

OBSERVATIONS

OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY

With a current population estimated at 14,500, the city of Ennis has experienced growth and change since completion of the 1985 historic resources survey. Ennis continues to grow and further diversify its economy because of its proximity to the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas. A cursory examination of the city's historic neighborhoods suggests that much of the city's new development has bypassed the city's historic core, and relatively few historic resources have been demolished since 1985.

The downtown remains a vibrant commercial node and boasts the city's most significant collection of historic commercial buildings. Much of the central business district (CBD) lies within a historic district that was listed in the NRHP in 1986. This designation has further stimulated interest and activity within the area, as visitors and local residents more fully appreciate the unique qualities and ambiance of Ennis' historic downtown. Antique shops, cafes, professional offices, and other service-related enterprises prevail, and virtually all historic properties are occupied. The one- and two-story brick buildings retain much of their integrity and collectively convey a strong sense of the past. This feeling is reinforced by the installation of turn-of-the-century-styled streetlights, banners, and landscape improvements. The City's program to encourage private reinvestment in the CBD granting 100% tax exemption for repairs to downtown properties has spurred much commercial redevelopment and many historic properties have been successfully rehabilitated. Renovation of the building at 101 S. Main West was underway at the time the survey was being undertaken. New construction has generally been compatible with the salient architectural features of extant historic properties. The Pollan Furniture Store on N. Main West Street, for example, illustrates how a new building can provide modern conveniences yet still complement the historic character of surrounding properties. Plans are also underway to build new stores along the 200 block of W. Ennis Avenue that were destroyed in a disastrous fire in February 1996. The new buildings will be compatible in design, scale, and materials with the former buildings and will be harmonious with the prevailing historic character of the downtown.

As reported in the 1985 survey, the residential area immediately northwest of the downtown features the city's greatest concentration of intact historic dwellings. Many residences are prominent architectural landmarks that attest to the city's wealth and prosperity of the late 19th

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508 N. Dallas (Site No. 995) c. 1905
One of the best remaining local permutations of a modified L-plan dwelling, one of the most common regional plan types. The unusually massed form is reminiscent of Victorian-era house designs. This was the home of Dr. T.W. White in the 1920s and 1930s. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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601 N. Dallas (Site No. 161) c. 1910
I.R. Allen House

The Allen House is a fine example of the Classical Revival style, which attained moderate popularity in Ennis during the first decade of the 20th century. With its 2-story portico, use of the giant order, and large consoles, the Allen House exemplifies the style it was built throughout the state. It was home of Isaac R. Allen, co-owner of Allen & Kendall Furniture Store. His daughter still owns the house. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

and early 20th centuries. They are excellent examples of popular architectural forms and styles of the past and are vivid reminders of architectural traditions that cannot be replicated and reproduced. The lack of new construction enhances the neighborhood's cohesiveness and overall historic character.

The Ennis Historic Landmark Commission, a board of local residents knowledgeable about Ennis' past and historic preservation, fulfills an important role within the community. Its members assist property owners with renovations and repairs to their historic properties. In conjunction with this program, the City has granted a 25% ad valorem tax abatement for owners of 61 historic properties.

The 1985 historic resource survey report included a description of the city's physical character at that time and the type of historic resources documented during the study. Much of what was reported in the 1985 report remains true today. The following paragraphs are an updated version of that section of the report.

1985 Observations

Ennis is surprisingly free of the rapid urbanization that is typical in many other cities close to Dallas. Agriculture and the railroads, the two factors most responsible for the city's existence, remain the pervasive influences. In fact, the railroad reservation through the center of city is the dominant focal point of the downtown and the flanking residential neighborhoods. In a less dramatic way, the primary transportation routes which cross near the center of the city, U. S. Highways 287 and 75, serve as neighborhood boundaries and generators of commercial activity. The older residential and commercial areas in Ennis are generally intact, having been spared from intense development. Changes in the early neighborhoods have occurred sporadically over a period of several decades, producing a variety of architectural forms and styles. Ennis Avenue and the two Main streets clearly delineate the city's historic wards. Each of these four residential quadrants and the historic commercial district positioned in the center of the city possess qualities that distinguish them individually.

The northwest quadrant of town has the largest number of historic resources and includes areas of their highest concentration. This section contains a good selection of late 19th- and early 20-century architectural styles, providing an excellent view of the evolution of residential forms in this region. Substantial and modest houses are executed in vernacular, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Georgian Revival, Prairie School, and bungalow designs. Many dwellings rated HIGH and MEDIUM priority in the survey are located in this section of Ennis and strengthen the neighborhood's historic character. The old Ennis High School, Old City Lake, and Lake Clark are area landmarks. Most

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of the city's new residential development is taking place in the fringe portions of this quadrant near the lakes.

The southwest quadrant of the city has a mixture of large turn-of-the-century dwellings near downtown, small 20th-century houses and bungalows. One of Ennis' older African-American neighborhoods is situated in the western portion of this area, and several early properties associated with this neighborhood remain intact.

The southeast quadrant, historically home to many of Ennis' Czech settlers, is characterized by L-plan and two-room vernacular dwellings and bungalows. Cotton and agricultural processing facilities, including the grain elevators on E. Ennis Avenue, the old cotton compress on S. Main West, and the old cotton oil mill on S. Kaufman dominate the area. St. John's Catholic Church is a physical and cultural landmark located in the center of the neighborhood.

In northeast Ennis most of the houses are single-family dwellings, few of which are architecturally significant. As the center of Ennis' African-American population, the northeast side is the site of the old Carver High School and the Dorie Miller School on Martin Luther King Drive. Ennis Business Forms, an important industry to the city for many years, is located near the central business district in this quadrant.

The Ennis Central Business District (CBD) is generally confined to the portion of the townsite designated for commercial development in the original town plan. Red brick, used in the construction of many of the commercial buildings and for street paving, creates a special visual quality for the downtown district. This image has changed little during most of this century, providing a unique identity for the city's primary commercial node. The railroad is perhaps the most important element contributing to the physical and historical image of downtown. The tracks, on their raised bed between the east and west Main streets, now serve as the eastern edge of the CBD, as most new commercial and office development is occurring west of the historic business district.

