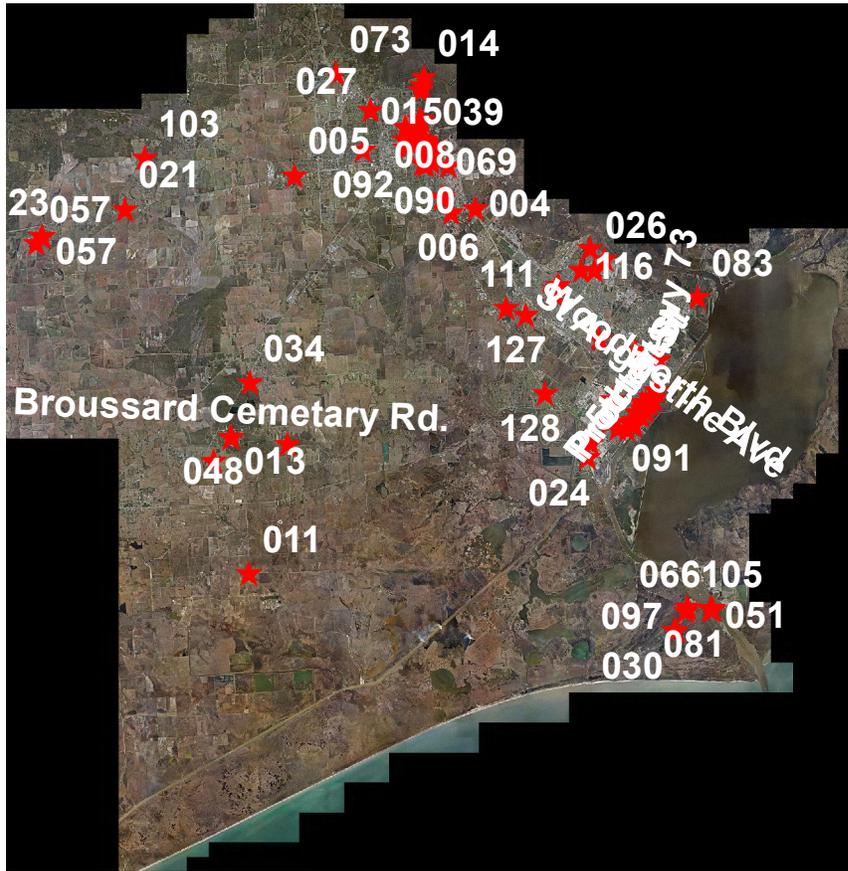


**County ID#: 130**  
**State ID#: 10557**  
**Title: Visit Historic Sabine Pass**  
**Year Established: 1969**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 51,063 feet

**Description:** Established in 1837 as Republic of Texas port of entry and customs office. In the Civil War had defenses of one cavalry, one artillery and three infantry companies. guarded shipping against the Federal blockade, admitting to port vital factory goods, guns, gunpowder, medicines. Guarded access to upriver ports that loaded out cotton, received guns. Stood sentry over coastal troop movements by rail, wagon or horseback from Texas to eastern battles. Was swept in 1862 by yellow fever brought in by ships from Havana. Ailing men had to spike their guns. Lost Sabine City to the Federals, who burned Taylor's Bayou Railroad bridge and planned to make coastal plantations their commissary. Recaptured in Jan. 1863 by Confederates, the Pass made military history Sept. 8, 1863, when fewer than 50 men under Lt. Dick Dowling defeated large Federal fleet bringing in 5,000 troops to conquer Texas and cut her off from remainder of the Confederacy. Battlefield park and monument open to public. Now a commercial fishing and marine repair center. Entrance from the Gulf of Mexico of Sabine-Neches Waterway. Important because of the petrochemical and oil industry along the shores.

