

The City of Baytown, Texas
Celebrating 70 Years
January 24, 1948 – January 24, 2018

By Trevia Wooster Beverly¹

I. CONTEXT

Baytown, a city in the Gulf Coast region located mostly within Harris County plus a small portion in Chambers County, is bordered by eight bays: Burnet, Crystal, Scott, Mitchell, Black Duck, San Jacinto, Tabbs, and Galveston Bay. The city shares a bay² with the San Jacinto Battleground and Monument,³ where General Sam Houston defeated General Santa Anna marking the end of the Texas Revolutionary War in 1836. However, Baytown has a long history stretching back thousands of years. Bays, lakes, and streams provided the opportunity for the known settlers of the area, the Karankawa's Capoque tribe and the Atakapa's Akokisa tribe,⁴ to live in fairly dense seasonal settlements while taking intensive advantage of the bays' shoreline subsistence resources that included plentiful fish and other marine life. The nearby prairie and flood plain environments provided the opportunity for hunting game including bison and deer, and the gathering of plant foods.

The area now known as Baytown had an active society from 1822 to the 1836 struggle for Texas independence.⁵ Located on the gulf coastal plain, at the mouth of the San Jacinto River on Galveston Bay, it is now a highly industrialized city of refineries. In the early 1900s, there were three communities in the area:⁶ Old Town, later known as Pelly, Middle Town became Goose Creek, and New Town became [old] Baytown.⁷ In January 1948, the former "Tri-Cities" of Baytown, Goose Creek, and Pelly united to form the city of Baytown. The greater Baytown area basically covers east of the San Jacinto River from Lynchburg (including Wooster) to Cedar Bayou and into neighboring Chambers County.

The history of Baytown continues to be told by its many historical markers.⁸

II. OVERVIEW

The Baytown area continued its rich history as monumental events took place nearby, namely the Texas Revolution. Early personalities holding property in the area included William Scott,⁹ Nathaniel Lynch¹⁰ (involved in the Runaway Scrape), Ashbel Smith,¹¹ David G. Burnet¹² and Sam Houston.¹³

The Republic of Texas was still in its infancy when Cedar Bayou was named as one of its first bay establishments.¹⁴ The general economic development, post war, included rice farming and the development of brickyards as result of the high-quality clays found along the bayous, creeks, and streams. In 1908, an oil boom spurred the rapid development of the communities (Goose Creek, Wooster, Pelly, and Bay Town) that later became one community known as Baytown.

The Goose Creek oilfield became famous as the first offshore drilling operation in Texas and second in the nation. Due to the oilfield's success, Humble Oil and Refining Company¹⁵ (today, ExxonMobil) was founded in 1911 by Ross S. Sterling. It was around this time that the Baytown community began to develop.¹⁶

Baytown is now largely a community centered on industry including oil, steel, rubber, and chemical plants. Home to petrochemical giants ExxonMobil and Chevron Phillips, Baytown serves an international community through the Port of Houston and Houston Ship Channel, reaching 1,053 ports worldwide.¹⁷ John D. Taylor built Midway¹⁸ on his land, a wharf and buildings located near the present Exxon Baytown Docks area on Bayway Drive. In 1970, U. S. Steel purchased 14,000 acres for its new Texas Division.¹⁹ This mill was later purchased by Jindal Steel and now operates as JSW Steel USA. During World War II, Synthetic Rubber Manufacture was developed.²⁰ One of the five original copolymer plants in Texas, General Tire and Rubber, was located in Baytown.

Transportation

Lynch's Ferry, on the San Jacinto River below its confluence with Buffalo Bayou in Harris County, was built in 1822 by Nathaniel Lynch at the approximate site of Lynchburg on a then-main land route. The ferry, a flatboat service powered by a hand-pulled rope, was one of numerous conveyances that developed on the waterways of southern Harris County. This ferry was reportedly a raft that “only carried one wagon or buggy at a time because of the danger of

spooked horses.”²¹ On January 1, 1830, Lynch received an operating license from the *ayuntamiento* of San Felipe. Lynch’s arrival in 1822 came during the period that Stephen F. Austin was securing permission from the Mexican government to settle colonists in 1824. As such, Lynch was entitled to and received a grant from the Mexican government for a league of land, 4,428 acres. Upon his arrival in Texas, Lynch proceeded to clear a 150-acre homestead tract and build a home and a store out of logs on the east side of Crystal Bay. Noting that the waters in this area were safe and only affected by the tides, Lynch began what would become a successful ferry service. Still operating today, the ferry crossing is at the junction of the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou.