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES DOCUMENTED IN 1997

The 41 resources identified for re-assessment by the Ennis Historic Landmark Commission represent a diverse collection of properties dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most are in a good state of repair and retain their historic character and integrity. The following list includes an assessment of individual properties examined during the 1997 survey.

210 W. Baylor (1913) - Having changed little since the 1985 historic resources survey, this house survives as a very good

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709 N. Dallas (Site No. 749) c. 1892
Barkley-Floyd House

An outstanding and one of the few remaining unaltered local examples of a 2-story modified L-plan house, the region's most abundant plan type. Jig-sawn and turned-wood architectural embellishment remain intact on gable ends and the wraparound porch. Constructed by local builder B.F. Sargent in 1892 for H.P. Barkley, a conductor and yardmaster for the H.& T.C. Railroad, the building was purchased in 1905 by T.W. Floyd, an insurance & real estate salesman who later opened Floyd's Variety Store. It was owned later by Ida McCanless, widow of Hix McCanless. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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806 S. Dallas (Site No. 1013) c. 1900
This house is one of the few local intact versions of the most common of regional plan types, the L-plan. Though built in great number and variety in Ennis through the second decade of the 20th century, most local examples have been destroyed or considerably altered. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986

example of a cross-gabled Craftsman bungalow. Particularly distinguishing features include the highly ornate Craftsman-inspired detailing and the low-sloping roof that accentuates the house's horizontal character. The only apparent exterior alteration is the screen enclosure of the front porch. Although this change is easily reversible, it nonetheless has a negative impact on the building's historic character. *Recommendation:* maintain the building's HIGH priority designation. The screen enclosure of the porch makes the house a moderate candidate for NRHP listing.

- 406 W. Baylor (c. 1915)** - This presents an unusual example of a bungalow with Craftsman features, due to its two-story form. In its well-maintained state, the house retains its integrity and historic character to a high degree. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority and consider nomination to the NRHP as a good and well-preserved example of a two-story Craftsman bungalow.
- 308 W. Belknap (c. 1920)** - Virtually unchanged since the 1985 historic resources survey, this house is a good local example of a front-gabled Craftsman bungalow. This house type was popular in Ennis from the 1910s until the 1930s, and this house is a good illustration of that trend. Although many similar examples exist in Ennis, this house is noteworthy because it retains its integrity to such a high degree. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM priority designation.
- 400 W. Belknap (c. 1910)** - This house is a good illustration of domestic vernacular architectural traditions of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and is distinctive because of its corner location and angled front entrance. An important architectural element is the steeply-pitched tower above the front entrance. Although the house retains its integrity to a high degree, it stands only in fair condition. *Recommendation:* maintain HIGH priority designation because few, if any, exterior alterations have been made. It is considered a moderate candidate for NRHP listing.
- 507 W. Brown (c. 1920)** - This house remains essentially unchanged since its documentation in the 1985 historic resources survey, when it was ranked as a MEDIUM priority property. This ranking was assessed because of the installation of new windows that moderately detract from the building's overall integrity; however, the form and other

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salient physical features are generally intact. No other significant exterior alterations have been made. *Recommendation:* reclassify as a HIGH priority property because the property retains much of its integrity and survives as a rare example of a two-story bungalow with Craftsman-inspired architectural features. The replacement windows make it a poor candidate for NRHP consideration.

605 W. Brown (c. 1935) - This two-story house has a side-gabled roof and a front porch that are suggestive of the Georgian Revival style, but the exposed rafter ends under the eaves that are typical of the Craftsman movement. Virtually unaltered, the house retains its architectural character to a noteworthy degree. *Recommendation:* reclassify as a HIGH priority property and consider for NRHP designation.

607 W. Brown (c. 1910) - This one-and-a-half-story residence features architectural detailing that is suggestive of the Classical Revival style. Particularly noteworthy are the front porch, with its Doric columns, and the hipped roof and dormer. *Recommendation:* The building is virtually unaltered and should be reclassified as a HIGH priority property. The dwelling is a good candidate for NRHP consideration.

405 Creechville Road (c. 1915) - This frame dwelling has changed little since its construction in approximately 1915. Currently unoccupied, the house is unusual because its prominent gabled front wing extends from the house's hip-roofed core. Much of the architectural embellishment reflects Craftsman traditions of the 1910s; however, the front entrance has sidelights that are representative of the Classical Revival style. This unusual combination of styles and forms suggests that the house may have been built in the 1910s, but remodeled soon afterward. Nevertheless, the house retains its historic character and integrity to an exceptional degree and has changed little since its documentation in the 1985 historic resources survey. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority, but due to its somewhat poor condition, an unlikely candidate for NRHP designation at this time. If rehabilitation work is undertaken, the house should be considered for the NRHP only if the work is done in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation.

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106 E. Denton (Site No. 164) c. 1905
This is a fine example of a modest L-plan dwelling, a house type utilized often in Ennis from the 1880s to the early 1910s. The house retains most of its original fabric and is one of the few to survive with the distinguishing turned posts and porch embellishment intact. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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400 W. Denton (Site No. 157) c. 1905
Moore House

Asymmetrical massing and unusual application of details distinguish this dwelling as an outstanding local interpretation of Classical Revival architecture. The huge paired consoles at the southwest corner off-center entry, paired giant order fluted columns set

the bias and the house's siting on a large lot contribute to the building's impressive appearance. It was the home for many years of the Captain H.T. Moore family. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

610 Creechville Road (c. 1930) - This brick-clad house was identified in the 1985 historic resources survey and was classified as a LOW priority property. The house remains virtually unchanged since 1985. In form, the dwelling typifies a front-gable bungalow, a popular house form in Ennis from the 1910s to the 1930s; however, most local examples have an exterior finish of wood siding. This house is notable because of the brick veneer. In addition, the house presents fine masonry work as evidenced by the chimney on the east elevation and the segmental arches above the door and windows in the front gabled extension. An archway on the building's east wall has been partially removed, leaving an incomplete arch. This change and the screen enclosure of the porch detract from the property's historic character. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM priority.