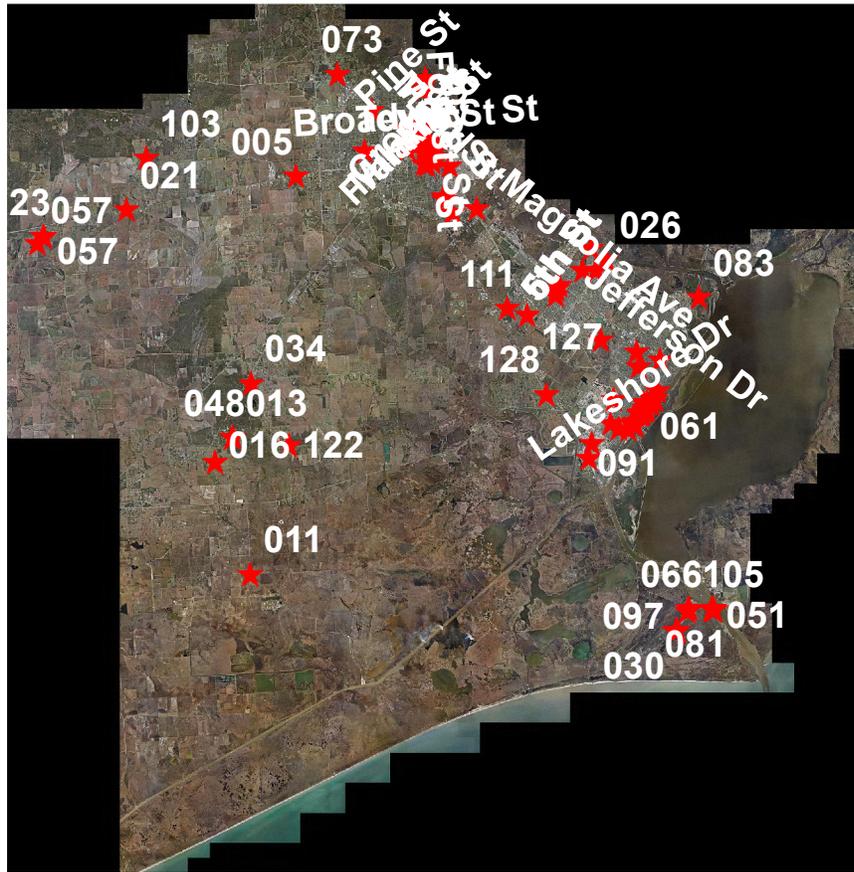


**County ID#:** 131  
**State ID#:** 12672  
**Title:** Early Texas Oil Pipelines  
**Year Established:** 1966  
**Marker Size:** 27" x 42"  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:** 401584  
**UTM North:** 3310026