Other ferries included one at Cedar Bayou, the Durain Ferry²² near Busch’s Landing on Goose Creek, and the Morgan’s Point Ferry.²³ The Morgan’s Point Ferry gave way to the Baytown-La Porte tunnel that opened in 1953 and closed in 1995 when the Fred Hartman Bridge was opened. The last section of the tunnel was removed on September 14, 1999, when the Houston Ship Channel was deepened to accommodate larger ships. The Fred Hartman Bridge²⁴ was opened for traffic on September 27, 1995. Named for the editor and publisher of *The Baytown Sun* from 1950 to 1974, it is the longest cable-stayed bridge in Texas, and one of only four such bridges in the state.²⁵

Education

Education has always been important to the citizens of Baytown. Home schooling was augmented by several organized schools. The first incorporated orphanage in the state was in the area. The Bayland Orphans Home served orphans of Confederate soldiers prior to being opened to all orphans. Chartered as “The Orphans Home at Bayland” on September 24, 1866, it eventually moved to Houston.²⁶ The Harris County Department of Education had oversight on many area rural schools not affiliated with a local district.²⁷ The Cedar Bayou Masonic Lodge No. 321, A.F. & A.M. was chartered June 18, 1870. It opened its own hall on July 6, 1876, and donated the downstairs floor as the first public school in east Harris County, serving until 1911.²⁸ The Wooster community²⁹ organized and built a one-room schoolhouse in 1894. Wooster Common School No. 38, operating under the Harris County Department of Education, became a part of the Goose Creek School District in 1919.³⁰ The Goose Creek Independent School District

was formed in 1919 to serve the Tri-Cities area of Goose Creek, Pelly, and Baytown, as well as the village of Wooster.

The first known public school in the area for African American children was founded in 1921 as a grade school, expanding to the ninth grade in 1927 and accredited as a four-year high school in 1941. It closed in 1967 due to desegregation.³¹

The Baytown Mexican School was established by the Goose Creek Independent School District in 1923. Several buildings later, this school closed in 1969.³² Elementary school-age children were segregated until they progressed to higher grades when they attended Baytown Junior High School and Robert E. Lee High School.

Founded in 1928, Robert E. Lee High School³³ sits on the banks of Goose Creek. Always conscious of the need for educating its citizens, the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District now boasts sixteen elementary schools, five junior schools, four high schools and several specialized campuses.³⁴ In 1934, the residents of the GCCISD voted to establish Lee Junior College; 177 students registered for the fall semester.³⁵ Currently, some 6,700 full and part time students attend Lee College. The area is also served by several private schools, both religious and secular.

Libraries

The first public library in the Baytown area was a branch of the Harris County Library. Ross S. Sterling, then President of Humble Oil and Refining Company, donated the land and the physical building, while Harris County funded the staff and materials for the library. The original building served residents until 1963. Sterling Municipal Library, in its current 50,500-square-foot space, has a collection of nearly 175,000 items and offers. A number of traditional and automated services are available to citizens.³⁶

With no public transportation available in the outlying areas, schools and churches kept their libraries open year around for many years. For example, due to the distance from the Wooster community to Goose Creek the David G. Burnet Elementary School kept its library open during the years this author attended school there (1936-1942). Finally, a small annex of Harris County Library was opened in Wooster at 6014 Bayway Drive.³⁷

Public Health

Physicians were in the area prior to the Republic of Texas era, operating out of their homes or with a very small office building and making house calls. Dr. Ashbel Smith was one of these pioneer physicians, as well as a diplomat and official of the Republic of Texas, Confederate officer and first President of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas. Born in Connecticut, he came to Texas in the fall of 1836. In 1837 Smith, who had become a close acquaintance of Sam Houston and was appointed to the post of surgeon general with the Republic of Texas Army.

In the early years of Humble Oil Company (ExxonMobil), a company hospital served its employees and their families. Dr. William E. Marshall arrived in Baytown in December, 1925, to work in the hospital at the Humble Refinery.³⁸ Later the town had two small hospitals, Goose Creek Hospital and the Lillie-Duke Hospital. Dr. Marshall was one of the influential forces behind the founding of the San Jacinto Memorial Hospital, a large, state-of-the-art hospital located on Decker Drive. Built in 1947 to honor those who served in World War II, it stood vacant after 2003,³⁹ After many protests⁴⁰ it was finally demolished in March 2016.⁴¹ Circa 1968, a group of local doctors joined to build the Gulf Coast Hospital on Garth Road.

Lee College offers an Associate Degree Nursing program.⁴² Many Lee graduates stayed in the area or went on to become Registered Nurses now serving Baytown's hospitals and schools.

Public Safety

The city has been served by the Baytown Police Department⁴³ and the Baytown Fire Department,⁴⁴ with the Harris County Sheriff's Department and volunteer fire departments serving bordering unincorporated areas. The City and surrounding areas are also served by Harris County Constable Commissioner Precinct 2.⁴⁵ The Baytown Police⁴⁶ and Fire Departments⁴⁷ both have active community programs for adults and young citizens.

The era of a relatively quiet mixture of farms and plantations with settlers raising corn, cotton, rice, and cattle, and a few brickyards, a boatyard, and a couple of stores changed when oil was discovered in the early 1900s. With that discovery came an influx of new settlers as well as those job seekers "just passing thru." Residents began to see men, machinery, and supplies on the shell roads and on barges from Houston down Buffalo Bayou.