601 W. Crockett (c. 1890) - The property is an example of a vernacular house type that was popular locally during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The house has undergone some modifications since it was surveyed in 1985 and the building is in much better condition. The most noticeable change is the removal of the screen material in the front porch. Despite its improved condition and the restoration of the front porch, the house has been moderately altered. The windows on the front, for example, are not original and asbestos siding covers the original exterior finish. These changes have a negative impact on the building's historic character and integrity. *Recommendation:* reclassify as a HIGH priority property because it is a good, though slightly altered, example of a common vernacular house form. Exterior changes make the property an unlikely candidate for NRHP consideration.

500 S. Dallas (c. 1910) - This one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling is somewhat similar to 607 W. Brown and it features a broad hipped roof and dormer and displays some architectural elements suggestive of the Classical Revival style. When documented during the 1985 survey, the building had asbestos siding over the original exterior finish. The asbestos siding has since been removed; however, hard-board with vertical seams now sheathes the building. The present siding material, like the asbestos that formerly covered the house, detracts from the property's overall historic character. Otherwise, the building's form is unchanged and there have been no major additions and changes to other

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noteworthy architectural elements. *Recommendation:* despite the lack of other major additions and the removal of the asbestos, the building has been moderately altered and should remain classified as a MEDIUM priority property.

501 S. Dallas (c. 1905) - Previously identified as a HIGH priority property, the house at 501 S. Dallas is a modestly scaled, early 20th-century dwelling with Queen Anne style detailing. Popularity of this common architectural expression of the Victorian reached its peak locally during the 1890s, but waned after the turn of the 20th century. This house survives as a late example of the style. Most of the building's salient architectural features are intact including the staggered-butt shingles in the hipped and gable ends, the tripartite composition of the primary entrance, and the elaborate brickwork in the chimney. However, the clipped gable dormer with its grouped double-hung windows on the south elevation and the one-story wing on the rear (west) elevation are later additions. The building has changed little since it was documented in the 1985 historic resources survey. *Recommendation:* the dwelling should retain its classification as a HIGH priority property and it is moderate to good candidate for NRHP designation.

400 W. Decatur (c. 1905) - This two-story frame house typifies a locally common house form of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The asymmetrical form of the steeply-pitched cross-gabled roof and front projecting wing reflect a widespread practice of residential architecture of the period. It appears that the building has not been changed since the 1985 historic resources survey; however, Sanborn maps show that the original porch has been removed and an addition built on the east elevation. *Recommendation:* maintain MEDIUM preservation priority.

405 W. Decatur (c. 1940) - This property was not documented in the 1985 historic resources survey because it did not meet the 50-year age requirement. Some windows have been replaced and an addition has been built onto the east side. *Recommendation:* add to the inventory as a MEDIUM priority property because the house stands in a good state of repair and retains much of its integrity.

408 W. Decatur (c. 1915) - This building was identified and documented in the 1985 historic resources survey and was listed as a LOW priority property. The hipped roof and

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510 W. Denton (Site No. 155) c. 1915
John M. Weekley House

A noteworthy example of a 1-story version of American Foursquare. Pyramidal roof and veranda are most prominent features. Strong horizontality. Former home of J.M. Weekley, vice president of United Publishing Co., and his wife Bertha. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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606 W. Denton (Site No. 153) c. 1918
Matthews-Templeton House

An excellent example of the 2-story bungalow form that local architect Hix McCannless was adept at designing. Traditional Craftsman details are incorporated into an imposing, irregularly massed composition topped by a set-back second story, a McCannless trademark. Built for Pearl C. Matthews, co-owner of the McKinney-based Matthews Brothers Department Store. In 1921 E.K. Atwood purchased the residence, and he sold it W.R. & Metca Templeton in 1924. He was a banker and cotton buyer. In 1948 Garner Dunkerly, Jr., of the Ennis Tag & Printing Co., bought the house. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

hipped dormers suggest a 1910s date of construction. Dwellings from this period typically had a symmetrical facade, but this house has an off-center primary entrance that deviates from that trend. As documented in the 1985 survey, the porch has been severely altered and an addition built onto the east elevation. *Recommendation:* maintain as a LOW priority, because the modifications negatively impact the building's ability to convey its historic character.

506 W. Denton (c. 1919) - This two-and-a-half-story dwelling is a prominent architectural landmark in the surrounding neighborhood. The low-pitched hipped roof and the broadly proportioned front entrance and sidelights suggest a Prairie School movement influence. *Recommendation:* maintain HIGH priority classification. Alterations to the porch supports, negatively impacting the historic integrity, make it a poor-to-moderate candidate for NRHP listing.

600 W. Denton (c. 1920) - This house is an unusual example of a Craftsman bungalow with a brick-faced veneer. Distinctive features include the low-pitched cross-gabled roof and the porte-cochere on the east elevation. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority because the building is in fair condition and has not been modified since its documentation in 1985. The only significant alteration is the partial screen-enclosure of the porch, making the property a moderate candidate for NRHP listing.

607 N. Gaines (c. 1935) - A good local example of the Colonial Revival style, this house is noteworthy because it retains its integrity to such a high degree. In addition to the symmetrical facade of the house, its dominant features include the long sweeping side-gabled roof and the brick exterior chimney. The major alteration is the balconied porch on the south elevation. *Recommendation:* retain as a MEDIUM priority property.

1601 N. Gaines (c. 1915) - This house was identified in the 1985 historic resources survey as a HIGH priority site, and has changed minimally since that time. The house is an unusual example of a bungalow with Colonial Revival detailing, as evidenced by the eave returns in the front-gabled bays, and the Doric porch columns and curved roof of the porch. The property retains its integrity to an exceptional degree. *Recommendation:* retain as a HIGH priority property and consider NRHP designation.

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702 N. Gaines (c. 1905) - This house is a good example of a locally common, turn-of-the-century vernacular dwelling. The asymmetrical plan, steeply-pitched hipped roof, and front projecting gable are distinctive features. Since its documentation in the 1985 historic resources survey, the house has been renovated and stands in good condition. The most obvious changes are the improvements to the overall state of the house and the restoration of the porch. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority because the recent renovations have restored the building's historic character and integrity. The house should be considered for NRHP designation.

708 N. Gaines (c. 1900) - This is a good example of an I-house with some Queen Anne-style detailing. The house has changed minimally since its documentation in 1985. It was included in the Ennis multiple-property nomination, but was rejected for NRHP consideration by the Texas State Board of Review because of porch alterations. *Recommendation:* maintain the HIGH priority classification.