1 inch = 51,063 feet

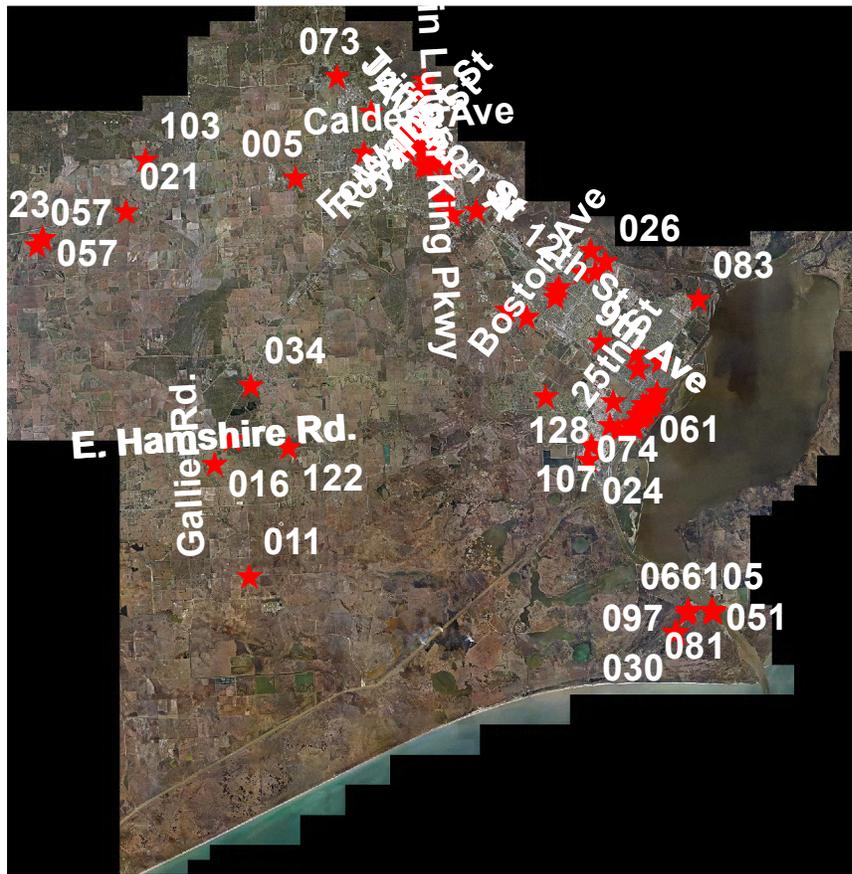
Description: This marks route of Texas' first oil pipelines to Tidewater, constructed 1901 to transport oil from famed Spindletop gusher (7 mi. north), which came in on Jan. 10, and flowed at rate of 75,000 barrels a day. A group later to become the Gulf Pipeline Company laid 11 miles of line to the railroad in two weeks' time, extending the line in 1902 to Port Arthur; by 1904 the area had 513.5 miles of pipelines. Earlier lines had been built in Nacogdoches, 1889, and Corsicana, 1898. Pipelines were made necessary by heavy production, meager storage facilities, and poor roads for freight wagons hauling out the oil. Mountains are ripped open, river beds tunneled, and continents spanned by pipelines. The "Big Inch" line laid from Texas to the Atlantic in World War II was a decisive factor in victory for the Allies. Pipeline mileage still increases daily; the work employs thousands. Besides interstate lines, oil fields use miles of pipes leading to railroad and barge docks, refineries and processing plants. Within Texas today are more than 146,000 miles of pipelines transporting petroleum and its products, enabling the natural resources of the state to be shared by other people of the world. (1966) Incise in base: Early travel, communication and transportation series Erected by the Moody Foundation



**County ID#: 132**  
**State ID#: 14132**  
**Title: Oil Pipelines, Early Texas**  
**Year Established: 1966**  
**Marker Size: 27" x 42"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