With this new element of tents and shacks and crews working day and night, the area had its element of lawlessness--fist fights, drinking and gambling and prostitution. Customers checked their guns at the bar.⁴⁸

Indeed, the oil field boom had caused an undesirable effect on the moral fiber of the early Old, Middle, and New Town area, especially in the eyes of those who wanted “Victorian principles” to be the standard. Of significant influence was the Ku Klux Klan, which represented itself as a patriotic organization. In 1921, Klan #4 of the Goose Creek Ku Klux Klan held weekly parades on Texas Avenue.⁴⁹ Many early members were good men who left the organization as it became more lawless.

Another element was the “red light district.” While many “gentlemen” drove to nearby Galveston to visit its famed Post Office Street, Baytown had its own district. One of the more famous establishments was Roxie’s who first had a bar at 1308 Harbor Street.⁵⁰ Later there was a “bawdy house” on the second floor above Roxie’s Café [bar].⁵¹ “Long before the towns of Baytown, Pelly, and Goose Creek merged into the City of Baytown in 1948, bars, brothels, and gambling places along Main Street in old Baytown catered to merchant seamen and others seeking that kind of entertainment.”⁵² Authorities regularly rounded up the gamblers, dodgers, keepers of disorderly houses, etc., gave them small fines and larger fees to be paid for services of the court and law enforcement personnel.

Lynching was not commonplace but did happen. “Bert Smith, a negro cook who worked for an oil driller in the Goose Creek Field, was lynched as the result of an alleged assault made on Mrs. Coward, wife of one of the oil drillers. The negro was taken to a tree about 40 yards from the main street at “Middletown,” where everything was in readiness. A rope had been placed over a limb, and a man was in the tree when the mob arrived there, according to a statement made afterward by a jitney driver.”⁵³

Politics

Although most residents of the area lived quietly and steered clear of them, political antagonisms did develop at various times. The proposed incorporation of the Tri-Cities certainly had many drawing sides. Goose Creek incorporated in 1919; Pelly a year later. Pelly then annexed unincorporated Baytown and finally Pelly-Baytown and Goose Creek began to talk

about consolidating the three cities. Other vigorous political campaigns included the struggle for municipal power.⁵⁴

The Oak Tree, once Baytown's official symbol and still standing in the middle of Texas Avenue, created a lot of heated discussions in both the newspapers and city council meetings. "The Live Oak (*quercus virginiana*), native to the area, was already a landmark when Price Pruett moved his family to the 293 acres surrounding it in 1902. When the townsite of Goose Creek was laid out by Ross Sterling and Price Pruett in 1917, the tree was on the outskirts of town and Texas Avenue ended at the tree. But in 1919, when Sterling had his fledging refinery going, a road was needed past the tree to the refinery. Engineers from Goose Creek Realty Company and Harris County were running the line for the new road west of the tree on Texas Avenue and plans called for the tree to be cut down. It was Sterling, who was not until later elected Governor of Texas, who saved the tree from the ax. "It required many years for nature to produce such a beautiful thing like that and we must save it." he said. He instructed the engineers to "bend the road slightly to the South. 'Price' Pruett, who owned that land where the tree stood, and who had given the right-of way for the road, made an agreement with Harris County Commissioner Charlie Massey that the tree would be allowed to stand until it died of natural causes."⁵⁵ Many agreed with Mr. Hobart W. Enoch in his letter to the editor, wanting removal of the old oak.⁵⁶

A city manager is responsible for the administration of city services by exercising effective leadership and management of the city. City personnel report to the city manager. Baytown has a mayor and six city council representatives with terms of office. City Council meetings are open to the public, and are also televised.⁵⁷

Social Amenities⁵⁸

Sports and recreation in the area had an early history. With the constant arrival of new families, two Baytown residents, Jimmy Carroll and Claude Burton, approached Humble Oil in the spring of 1920 with the idea of an interdepartmental baseball game. The first game between the Refinery and the Houston office was played on May 1, 1920. The Baytown Oilers won 1-0. They became so popular that in 1925 the Oiler Stadium was built on Humble property. The team quickly began adding paid players, eventually including former big leaguers, becoming a semi-professional ball club that faced similar outfits representing other companies and municipalities

from across Texas, the South and Midwest. In the days before Major League Baseball appeared south and west of St. Louis, this semi-pro ball was headline-generating sports in the Houston area. The Oilers remained a popular draw for years before disbanding in 1953.⁵⁹

The Robert E. Lee High School Ganders football team drew national attention. From the early 1930s to 2001, Robert E. Lee High School was also home to a unique and famous tradition represented by the Lee Brigadiers, an all-female drum and bugle corps that marched military style in football games and parades.

Presently the city of Baytown can boast of one of the best Parks & Recreation Departments in the area.⁶⁰ Maintaining water parks and sponsoring 43 properties that include baseball, football, and soccer fields as well as basketball courts, etc., it also oversees the Baytown Nature Center and the Edie V. Gray Wetlands Education Center.

