



Early Public Schools of Llano County

1852 – 1948

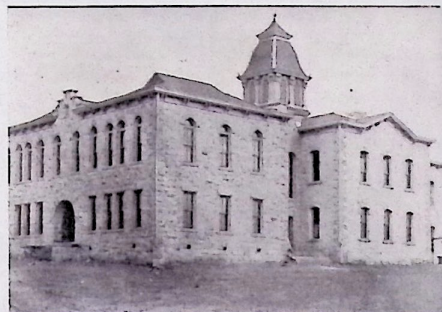
The first settlers of Llano County brought with them a love of education that began as early as 1852 in the first settlements of Castell and continued as each new settlement was populated.

Until the first school buildings were erected, classes were conducted in the homes of the settlers. Neighbors would come together, hire a teacher and furnish them with room and board. Eventually land would be donated by one of the families of the area. Primitive one-room log, wooden or partial rock structures were built. They were furnished with hand built log and wood plank benches and tables and some type of wood-burning stoves. The schools were most often named for the family who donated the land, the community or a nearby natural landmark.

After all Llano schools were consolidated in 1948, many of the old rural school buildings were relocated or turned into barns or storage buildings. Many could not withstand the test of time and are no longer standing. Through the efforts of many individuals, several of the old schools have been preserved and restored and are now being used for churches or community centers.

Schools shown
in this brochure
are the ones still
standing.

Early Public Schools in Llano County



O'HENRY

- Original section of this two-story schoolhouse completed in 1887 to serve the Llano students living south of the Llano River

- Located at 1502 Oatman Street in southeast Llano

- Llano's first rock school

- School name chosen to honor the noted Texas writer, William Sydney Porter (O'Henry)

- Housed all grades until 1925 when a separate high school structure was built

SCHOOLS	# OF PUPILS	HEAD TRUSTEE	COMMUNITY ADDRESS
1 Babyhead	42	J. C. Cate	Babyhead
2 Bennett	18	Albert Smith	Oxford
3 Bluffton (Beal)	44	Sam W. Ligon	Bluffton
4 Cap Mountain	16	J. W. Fowler	Cap Mountain
5 Castell	33	C. H. Grote	Castell
6 Central Peak			Babyhead
7 Clymer			Oatman Creek
8 Comanche Creek			Click
9 Concord			Babyhead
10 Dancer Flat	17	J. C. Castellaw	Kingsland
11 Doolittle			Llano
12 Evergreen	35	J. W. Henderson	Evergreen
13 Evers			Castell
14 Field Creek	52	M. J. Green	Field Creek
15 Flat Rock	16	S. H. Ratliff	Flat Rock
16 Gainesville/Blizzard Flood	19	W. H. Ligon	Gainesville
17 Graniteville			Six Mile
18 Honey Creek	19	E. D. Shirley	Honey Creek
19 Horse Mountain	23	Charles Grifflay	Wrights Creek
20 Hutchins (Co. Line)			Field Creek
21 Kennedy	26	M. J. Green	Field Creek
22 Keno Valley/Crabbapple/Smith	11	A. G. Bird	Oxford
23 Kingsland/Wing's School			Kingsland
24 Krotzenberg			Castell
25 Lathrop/Gardner Creek/Potom Ck.			Round Mountain
26 Legion Valley	21	A. O. Davis	Oxford
27 Leimbach	31	August Greenelge	Castell
28 Little Llano			Lone Grove
29 Lone Grove	42	D. P. Speck	Lone Grove
30 Long Mountain	24	C. N. Fairs	Long Mountain
31 Mullins Spring	24	Ed Cronmeyer	Sharp Mountain
32 Mark Trench			Llano
33 McMillan	26	W. H. Boryman	McMillan
34 Miller's Creek			Tow
35 Moore's Chapel/Oxy Creek	9	E. L. Moore	Kingsland
36 New Hope	29	R. J. Harlow	Edison
37 O'Henry			Llano
38 Oatman Creek	42	H. L. Delavan	Oatman Creek
39 Oreditch	20	Adrian Flair	Castell
40 Oxford	19	J. I. Thomas	Oxford
41 Pauson Trail			Oatman Creek
42 Prairie Mountain/Smith/Whitney	39	S. R. Patch	Prairie Mountain
43 Rocky School			Six Mile
44 Salt Works			Bluffton
45 Sand Springs			Valley Spring
46 Sand Creek 66			Castell
47 Sandy Bluffs	24	R. W. Reams	Sandy Mountain
48 Sandy Valley/Click	25	R. E. L. Wilson	Click
49 Shish	19	J. W. Henderson	Shish
50 Six Mile/Mountain/Johnson/Grant	32	C. C. Scott	Six Mile
51 Slick Mountain	22	W. H. Boryman	Slick Mountain
52 Spicewood			Lone Grove
53 Wagonway			Bluffton
54 Tow Valley	59	C. C. Forister	Tow
55 Valley Spring/Burglarde	59	S. N. Lively	Valley Spring
56 Wrights Creek	33	R. L. Harts	Wrights Creek



SIX MILE

- Six Mile community established in 1880s

- School located 7.5 miles southwest of Llano on Hwy. 2323

- In operation only a few months at a time so students could help with family farm labor

- Early 1900s – became site of church services and revivals

- Classes held until 1945



Prairie Mountain

- **Prairie Mountain Community:** 15 miles southwest of Llano on Hwy. 2323 in southwestern Llano County
- 1897 – first little school burned
- Schoolhouse pictured here needed for more room
- Built of concrete in 1924
- 1948 – 1949 consolidated with LISD; students bussed to Llano
- Present time, building used for Prairie Mountain Community Building

Castell



- **Community:** 18.2 miles west of Llano on FM 152
- Education for students in Castell may have begun as early as 1852.
- Expanded to three classrooms in 1929
- Housed ten grades
- Closed in 1948 and consolidated with Llano School District
- After much renovation, the building became the Castell Community Center.



BLUFFTON

- Located on Farm Road 2241 near the western shore of Lake Buchanan, 12 miles northeast of Llano in northeastern Llano County
- The last school was built in 1917 and was used until 1937 when Lake Buchanan was filled. Moved to New Bluffton behind the Bluffton Store and post office; now used for storage



TOW VALLEY

- On Ranch Road 2241 and the western shore of Lake Buchanan, 20 miles northeast of Llano in northeastern Llano County
- Teacher K. C. Barkley paid \$210 from November 26, 1898, to April 8, 1899
- As of September 1909, 50 students at Tow School
- Remained active until annexed with Llano School District, May 10, 1948
- At present, serves as the Tow Church of Christ



LONE GROVE

- About 8 miles from Llano on CR 2241 in northeastern Llano County, now on the east bank of the Little Llano River
- Town originally located on the west bank of the Little Llano River in a small grove of pecan trees for which it was named
- School built 1910 after first school closed in 1900
- In 1937, Lone Grove became one of two rural schools in the county to offer high school courses.
- School famous for its excellent tennis



VALLEY SPRING

- On State Highway 71 twelve miles northwest of Llano in northwestern Llano County
- School shown here: 1913 -1914
- Consolidated with Llano 1948

Llano County Historical Commission is currently comprised of 10 members (Llano Co. residents). We assist people in obtaining historic markers as well as other projects where our county's rich history is preserved for future generations.

- Types of Historic Markers
 - Subject Markers
 - Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Markers
 - Historic Texas Cemetery Markers

Our Mission
The Texas Legislature authorized counties to establish County Historical

A Project of
 Llano County Historical Commission