201 S. Gaines (c. 1920) - This dwelling is a good local example of a bungalow with Craftsman-inspired architectural detailing and is noteworthy because it retains most of its salient features. This house type enjoyed considerable popularity in Ennis from the 1910s to the 1930s. Distinctive architectural elements on this property include the broad front porch and its brick supports. The original windows, door and exterior finish (wood siding) enhance the property's ability to convey its historic character. However, the screen enclosure of the porch makes this bungalow a slightly altered example of its type. Other changes, such as the shed addition on the east side of the front porch and the construction of a new, but compatibly designed, garage have changed the building's fundamental form and detract from the property's overall historic character. *Recommendation:* reclassify as a HIGH priority property, but a poor candidate for NRHP designation.

206 S. Gaines (c. 1935) - This property was not included in the historic resources survey of 1985 because it did not appear to predate the 1935 age requirement. The 1940 city directory indicates that Joe Hawkins lived at this address; thus, the house was probably erected between 1935 and 1940. Presently, it stands in excellent condition and is representative of residential construction of the late 1930s. The side-

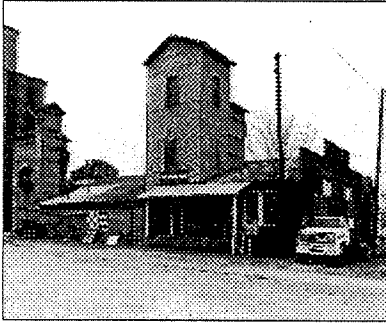
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616 W. Denton (Site No. 151) c. 1887
E.T. Boren House

A rare surviving local example of an I-house, a form once common for rural homesteads in the region. Early 20th century modifications to the center bay and porch are harmonious with the original form. Prominent landowner, farmer, and cattle raiser E.T. Boren and his wife Sallie had this farmhouse built about 1887. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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121 E. Ennis (Site No. 357) c. 1905
Old City Mills

Frame building, built about 1905, housed a farm implement supply store, was incorporated into the operation of the City Mills Co. sometime after 1927. Grain elevators, constructed in 1917, and the company's office, owned by the Sparkman Brothers and later Clark remain. Portions of the complex have been razed since its documentation in 1985. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

gabled roof and gabled dormers reflect an influence of the Colonial Revival style, an enduring 20th-century residential architectural expression. Since its construction, vinyl siding has been placed over the original exterior finish and the original wood-sash windows have been replaced with those utilizing aluminum sashes. These changes represent severe alterations to the building's original appearance and negatively impact its historic character and integrity. *Recommendation:* include in the updated historic resources inventory and classify as a MEDIUM priority property because it is a rare, though altered, example of residential architecture of the 1930s.

906 S. Kaufman (c. 1945) - This commercial building was not documented in the 1985 historic resources survey because it did not meet the 50-year age threshold for inclusion in the survey. The building reflects the growing influence of the automobile of the post-Great Depression era and fronts onto the old route of U.S. Highway 77. Since its construction in the 1940s, the building has been modified over the years. The most dominant feature is the model horse atop the masonry extension on the front. This extension probably was the base of sign that advertised the original tenant. *Recommendation:* include in the updated historic resources survey and classify as a LOW priority property.

503 W. Knox (c. 1935) - This house is a good example of a 1930s bungalow with minimal Tudor Revival features, including a steeply-pitched gable roof and a prominent exterior chimney on the principal facade. Since the house was documented in the 1985 historic resources survey, a garage addition has been built on the west side. The house otherwise remains unaltered. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM priority classification, because the house is a good, but slightly altered, example of its type.

608 W. Knox (c. 1930) - This house is a very good example of Colonial Revival architecture, and is significant because it retains its distinguishing features. The only alteration since documentation in 1985 is the construction of a front porch addition. Despite this modification, the house retains its integrity to a high degree. *Recommendation:* reclassify as a HIGH priority property. It is considered a moderate candidate for NRHP listing.

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705 W. Knox (c. 1930) - This building was identified in the 1985 historic resources survey and ranked as a LOW priority property. Since that time, the building has been renovated and upgraded with the most obvious change being the replacement of the original wood-sash windows with metal-sash ones. The building is a good example of Colonial Revival architecture, and noteworthy features include the side-gabled roof, symmetrical facade, and gabled dormers. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM.

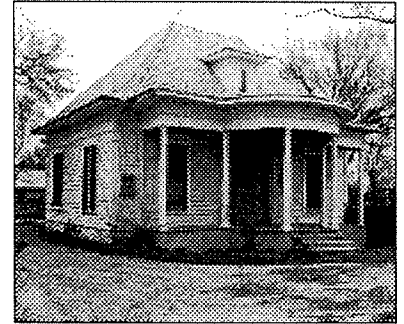
708 W. Knox (c. 1920) - This property is a classic example of a front-gabled bungalow built about 1920. The house retains its original form, massing, and architectural embellishment. It is in good condition and has changed little since its documentation in the 1985 historic resources survey. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH priority classification. Consider for NRHP designation as a good and well-preserved example of a common local type.

806 W. Knox (c. 1920) - This house was documented in the 1985 historic resources survey as a MEDIUM priority property. It is a good local example of the Colonial Revival style and is very similar to another dwelling at 808 W. Knox. The house retains its integrity to a high degree and has gained significance since the survey was completed in 1985. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH priority and consider NRHP listing.

808 W. Knox (c. 1920) - Like the dwelling at 806 W. Knox, this house presents a good example of Colonial Revival architecture, but is slightly better-preserved. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority.

501 S. Main West (c. 1890) - Classified in the 1985 historic resources survey as a MEDIUM priority property, the house at 501 S. Main West was once an impressive late 19th-century dwelling in Ennis. The asymmetrical plan, massing, and form, as well as the elaborate detailing and ornate brickwork in the chimney are representative of the Queen Anne style. The building has changed little since 1985. Changes to the porch, the application of vinyl siding over the original exterior finish and the metal spiral staircase diminish the property's ability to convey its historic character; however, the house could be restored if work is undertaken in compliance with the Secretary of Interior's

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802 E. Ennis (Site No. 338) c. 1905
A unique and well-executed example of the synthesis of Classical Revival details and a modest 1-story vernacular house form. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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500 W. Ennis (Site No. 316) c. 1910
Raphael House

This well-executed Classical Revival style dwelling best represents the regional interpretation of the style with its clarity and balanced design. Jewish community leader Edmond Raphael (1865-1927), who served as president of the First National Bank in the 1890s and 1920s, had this dwelling built for his family in about 1915. It remains in the family estate. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

Guidelines for Rehabilitation. *Recommendation:* retain MEDIUM priority classification.

205 N. McKinney (c. 1930) - This well-preserved post office presents a particularly noteworthy example of the Classical Revival style applied to a federal government building. The building retains its integrity to an exceptional degree. It was identified in the 1985 historic resources survey as a HIGH priority property and has been changed minimally since that time. *Recommendation:* maintain HIGH classification and consider as a strong candidate for NRHP designation.

210 N. McKinney (c. 1947) - A local informant states that this church was originally built as a World War II-era Army chapel. Since its documentation in 1985, the building's brick exterior has been painted and a new entrance ramp has been constructed. The church is a good local example of a 1940s ecclesiastical building. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM preservation priority.

803 S. McKinney (c. 1920) - This modest frame building may once have been a Moravian church. The building itself has changed little since the 1985 historic resources survey. A portion of the steeple has been removed and the windows have been replaced. The building's significance lies primarily in its associations rather than its architecture. *Recommendation:* maintain as a MEDIUM priority property.

108 W. Milam (c. 1920) - This dwelling is an example of a cross-gabled Craftsman bungalow, a house form that enjoyed widespread popularity in Ennis from the 1910s to the 1930s. This property is a modest illustration of its type. Although the building retains its original form, the house has been altered to a moderate degree. Changes include the partial enclosure of the front porch, and the replacement of one of the original front doors. However, the house still retains much of its original architectural embellishment (porch columns, exposed rafter ends, clipped gable roof, and double-hung wood-sash windows). Since its documentation during the 1985 historic resources survey, the house has been slightly altered. The most noticeable change is the partial enclosure of the front porch. The 1985 photograph shows that this bay was enclosed with screening material. *Recommendation:* the dwelling is a typical and slightly altered example of a locally common house type and the property should retain its LOW priority classification.

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Myrtle Cemetery - 1200 W. Knox (c. 1875) - Myrtle Cemetery is the city's largest and oldest graveyard. It is protected under state and federal laws, but the NRHP guidelines state that cemeteries are not usually considered for designation. Nonetheless, the cemetery contains many fine examples of funerary monuments, as well as the burial sites of many of the community's leading citizens of the past. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH priority classification.

400 S. Paris (c. 1925) - The Craftsman bungalow was the most popular house form in Ennis from the 1910s to the 1930s; however, this property is an example of a bungalow with Tudor Revival detailing. Relatively few examples of this residential architectural expression were ever built locally. This property is a good and intact illustration. Distinctive features include the cross-gabled roof, the curved sloped extension to the front-facing gable, and the round-arched front door. The building retains its integrity to an exceptional degree and has changed little since it was recorded in the 1985 historic resources survey. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH preservation priority and consider NRHP designation.

501 S. Paris (c. 1920) - Identified in the 1985 historic resources survey and classified in the MEDIUM priority category, this frame dwelling is an example of a hip-roofed bungalow with Craftsman-inspired detailing. The house retains most of its salient physical features—form, massing, and architectural embellishment—but the application of aluminum siding over the original exterior finish and the installation of metal-sash windows represent significant changes. Many other examples of this house type survive locally, and several retain their integrity to a higher degree. The building appears to reflect the assimilation of Czech immigrants into the American culture; however, other examples, most notably 507 S. Paris, are more-intact illustrations of this trend. *Recommendation:* maintain categorization as a MEDIUM priority property.

505 (507) S. Paris (c. 1920) - This property was surveyed in 1985 and was included in the historic resources survey but was listed at address 505 S. Paris. It was ranked as a MEDIUM priority property. Since its documentation in 1985, the house has changed only minimally. The most obvious change has been removal and pruning of shrubs that partially obscured the facade. The building is largely unaltered

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201 N. Gaines (Site No. 761) c. 1915
James S. Sanderson House
An intact, well-rendered bungalow form with multiple materials typical of earlier, more elaborate bungalows. With its multiple roof planes, porch proportions and details, this house exemplifies Craftsman bungalow building traditions. Sanderson was listed in the 1925-26 city directory as a farmer. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

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208 N. Gaines (Site No. 781) c. 1913
Sharp House

The Sharp House is a good local example of Craftsman architecture, which was extremely popular in Ennis during the 1910s & 1920s. The massing and exuberant detailing of this dwelling are more typical of the early phase of bungalow building. John H. Sharp, a local attorney, had this house built in 1913. He lived there through the 1930s. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

and survives as a good local example of a hipped roof bungalow of the early 1920s. The front porch displays architectural features, such as Doric columns and a gabled porch with a curved underside, that are suggestive of the Colonial Revival style. This house is unusual because contemporaneous residences with similar Colonial Revival stylistic elements typically have side-gabled roofs; however, this one-story frame dwelling has a hipped roof. *Recommendation:* upgrade designation to HIGH priority ranking. Because the building retains its integrity to an exceptional degree and reflects the assimilation of Czech immigrants into local society, the house appears to be good candidate for NRHP designation.

601 S. Paris (1937) - St. John Catholic Church is among the premier architectural landmarks in the city of Ennis. Constructed in 1937, the church has changed little since its documentation in the 1985 historic resources survey and it still retains its integrity and historic character to an exceptional degree. When the Ennis Multiple-Resource National Resource nomination was completed, the building did not meet the NRHP's 50-year age requirement and thus was not included in the nomination. With the passage of time, however, the church now meets the 50-year age threshold and is potentially eligible for NRHP designation. The church is part of a complex of buildings, including the Divine Providence Hall and education-related facilities, that deserve consideration as a historic district. *Recommendation:* keep designation as a HIGH priority property and a strong candidate for listing in the NRHP.

1001 S. Paris (c. 1920) - This one-story frame dwelling was originally recorded in 1985 and was classified as a MEDIUM priority property. It has changed only minimally since then. The house is an example of a front-gabled bungalow with Craftsman-inspired detailing. Although the house retains its integrity to a noteworthy degree, it is a typical illustration of a locally common house type. *Recommendation:* maintain classification as a MEDIUM priority property.

901 Park (c. 1920) - Situated in a picturesque setting on the city's north side, the St. Thomas Episcopal Church is a new addition to the historic resources survey. The church presents a very good local example of Gothic Revival architecture. The 1960 update of the Sanborn maps for Ennis show that the building was moved to the southeast corner of Tyler and

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Sherman between 1950 and 1960, and then to its present location some time after 1960. Although the church has been moved and is therefore ineligible for the NRHP, it is a good example of its type. *Recommendation:* include as a MEDIUM priority property.

308 N. Preston (c. 1910) - This two-story frame dwelling was documented in the 1985 historic resources survey as a MEDIUM priority property. The building has since been upgraded and stands today in good condition. The house's salient physical features are intact and it retains its integrity to a high degree. The house displays some Classical Revival features, most notably the one-story porch and its Doric columns. *Recommendation:* upgrade to HIGH priority and consider for NRHP listing.

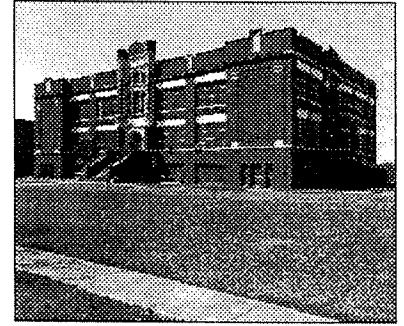
400 N. Preston (c. 1945) - This new addition to the historic resources survey was not documented in 1985 because it did not meet the 50-year age requirement. The house is a rare and unusually well-preserved example of 1940s residential architecture with modest references to the Colonial Revival style. The building's rambling plan is its most distinctive feature. *Recommendation:* include as a MEDIUM priority property, as it retains its integrity to a high degree and will gain significance with the passage of time.

1008 N. Preston (c. 1925) - This property was not identified in the 1985 historic resources survey. The building dates to the late 1920s or 1930s, and is noteworthy because a side elevation fronts onto the street. According to the current owner, a member of the Glaspy family built the house for his daughter and son-in-law behind his now-demolished larger house. The most noticeable alteration is the replacement of windows. *Recommendation:* add to the updated historic resources survey as a MEDIUM priority property.

1102 N. Preston (c. 1935) - This two-story Colonial Revival building has been only slightly modified since its construction in the 1930s. Distinctive features include the side-gabled roof and the symmetrical composition of the main body of the house. A small one-story addition extends from the north side of the house. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM classification as a good, if slightly modified, example of the Colonial Revival style.

1300 N. Shawnee (c. 1930) - The Fourth Ward Baptist Church is among the most important cultural, religious, and architec-

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES IN ENNIS, TEXAS



501 N. Gaines (Site No. 759) 1916
Old Ennis High School

The most conspicuous historic public building still standing in Ennis. This design by the prominent Ft. Worth architectural firm of Sanguinet & Staats emphasizes the primary entry bay with Jacobethan details executed in light stone to contrast the red brick of the building's mass. Serving as the Ennis High School from 1916 to 1982, it now houses the junior high school. It is Ennis's oldest extant school building. Replaced windows have moderately affected the building's integrity. Post-1936 resources on the site are smaller in scale than the school, and should be considered as noncontributing to the historic character of the property. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES
IN ENNIS, TEXAS



701 N. Gaines (Site No. 754) c. 1898
Meredith-McDowal House

One of the most successfully rendered and intact examples of a modified L-plan Victorian-era dwelling, the most common late 19th- and early 20th-century regional plan type. The elaboration of simpler vernacular forms was favored by late 19th-century owners because of its picturesque quality.

While the architect, Hix McCannless, is best known for his Craftsman bungalows, the Meredith House reveals that in his earliest designs he worked with local building traditions. Built for E.C. and Connie Meredith. Owned by the R.T. McDowal family since 1919. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

tural landmarks in Ennis' African-American community. Recorded in the 1985 historic resources survey and categorized as a HIGH priority property, the church has been altered since its original construction in the late 1930s. A historic photograph appearing in a 1992 brochure that celebrates the congregation's centennial service reveals that the building once had corner towers. Other changes include the removal of the original doors and windows and the expansion of the steps leading to the front entrance. Despite these alterations, the church retains its original massing and form, and most of its salient features are intact. *Recommendation:* retain HIGH priority ranking and consider NRHP designation because of its association with Ennis' African-American community.

106 W. Tyler (c. 1920) - Identified in the 1985 historic resources survey as a LOW priority property, this house has since been renovated. Although the recently completed work has greatly improved the overall quality of the house, prominently displayed non-historic features such as a front porch have been added. In scale and proportion, the addition is sensitive to the building's historic character, but it is not original. *Recommendation:* upgrade to MEDIUM classification.

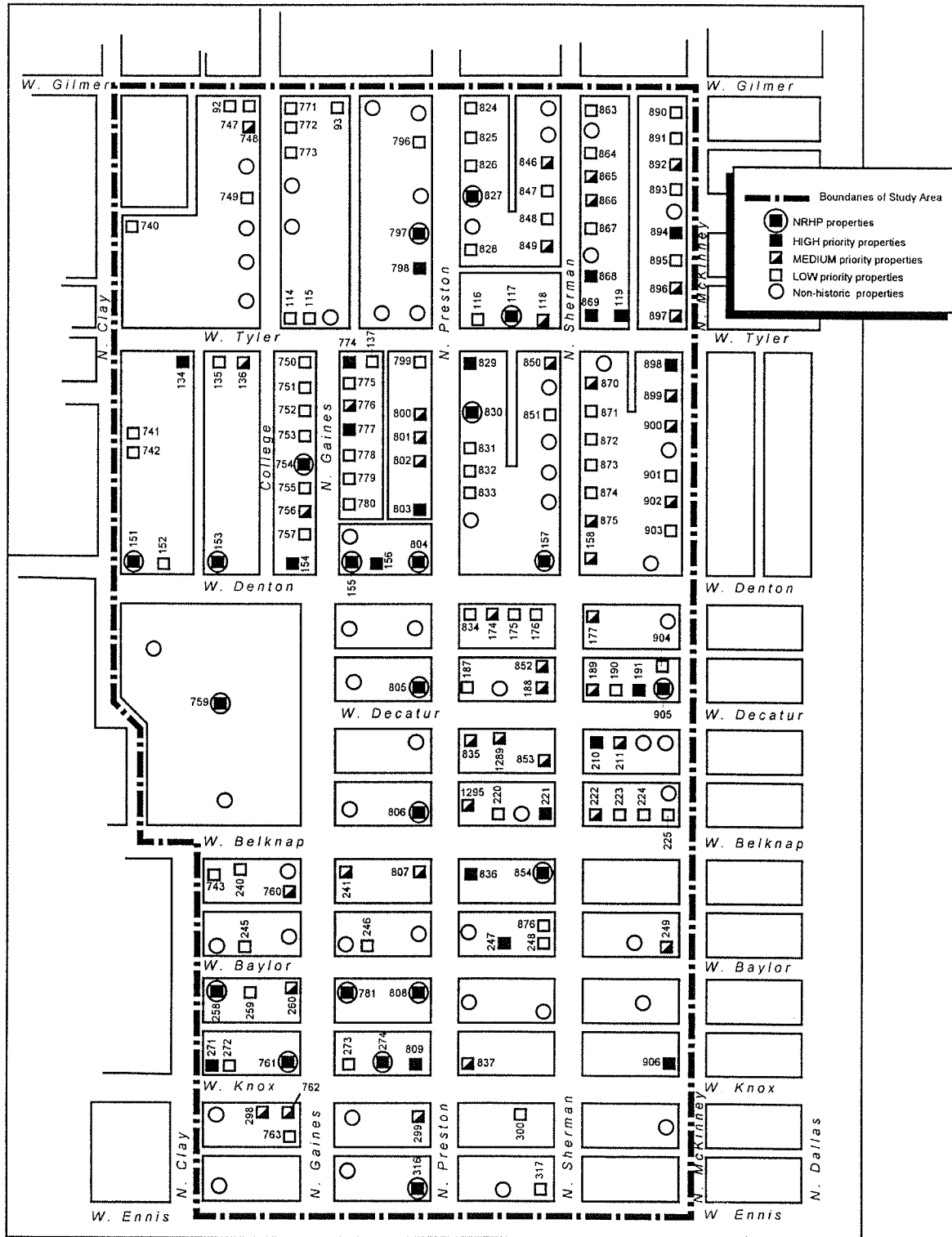
AN ASSESSMENT OF THE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY'S NORTHWEST QUADRANT

The residential neighborhood (Figure 1) bounded by N. McKinney Street, W. Gilmer Street, N. Clay Street, and W. Ennis Avenue contains an eclectic collection of buildings from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most are single-family residences where many of Ennis' leading citizens have lived; several dwellings are listed in the NRHP as part of the Ennis Multiple-Resource nomination. The area also contains the old high school, several historic churches, and a scattering of modern single- and multiple-family dwellings. Most commercial and non-residential activity is concentrated in the southeast corner (adjacent to the central business district) and along the W. Ennis Avenue, a major thoroughfare within the community.

Most of the area's largest and most architecturally impressive buildings are south of W. Denton Street, which roughly bisects the area into equal halves. The houses in the southern part typically are on large lots, and a city plat map indicates the blocks south of W. Denton Street are square, with ten lots per block. Exceptions are blocks that are south of W. Baylor Street and east of N. Preston Street; they have 20 lots per block and were intended for commercial use. The layout and orienta-

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Figure 1. Proposed Local Historic District



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NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES IN ENNIS, TEXAS



504 W. Knox (Site No. 274) c. 1900
Jolesch House

An octagonal second-story tower marks the entry and juncture of two ells in this Queen Anne elaboration of a tradition modified L-plan dwelling. Turned architectural porch trim and decorative gable treatment further distinguish this house as an outstanding example of a once abundant plan type in the region. It was the home of Ike Jolesch, vice-president of the First National Bank of Ennis and proprietor of a dry goods store on S. Main West, known as the Big Store. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

tion of lots south of W. Denton Street indicate that the town founders anticipated that most buildings in this area would face onto east/west-running streets. Actual development patterns, however, often deviate from this pattern and houses on corner lots, in particular, often face onto north/south streets. The consequence of this irregular developmental trend diminishes the area's sense of continuity.

In contrast, blocks north of W. Denton Street are rectangular, rather than square, in shape and most of the houses face onto north/south-running streets. Although typically smaller than their counterparts south of W. Denton Street, houses in these blocks have more uniform street setbacks and are of a similar scale. These characteristics enhance the area's ability to convey a sense of time and place.

SURVEY RESULTS

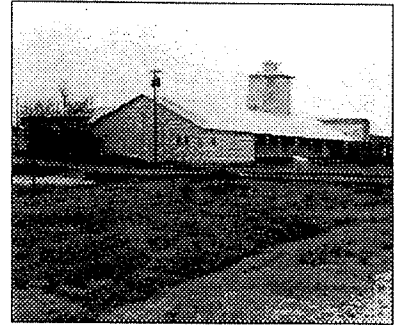
PRESERVATION PRIORITY EVALUATION

The preservation priority ratings reflect the relative significance of every identified historic resource. The rankings were based upon the current architectural integrity and known historical associations. This evaluation is intended to provide some guidance in directing future preservation activities and other planning decisions. This evaluation **should not** be considered a static designation, but can and should be changed to reflect the evolving status of properties. As rehabilitation efforts in the future successfully restore a building's historic integrity or as subsequent research reveals historical significance, that property's preservation priority rating should be revised and updated. All of the identified historic resources were evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

HIGH PRIORITY - Contributes significantly to local history or broader historical patterns; is an outstanding, unique, or good representative example of architecture, engineering, or crafted design with minor alterations; is a good example of a common local building form, architectural style, or plan-type and retains a significant portion of its original character and contextual integrity; is a very significant modern or recent landmark; meets, in some cases, criteria for inclusion in the NRHP; if located within a historic district, it almost always will be classified as "Contributing" (see the Glossary section of this report); considered among the most significant properties in the project area.

MEDIUM PRIORITY - Contributes moderately to local history or broader historical patterns, but alterations or deterioration have diminished the resources's integrity; is a typical example of architecture, engineering or crafted design; is a typical example of a common local building form, architectural style, or type; is a modern or recent landmark that is prominent in the community; since little, if any, historical information was gathered, more research is needed before a final assessment can be made; consequently, it may be upgraded to HIGH if research reveals important historical associations; if located within a historic district, it often will be classified as Contributing, depending on level, severity, and reversibility of alterations; therefore, it should be judged on an individual basis.

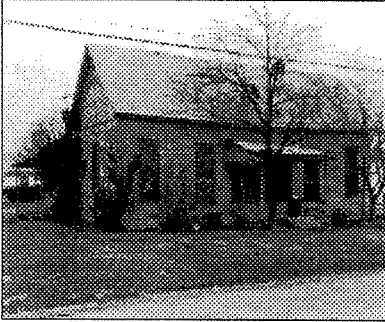
NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES IN ENNIS, TEXAS



111 E. Lampasas (Site No. 1166) c. 1885
Ennis Cotton Compress

One of Ennis's earliest industrial enterprises and in operation by 1889, it served as a cotton compress and warehouse company. It has been vital to Ennis's cotton industry for almost 100 years. Joe Baldrige was the first president of the company. Two shed additions were built in 1917, but they burned in the early 1920s. Later additions were completed in 1953-54 and should be considered noncontributing. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES
IN ENNIS, TEXAS



722 W. Madison (Site No. 649) c. 1890
An unaltered, intact, center-passage dwelling, a common regional vernacular form of the late 19th century. This is one of the least-altered examples in Ennis. Windows flanking the entry displace sidelights in a variation from the standard fenestration pattern most often associated with this plan. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1985.

LOW PRIORITY - Typifies a more recent common local building form, architectural style, or plan-type, with no known historical associations; is a moderate to severely altered or deteriorated resource that exemplifies a distinctive building type or architectural style, or that has only minor historical significance; although integrity is often a problem for these properties, more historical research is needed before a final assessment can be made; if located within a historic district, the severity of alterations may make the property a candidate to be classified as Noncontributing.

The Historic Resources Inventory (Appendix A) includes a comprehensive listing of all historic properties in the city of Ennis. The inventory, organized in address order, identifies the priority designation of each property. The Comments field notes any changes in priority designation since completion of the 1985 historic resource survey.

SURVEY MATERIALS

The results of the historic resources survey of 1985 and the updated information from 1997 provide a comprehensive, evaluated inventory. Documentation on the identified historic properties are presented in a multi-volume set that includes SURVEY FORMS, BLACK AND WHITE CONTACTS, COLOR SLIDES and RESEARCH DATA. The original survey forms and black and white negatives are filed at the THC in Austin. The City of Ennis retains possession of copies of the forms and contact prints of the negatives. The materials are stored in 3-ring binders that easily expedite the integration of supplemental information generated during the current survey.

Survey Forms

Volumes I, II, and III of the support documentation contain Texas Historic Sites Inventory Forms for every property identified in the survey and included in the inventory. The forms are arranged in address order. At a minimum, each form includes the survey site number, address, and photographic references for that applicable property. Survey forms for the HIGH priority properties contain more detailed information including a brief narrative description noting salient physical features, a statement of significance describing important historical associations, and an assessment of the resource's relative architectural significance within a local context.

Black and White Contact Prints

Volume IV contains contact prints of all surveyed properties and additional views of more significant (all HIGH and most MEDIUM priority properties). The contact number and individ-

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ual frame number are shown on a photo index form opposite each contact along with the property's address. These photo reference numbers appear on the individual survey forms (Volumes I, II, and III) and in the Historic Resources Inventory (Appendix A). Rolls 1 through 38 contain a single image of each identified historic resource. Rolls 39 through 70 contain supplemental and detail photographs of the more significant properties. Additional photography work completed in 1997 is integrated into the set and comprises Rolls 71 through 74.

Color Slides

Volumes V and VI contain slide storage sheets with views of the more significant properties. The slides are arranged alphabetically by address and tabs indicate the start of each sheet. The number of slides for each property is shown on the individual survey forms (Volumes I-III) and in the Historic Resources Inventory (Survey Report, Appendix A). The additional color slides of 1997 are arranged in address order and placed in new slide storage sheets. The slide storage sheets are to be added to Volume VI.

Research Data

Volume VII contains research and other data gathered during the survey, such as research data sheets, questionnaires, applications for state and federal historic designations, and miscellaneous historical information. The materials are arranged alphabetically by address.

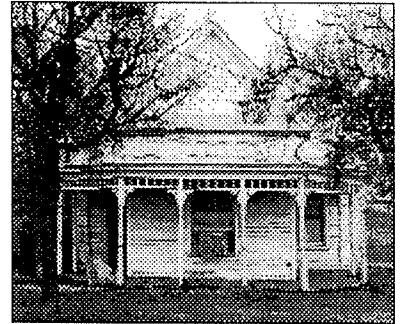
Survey Base Map

A reduced copy of the survey base map appears in Appendix B. The map shows the location and priority designation and site number of all surveyed resources. Generally, the numbering sequence is from left to right, and top to bottom on the map; however, site numbers for properties added in the 1997 update are assigned in the order surveyed. The site numbers are found also on the individual survey forms (Volumes I-III), on the Black and White Contact Prints photo index forms (Volume IV) and in the Historic Resources Inventory (Appendix A).

Black and White Negatives

The negatives for all the black-and-white photography work are stored at the National Register Department of the THC in Austin. Copies can be made by contacting the THC. The Historic Resource Inventory (Appendix A) will identify roll and frame numbers for each property.

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500 N. Main E (Site No. 1106) c. 1905
This modest T-plan dwelling survives as the best local example of its type. Turned posts and jig-sawn brackets of the wraparound porch remain intact, distinguishing this residence from the few other T-plan houses built and the simple 2-room residences from which this plan type evolved. Owned by Mrs. Sarah A. McKay in the 1920s and 1930s. Listed in the NRHP on September 25, 1986.