The city also furnishes special programs for all ages from children to senior adults. It encourages and supports many organizations. Among them are: the Art League of Baytown;⁶¹ the Portrait of a Warrior Art Gallery;⁶² the Baytown Historical Preservation Association;⁶³ and the Baytown Historical Museum.⁶⁴

The Royal Purple Raceway⁶⁵ is a motorsports complex featuring National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) races and a weekly drag racing program. Established in 1988, the venue accommodates 40,000 fans.

Weather and Subsidence

Baytown's climate is classified as humid subtropical. Excessive ozone levels can occur due to industrial activities. Industries located along the ship channel and the bays are a major cause of the pollution.

The severe subsidence in the Baytown area is not new. Much of the problem can be traced to extensive drawing of underground water by industry and the city; the area sank some nine feet over a 30-year period. By 1961, it was losing ground at the rate of five inches annually.⁶⁶

Hurricanes and tropical storms are a substantial concern during the fall season. Several have hit the area over the years. *Racer's Storm*⁶⁷ from October 1-3, 1837 hit Galveston, affecting area low-lying communities. On April 10, 1844, water rose to about seven feet at Lynchburg, forcing many families out of their homes. The hurricane of September 15-16, 1875 destroyed Lynchburg and caused a great deal of damage -- no buildings remained between Lynchburg and

Morgan's Point after the storm. Twenty-five years later, on September 8, 1900, the Great Storm that hit Galveston affected the Baytown area with high water and winds.⁶⁸

The most devastating storm in Baytown was *Hurricane Carla* that hit the Texas coast full-force on September 11, 1961, resulting in the beginning of the demise of Baytown's Brownwood area. In 1983 *Alicia*⁶⁹ hit, doing extensive damage to the Houston area, but Baytown recorded a 10.7-foot tide that put water on the rooftops in the Brownwood subdivision. Brownwood was eventually condemned with a buyout by FEMA. The area is now the Baytown Nature Center.⁷⁰ *Hurricane Ike*⁷¹ hit the Baytown area in September 2008.⁷²

Media

The area is served by *The Baytown Sun*, which was founded in 1919 as the *Goose Creek Gasser*.⁷³ Through the years, the paper has published national and local news, covering events through regular columns⁷⁴ and special editions.

On March 3, 1948, Baytown's first radio station went on the air as KREL 1360. It was owned by Tri-Cities Broadcasting and licensed to Pelly as a full-time station on 1360 kilocycles with 1000 watts. The owners explained the call letters (KREL) referred to Robert E. Lee High School. Tri-Cities Broadcasting announced on October 31, 1947, that it planned to put the Tri-Cities area's second station on the air by the 10th of November, but it was just over a month before it hit the airwaves.⁷⁵ Located on Decker Drive, ownership changed over time and, with it the call letters to KWBA, KBUK, KWWJ. Today, KWWJ (branded as Gospel 1360) AM is an urban contemporary gospel radio station licensed to Baytown, owned by Salt of the Earth Broadcasting. The studio building, transmitter building, and towers are all original to the 1360 facility, which began in Baytown in 1948 as KREL. 1360 was originally owned by Tri-Cities Broadcasting. 2016 marks the 68th year that 1360 has operated from the original location on Decker Road and Loop 330 in Baytown.⁷⁶

III. SIGNIFICANCE

From the first residents in the area, Indian tribes known as the Attakapas, Akokisa, Bidai, and Karankawas, to an agricultural and ranching society, to the current era of industrialization, Baytown has gone through a number of stages. Many settlers and later day citizens who have contributed significantly to the building of the city are honored and remembered through street, building, and park names. Cultural amenities are excellent and include performing arts, museums,⁷⁷ and a variety of entertainment options.

From oil fields and tent housing, families have transformed the city into desirable areas of housing with recognized schools, libraries, and city services, supported by business and industry. An active Chamber of Commerce⁷⁸ promotes and supports every facet of the city.

The city is currently multicultural and has churches of many faiths, as well as the K'neseth Israel Synagogue. With over 75,000 citizens, the representation includes White/non-Hispanic, Hispanic/Latino, African American, Asian, and Native Americans.⁷⁹

The area had the first incorporated orphanage in the state. Bayland Orphans Home⁸⁰ first served orphans of Confederate soldiers, then opened to all orphans. Chartered as “The Orphans Home at Bayland” on September 24, 1866, it eventually moved to Houston.

The area has been actively engaged in every war and conflict since the Lynchburg Volunteers⁸¹ were organized to fight in the Texas Revolution of 1836. A unit known as the Bayland Guards⁸² was active in the War Between the States, and many citizens served in World War I and II as well in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Men and women from Baytown continue to serve in the military.

The city of Baytown has a rich history, from its beginnings to the current time.

ADDENDUM I. Baytown's timeline⁸³

- 1822 - Nathaniel Lynch set up the Lynch Ferry at the junction of the San Jacinto River with Buffalo Bayou.
- 1824 - William Scott received land grant of over 9,000 acres covering much of what is now present-day Baytown.
- 1847 - Ashbel Smith purchased a plantation, known as Evergreen, on Tabbs Bay (at outbreak of Civil War, he organized the Bayland Guards for Confederate service).
- 1864 - A shipyard established at the mouth of Goose Creek in the early 1850s by John and Thomas S. Chubb built one ship, the *Bagdad*, which was launched in 1864 and had to run a Yankee blockade at Galveston to escape.
- 1866 - 1867 – Ashbel Smith and several associates founded the Bayland Orphans' Home for Children of Confederate soldiers.
- June 2, 1908 - Successful oil strike near Tabbs Bay by Goose Creek Production Company.
- August 23, 1916 - Opening of Goose Creek Oilfield when contractor Charles Mitchell brought in a 10,000-barrel gusher at 2,017 feet.
- 1917 - Humble Oil and Refining Company founded by Ross S. Sterling.
- August 17, 1917 - The largest well of the field was "Sweet 16" of the Simms-Sinclair Company gushing 35,000 barrels a day from a depth of 3,050 feet. This well stayed out of control for three days before the crew could close it.
- January 1919 - Goose Creek residents vote to consolidate.
- 1919 - Construction begins on Humble Oil's refinery///.
- 1920 - Pelly residents vote to consolidate.
- April 21, 1921 - Humble Oil and Refinery construction completed.
- 1923 - Humble laid out the streets, provided utilities and sold lots for the Bayland community development.
- December 1945 - Pelly annexes the area known as Baytown which had never incorporated.
- February 1946 - Pelly and Goose Creek vote to consolidate and choose the name "Baytown."
- January 24, 1948 - "Tri-Cities" Unite as Baytown (Baytown Goose Creek and Pelly) when a city charter is approved.

ADDENDUM II

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PETROLEUM AGE

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the writer recently encountered nearing the Goose Creek district. The town—or towns—are well paved. First there is Old Town, which is now petitioning for an election to decide whether or not to incorporate as a separate town. It wishes the name of Pelly, in honor of F. T. Pelly, land owner in that district.

This part of Goose Creek is the nearest to the oil field and is composed principally of shacks erected in the early days of the field. Middle Town is but a continuation of Old Town—to a layman—and is just a shade newer, but general architecture is the same. New Town is farthest and on a higher level,

it appears, and is being built up with modern residences. Some call it "Humble Town," on account of the number of modern bungalows erected by the Humble Oil & Refining Co. for its employes in that vicinity. The Gulf Production Co. has also a large number of modern bungalows down somewhere in the vicinity of Old Town.

The contrast between these modern dwellings and the shacks is very marked and illustrated better than pages of copy something that the oil companies are doing to better the living conditions of their employes. The Y.M.C.A. building, all but completed, is located in New Town. It has baths to accommodate 50 to 75 men in an evening.

ADDENDUM III. Selected Notable People ⁸⁴

Buddy Wakefield, champion slam poet, was raised in Baytown.
Nathaniel Holt, actor born and raised in Baytown.
Rocky Bernard, defensive tackle for the NFL New York Giants.
Kirk Botkin, former NFL player and collegiate football coach.
William Broyles, Jr., Oscar-winning screenwriter, co-founder of *Texas Monthly* magazine; reared in Old Baytown, Robert E. Lee High School graduate.
Gary Busey, actor, born in Goose Creek, Texas.
Chris Cagle, country music artist.
Wanda Garner Cash, open government advocate and former publisher of *The Baytown Sun*.
Quentin Coryatt, former NFL player and Texas A&M linebacker; attended Robert E. Lee High School.
Macey Cruthird, actress born in Baytown.
Bobby Fuller, rock musician best known for his single "I Fought the Law"; born in Baytown.
John Hagee, pastor of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas; born in Baytown.
Brian Johnson, former quarterback for the University of Utah, now the quarterbacks coach at Mississippi State.
"Mean" Gene Kelton, singer-songwriter, blues musician, and band leader of Mean Gene Kelton & The Die Hards.
Romany Malco, actor/rapper; attended Ross S. Sterling High School.
Leeland Mooring, lead singer for Christian band, Leeland. Brother Jack Mooring is the keyboardist for the band, also from Baytown.
John Osteen, father of Joel Osteen of Lakewood Church in Houston, was pastor of Central Baptist Church, Baytown, Texas.
Ell Roberson III, former Kansas State University quarterback; graduated in 1999 from Robert E. Lee High School.
Howard Sampson, former NFL player.
Wayne Smith (born 1943), Republican member of the Texas House of Representatives from Baytown 2002-2016.
Sherwood Stewart, former Pro Tennis player
Clint Stoerner, former Dallas Cowboys and University of Arkansas quarterback; 1996 Robert E. Lee graduate
Tom Stolhandske, played for Robert E. Lee High School Ganders; NFL and CFL player
Dwayne Stovall, born in Baytown in 1966, businessman in Cleveland, Texas, school board member, and unsuccessful Republican candidate for the United States Senate in the primary election held on March 4, 2014
Drew Tate, former University of Iowa quarterback and current CFL member
Joe Tex, popular R&B singer during the 1960s
Henrietta Bell Wells,⁸⁵ first African-American woman to participate in debate team in Wiley College.
Glenn Wilson, former Major League Baseball outfielder
Renée Zellweger, Oscar-winning actress, resident until age 9. Lived in Chaparral Village, attended Stephen F. Austin Elementary.

In addition to the above *Wikipedia* list, others should be added, among them:

Elizabeth Burrus gained nationwide attention for developing a system to teach English to Spanish-speaking pupils at the original De Zavala Elementary School.

Keith Heimann, a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School as well as Lee College went on to graduate from Juilliard. He sang with major opera houses around the world and has also appeared on Broadway.

Dr. Ralph A. Wooster, Robert E. Lee High School, and Lee College graduate, history professor at Lamar University and author and co-author of numerous articles and books on the Civil War.

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1949 map produced by the Army Corps of engineers.

IV. DOCUMENTATION

- ¹ © Trevia Wooster Beverly. Member of the Harris County Historical Commission (1995-). 17535 Bryce Manor Lane, Humble, Texas. 281-318-7962 treviaawbeverly@comcast.net
- ² City of Baytown webpage: <http://www.baytown.org/> (accessed September 1, 2016).
- ³ San Jacinto Battleground State Historic site. <http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/san-jacinto-battleground>
- ⁴ City of Baytown official website.
- ⁵ Notable was the unit known as The Lynchburg Volunteers, organized by William Scott. Texas Historical Marker at 5096 Bayway Drive.
- ⁶ *Petroleum Age* pp 552, Vol. 6, No. 12, Dec. 1919, American Association of Petroleum Geologist, NY. See ADDENDUM II.
The Oil Trade Journal (Fuel Oil Journal) November 1919.
- ⁷ Goose Creek, named for the bayou of the same name where Canada geese wintered and whose name is still reflected in the area's Goose Creek school district, whose establishment dates back to before 1850.
- ⁸ For listing, see the Baytown Historic Preservation Association, <http://www.baytownhistory.org/>, and click on the Historical Marker tab.
- ⁹ One of Stephen F. Austin's "Old Three Hundred." A Texas Historical Marker for his homesite (Point Pleasant) at 5096 Bayway Drive.
- ¹⁰ Set up a ferry crossing at the junction of the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou, the ferry service that he started is still in operation today, now known as the Lynchburg Ferry.
- ¹¹ Owned a plantation in the area. His statue is located at the Republic of Texas Plaza, 5117 North Main.
- ¹² First provisional president of the Republic of Texas. He bought 17 acres on the San Jacinto River from Nathaniel Lynch for a steam sawmill, as well as an additional 279 acres east of the ferry. His homesite was located on Burnet Drive between Mable and Oakland avenues. David Gouverneur Burnet pronounced his surname as "burn-it."
- ¹³ A 1936 Texas Centennial Marker is located at 5712 Cedar Point Road, Baytown (Chambers County).
- ¹⁴ The founding date of Cedar Bayou is uncertain; the first recorded burial in the area was in 1810. Some of the area is unincorporated; portions are within Baytown, annexed by the City of Baytown in 1955. See *Handbook of Texas Online*, Timothy Nolan Smith, "Cedar Bayou, TX," accessed April 22, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hrc33>.
- ¹⁵ A Texas Historical Marker is located at Decker Drive and Rollingbrook Drive.
- ¹⁶ *Handbook of Texas Online*, James A. Clark and Mark Odintz, "Exxon Company, U.s.a.," accessed July 06, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/doi04>.
- ¹⁷ *Petroleum Age* pp 552, Vol. 6, No. 12, American Association of Petroleum Geologist, NY.
The Oil Trade Journal (Fuel Oil Journal) November 1919.
- ¹⁸ William Scott purchased the land from John D. Taylor in 1824, who had already named its water frontage and buildings as Midway because it was halfway between present Morgan's Point and Lynch's Ferry. No. 7, Glass, *Early towns and Settlements*.
- ¹⁹ *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baytown,_Texas
- ²⁰ *Handbook of Texas Online*, Will H. Shearon, Jr., "Synthetic Rubber Manufacture," accessed September 25, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/dmsgx>.
- ²¹ "Lynchburg Town Site," by Janet K. Wagner. See History tab at Harris County Historical Commission: <http://www.historicalcommission.hctx.net/Default.aspx> (accessed September 19, 2016); *Handbook of Texas Online*, Diana J. Kleiner, "Lynch's Ferry," accessed July 06, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/rtl01>.
- ²² Research currently being done by Trevia W. Beverly. It was still in use in 1918 as a hand-pulled flatboat. "Street Repair Need Stopped Access Road Money needed for repair of West Main between South and West Baytown kept the Durain Ferry road from becoming an access road to Spur 201 leading to the [Baytown-La Porte Tunnel](#). The ferry road, one of the oldest in this area, was very run down." <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/6136713/>
- ²³ Operating July 29, 1933, between Hog Island and Morgan's Point until the opening of the Baytown-La Porte Tunnel in 1953. 'A 'ferry time' was had by all' by Wanda Orton. *The Baytown Sun* July 23, 2008

- ²⁴ Photograph of bridge and area: City of Houston, <http://www.houstontx.gov/homepagephotos/hartman.html>. Additional images at https://www.google.com/search?q=fred+hartman+bridge&tbn=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=0ahUKewi29KSzhdTTAhuU_WMKHarKD1IQsAQIRg&biw=1717&bih=807&dpr=1#spf=1
- ²⁵ “Fred Hartman Bridge.” The others bridges being Veterans Memorial Bridge in Orange County, Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge in Dallas and Bluff Dale Suspension Bridge in Erath County. *Wikipedia* (accessed September 20, 2016) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fred_Hartman_Bridge
- ²⁶ Bayland Orphans Home, Marker No. 10609 (1964, 2012); 2012 historical narrative prepared by Trevia Wooster Beverly.
- ²⁷ The HCDE received a Texas Historical Marker in 2005. Historical narrative written by Trevia Wooster Beverly noted that the first woman to serve on the Department’s Board of Trustees was Mrs. Mark Carter of Baytown, elected in 1935; she was elected Board president in 1938.
- ²⁸ Cedar Bayou Lodge Home Page, <http://www.cedarbayoulodge.org/> Texas Historical Marker (1970).
- ²⁹ Texas Historical Marker located on Bayway Drive at the southwest corner of Wooster Street (2015). Application narrative written by Trevia Wooster Beverly.
- ³⁰ The building was saved and restored, now located at Baytown’s Republic of Texas Plaza, 5117 North Main Street. Texas Historical Marker (2012) and is open for tours through the Baytown Historical Preservation Association. <http://www.baytownhistory.org/>
- ³¹ Marker Application (2009): *George Washington Carver High School* by Joseph Warren Singleton.
- ³² In 2014 a marker was erected at the new De Zavala Elementary School to honor the Baytown Mexican School.
- ³³ Located at 1809 Market Street, it received an official Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation in 2011.
- ³⁴ <http://www.gccisd.net/default.aspx?name=CampusDirectory.Home> (accessed September 23, 2016).
- ³⁵ Located at 200 Lee Drive, Texas Historical Marker dedicated in
- ³⁶ Located at Mary Willbanks Drive <http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/library/about-us>
- ³⁷ “County Library opens in Wooster,” *The Baytown Sun*, pg. 1, Sun, Apr 7, 1963.
- ³⁸ “Portrait of A Baytonian: Dr. William E. Marshall,” pg. 84, *the Making of A City. Baytown, Texas Since Consolidation 1948-1998* by Buck A. Young (Baytown TX: Bay Area Heritage Society.
- ³⁹ “Demolition moves forward on old hospital,” *The Baytown Sun*, Thursday, February 25, 2016, http://baytownsun.com/news/article_b85f58f0-db6d-11e5-9bfe-fbf018e8ab91.html
- ⁴⁰ <http://baytownbert.blogspot.com/2012/07/old-san-jacinto-hospital-on-decker-drive.html> by “Baytown Bert.” Blog by S.Deskin, <http://historicalmarkersofbaytown.blogspot.com/2013/10/old-san-jacinto-hospital-on-decker-drive.html>
- ⁴¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aawmZX2UYa0>
- ⁴² <http://www.lee.edu/about/>
- ⁴³ <http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/police>
- ⁴⁴ <http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/fire>
- ⁴⁵ <http://www.hcp2.com/16-infrastructure/7005-harris-county-and-the-state-of-texas-complete-ashland-boulevard-sidewalk-project>
- ⁴⁶ <http://baytown.org/city-hall/departments/police>
- ⁴⁷ <http://baytown.org/city-hall/departments/fire>
- ⁴⁸ *Baytown Police Department: 50 Years* (Baytown, Texas. 1998).
- ⁴⁹ Haenel’s thesis, *A Social History of Baytown, Texas 1912-1956*. Chapter II “Two Years of Ku Klux Klan.” “The Klan in Goose Creek,” Bert Marshall’s *Our Baytown*. <http://www.ourbaytown.com/>
- ⁵⁰ https://www.newspapers.com/clip/7450659/roxies_bar_1208_harbor_st_1131954_4/, etc.
- ⁵¹ “Baytown Policemen Raid Bawdy House. Jail Three,” *The Baytown Sun*, Fri, Sep 4, 1964, Page 1.
- ⁵² “Baytown Police Scandal” by Buck A. Young. *East Texas Historical Journal* Vol. 27, No. 2, Article 9. <http://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2011&context=ethj>

- ⁵³ *Houston Daily Post*: Saturday Morning, September 22, 1917. Transcript provided by Sarah Canby Jackson, CA, of the Harris County Archives. Also on file in that office is a brief Inquest Paper filed in “Pct. 3 New Town of Goose Creek, Texas September 21, 1917.”
- ⁵⁴ Haenel. *A Social History of Baytown, Texas 1912-1956*, Chapter IV “And There Will be a Political Hot Time.”
- ⁵⁵ *Baytown’s Big Oak*, <http://pruett.net/pages/oak.html>
- ⁵⁶ Pg. 3, Sat., April 29, 1950, *The Baytown Sun*.
- ⁵⁷ <http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/city-council/agendas-minutes>
- ⁵⁸ “Daytripper: Baytown,” by Chet Garner, *Texas Highways*, November 2015.
<http://www.texashighways.com/travel/item/7986-daytripper-baytown>
- ⁵⁹ “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” pg. 106, *From Humble Beginnings, 75th Anniversary Book* (1995. Exxon Baytown); Vance, Mike, Editor. *Houston Baseball: The Early Years 1861-1961*. Bright Sky (Houston) 2014.
- ⁶⁰ <http://www.baytown.org/city-hall/departments/parks-recreation> Scott Johnson is the Parks Director.
pard@baytown.org
- ⁶¹ <http://art-league-of-baytown.org/>
- ⁶² 308 West Texas Ave. Baytown Texas 77520; 832-514-1452; <http://www.portraitofawarrior.org/index.htm>
Ken "The Dauber" Pridgeon has made it his mission to paint a portrait of these men and women we know as heroes. Each family of the fallen heroes is then given a print as his way of honoring -- their loved one.
- ⁶³ <http://www.baytownhistory.org/>
- ⁶⁴ No website. Located at 220 West Defee Avenue, Baytown, Texas 77520. Phone: (281) 427-8768
- ⁶⁵ <http://racerpr.com/>
- ⁶⁶ Trevia Wooster Beverly. The narrative for the “Wooster Community” historical marker (2015).
- ⁶⁷ James L. Glass. *Early Towns and Settlements*, pg. 137.
- ⁶⁸ Margaret Swett Henson. *History of Baytown*, pg. 67.
- ⁶⁹ *The Hurricane Almanac, Texas Edition* by Michael J. Ellis. P. (Corpus Christi TX: 1987).
- ⁷⁰ <http://baytown.org/city-hall/departments/parks-recreation/baytown-nature-center>
- ⁷¹ Homes in the Lakewood subdivision on the western side of Baytown on the bay sustained major flood damage. Many homes were eventually demolished because they were beyond repair. The Bayland Marina on the Waterfront District near Hwy 146 sustained major damage. All boats docked there were lost. Most of the boats were found along Hwy 146 or in the nearby subdivision. Hurricane Ike also caused the temporary shutting down of the Baytown ExxonMobil refinery. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effects_of_Hurricane_Ike_in_Texas (accessed April 20, 2017)
- ⁷² A powerful tropical cyclone that swept through portions of the Greater Antilles and Northern America in September 2008, wreaking havoc on infrastructure and agriculture, particularly in Cuba and Texas. It was one of the top five storms since 1900. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hurricane_Ike (accessed April 20, 2017)
- ⁷³ *The Baytown Sun*, Texas Historical Marker No. 16HR02 (2016).
- ⁷⁴ Wanda Orton, who began as a young reporter and was at one time editor, continues to write a regular column.
- ⁷⁵ Houston Radio History <http://houstonradiohistory.blogspot.com/2008/12/1940s-part-6-more-suburban-stations.html>
- ⁷⁶ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KWWJ>
- ⁷⁷ The Bay Area Historical Society operates the Baytown Historical Museum at 220 West DeFee. The Baytown Historical Preservation Association operates the Living History Museum at 5117 North Main
<http://www.baytownhistory.org/>
- ⁷⁸ <http://www.baytownchamber.com/>
- ⁷⁹ “Demographics,” Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baytown,_Texas
- ⁸⁰ Texas Historical Marker located at Bayland Park, 2641 SH 146 Business (2012).
- ⁸¹ 2017 Texas Historical Marker application pending.
- ⁸² Texas Historical Marker located at Bayland Park, 2641 SH 146 Business (2009).
- ⁸³ City of Baytown webpage: <http://www.baytown.org/> (accessed September 1, 2016).

⁸⁴ Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baytown,_Texas

⁸⁵ Born: October 11, 1912, Houston, Texas; Died: February 27, 2008, Baytown, Texas.

Handbook of Texas Online, Robin Roe, "Wells, Henrietta Pauline Bell," accessed April 19, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fwe87>

⁸⁶ James L. Glass (-). Trevia W. Beverly has copies of manuscripts quoted.