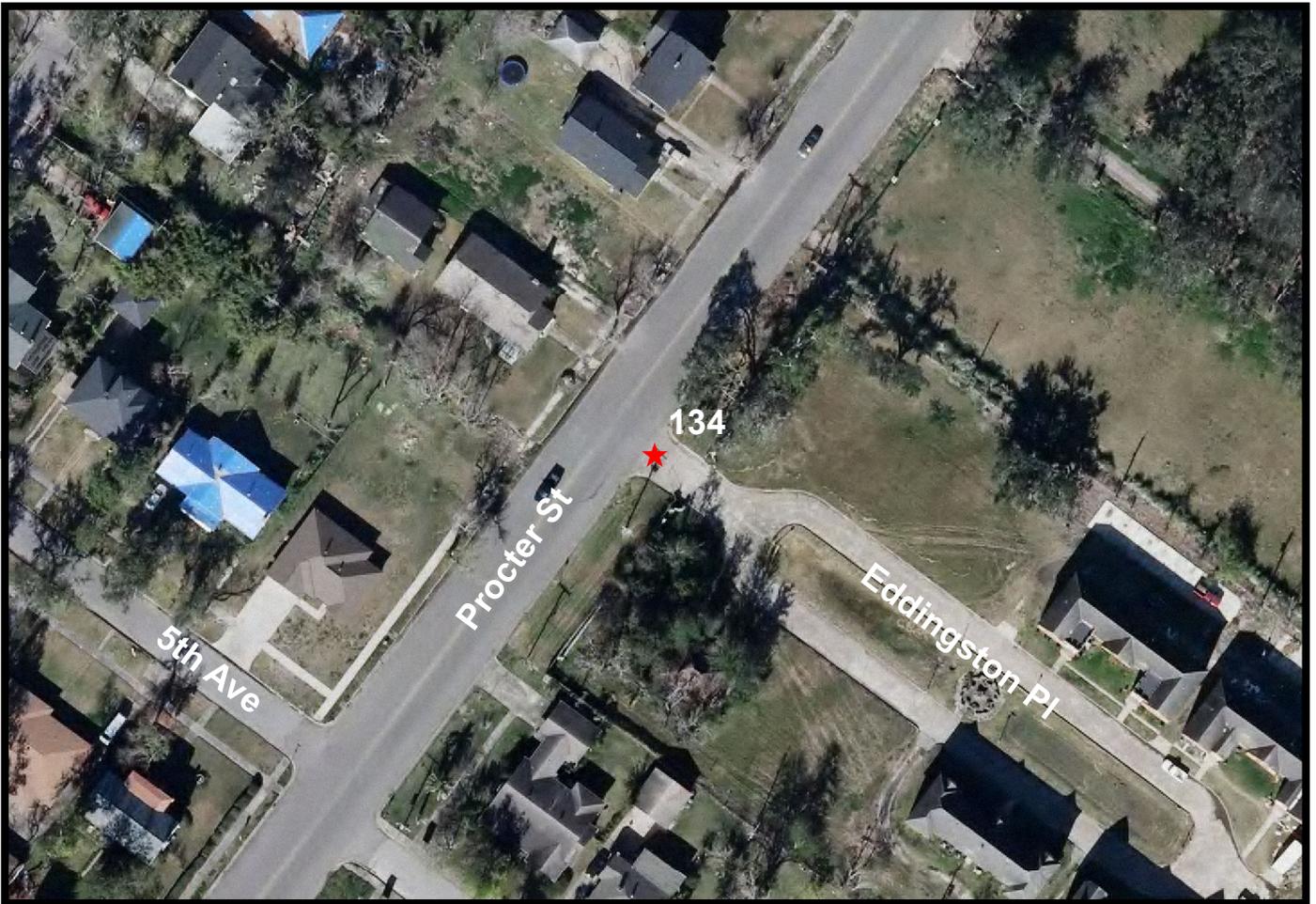
Description:



**County ID#: 133**  
**State ID#: 14837**  
**Title: Hebert Home**  
**Year Established: 1965**  
**Marker Size: 12" x 6"**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



Description:

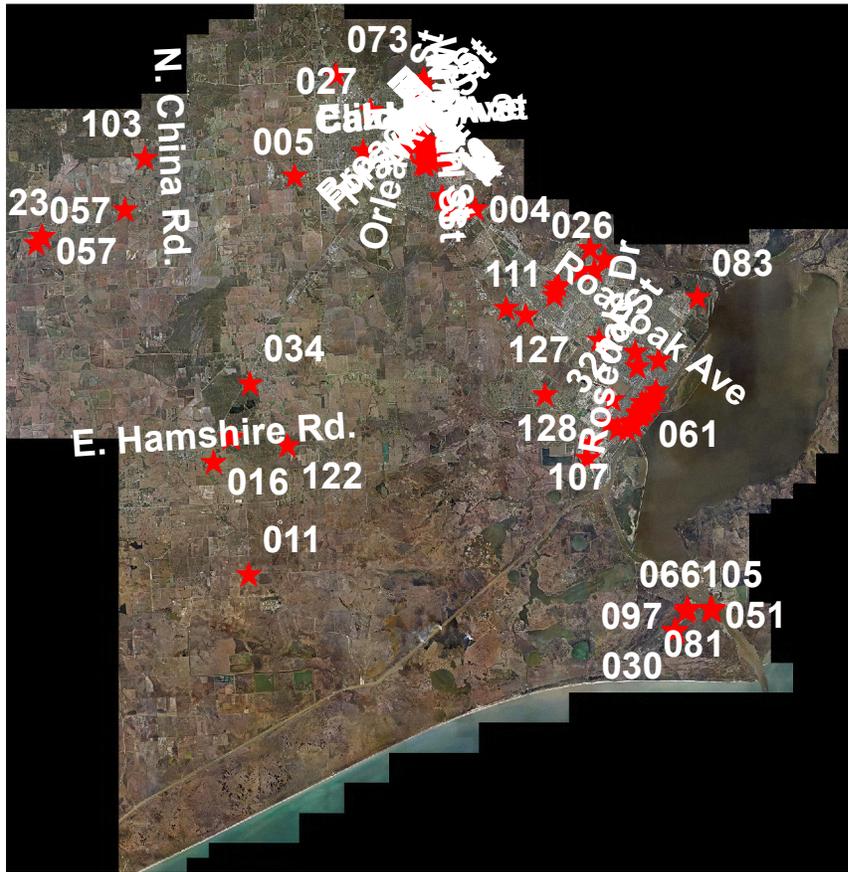


**County ID#:** 134  
**State ID#:** 13668  
**Title:** Eddingston Court  
**Year Established:**  
**Marker Size:**  
**UTM Zone:** 15  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 135**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Beaumont Commercial District  
(Boundary Increase)**

**Year Established:**

**Marker Size:**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 51,063 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 136**  
**State ID#:**  
**Title: US Post Office and  
Federal Building**  
**Year Established:**  
**Marker Size:**  
**UTM Zone: 15**  
**UTM East:**  
**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 137**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Rose Hill**

**Year Established:**

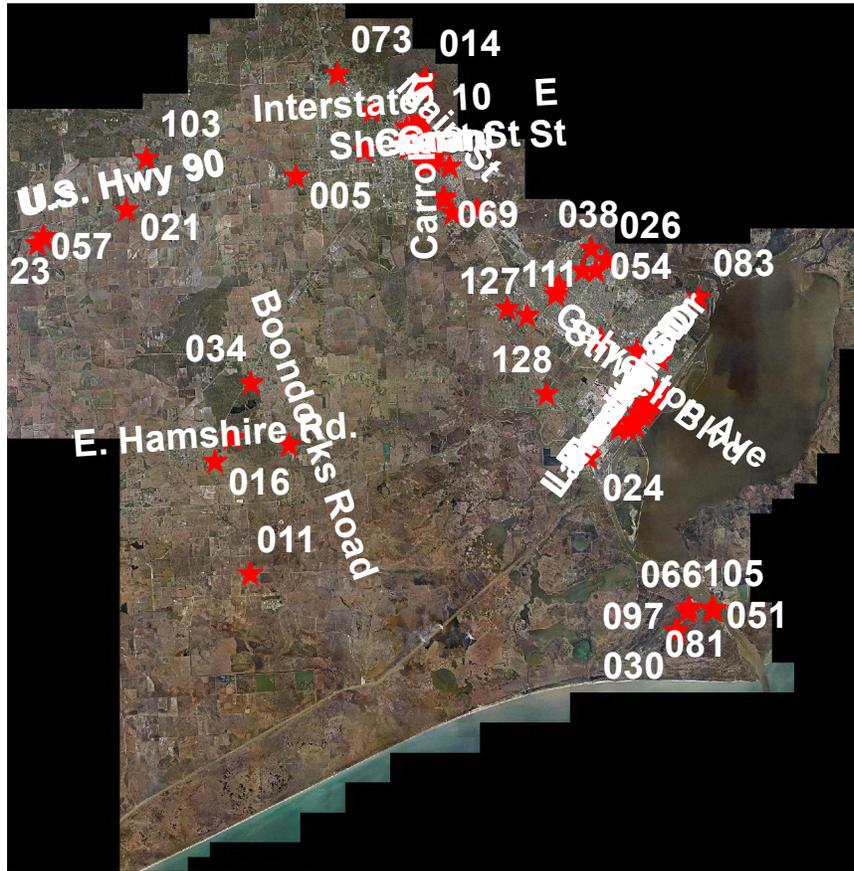
**Marker Size:**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**

Description:



**County ID#: 138**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Beaumont Commercial District**

**Year Established:**

**Marker Size:**

**UTM Zone: 15**

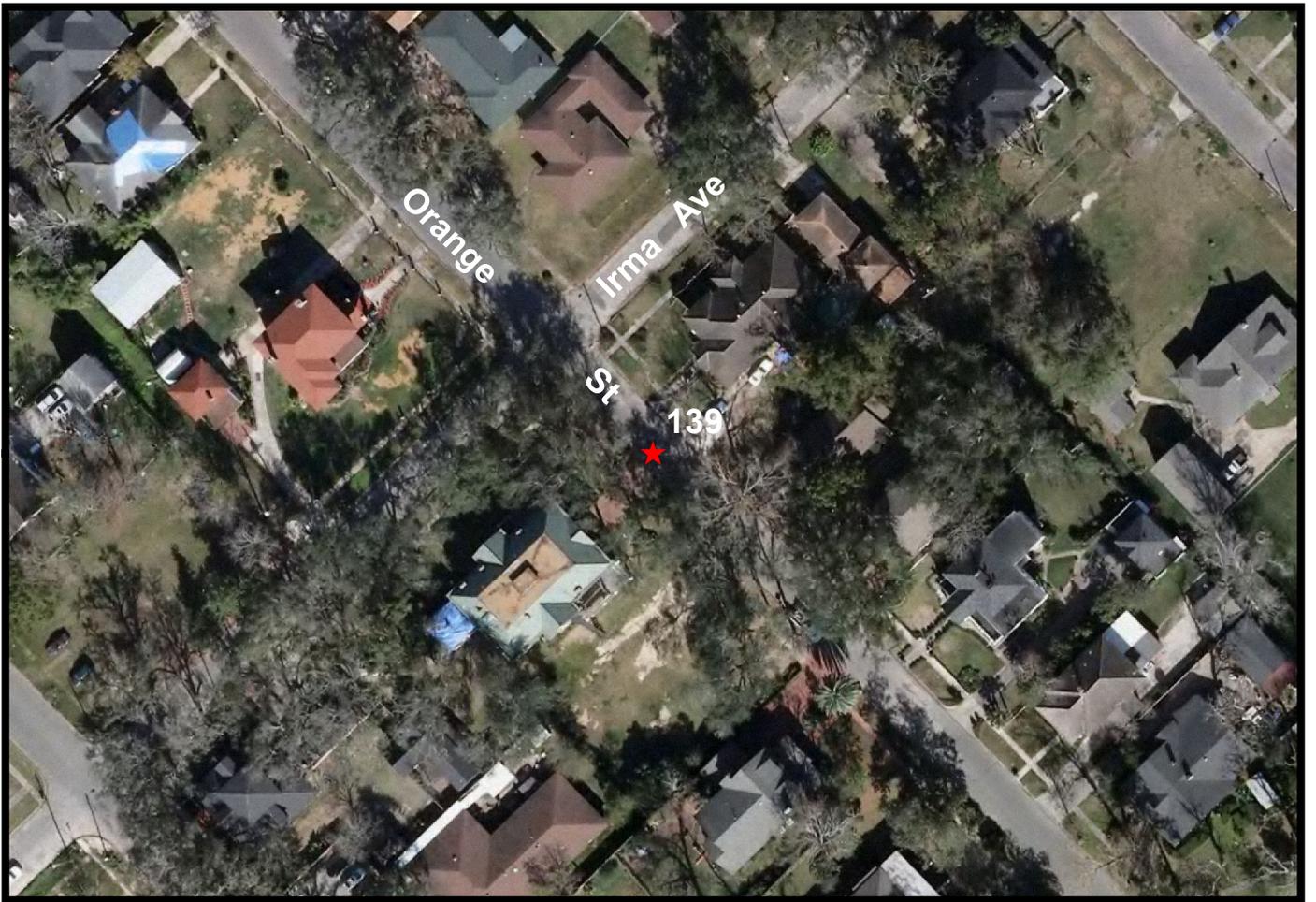
**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 51,063 feet

Description:



**County ID#: 139**

**State ID#:**

**Title: Idle Hours/Land Manor**

**Year Established:**

**Marker Size:**

**UTM Zone: 15**

**UTM East:**

**UTM North:**



1 inch = 100 feet

Description: