

the Willis O. Miley Dome

A. 1320 Farm Street Bastrop, Texas
0.531 Acre tract being part of Farm
lot 36 EAST of Main Street, City
of Bastrop Texas

Also known as the Iredell Farm lot
district named after GEO S Iredell
Civil Engineer who surveyed the
map of Bastrop Texas in 1920.

Built between 1870 and the turn
of the century tax records list it
in (1890).

the style (architectural) is listed
as Folk Victorian according to
the Texas Historical Commission
or THC.

the W.O. Miley house is also listed
on the National Register of
Historic Places. (2000 year)

In 2001, because of the Willis O
Miley's Historical and Architectural
Significance the City of Bastrop
invited and nominated the W.O.
Miley Dome for the Historical
Landmark Status.

the structure to be included is
the Willis Oliver Miley Dome
located at 1320. Farm St. Bastrop
Texas.

B. Structure Criteria

- Possesses significance in history,

- Possesses significance in:
architecture & history

- Is associated with the lives of persons significant in Bastrop's past.

- Is designated as a Recorded National Registered Historic Place

- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction.

- Documentation of historical background.

- Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the city.

-

These properties are found in the immediate vicinity of the four blocks that comprise the project area. The first property to be discussed is Bastrop's Iron Bridge over Gills Branch. It was formerly situated just west of the Farm Road and Highway 95 intersection. The bridge rested over Gills Branch, but it is listed in the NRHP as resting over Piney Creek, an alternate nomenclature. This iron-truss bridge was the first permanent bridge to be built in Bastrop County, and was erected in 1881 for a cost of \$1,400.00 (Moore 1977:93).

It was designed by the MO. Valley Bridge & Ironworks Company (THC 2008). It is unclear when this bridge was removed and replaced with a modern concrete bridge (Figure 3-3), but some bricks that may have been part of its foundation, along with numerous other construction debris, still lie within the bed of Gills Branch.

classify it as Victorian Folk, and lacks the features expected of Greek Revival, as classified in the NRHP listing. The symmetrical façade contains two adjacent central doors with a single/double-hung 12-light window at either end. The walls are covered in a horizontal siding. The lack of window-surrounds indicates that the windows may be contemporary replacements or the house may be sheathed in modern building fabrics. The home appears to be well-maintained.

The Miley, Willis House, located at 1320 Farm Road, maintains much of its architectural integrity (Figure 3-4). Its architectural style suggests it dates from around the 1870s to the turn of the nineteenth century (THC 2008). The single-level dwelling was constructed in the Folk Victorian style. The wood-frame sits on brick piers (THC 2008). The home's gable-front and wing design was common in post-railroad America (McAlester 1984). Victorian detailing includes small eave brackets and semi-turned columns. Façade fenestrations include two vertical 2/2 windows on the pedimented gable end and along the wing. Typical of Folk Victorian homes, the fenestrations are symmetrical with a central entry wrapped by a transom and side-lights. The exterior walls are clad in horizontal wood siding. Contemporary features include gutters along the porch, embossed metal skirting around the base and a metal roof. This property appears to be well-maintained.

The NRHP listed residence at 1316 Farm Road is a single-level home and appears to be a simple, side-gabled, hall-and-parlor plan with a rear extension, all typical features of the National Folk Style (Figure 3-5). As is common in the South, it also has the full-width, shed-roofed porch. Unlike the Miley, Willis house, this structure lacks the ornamentation to

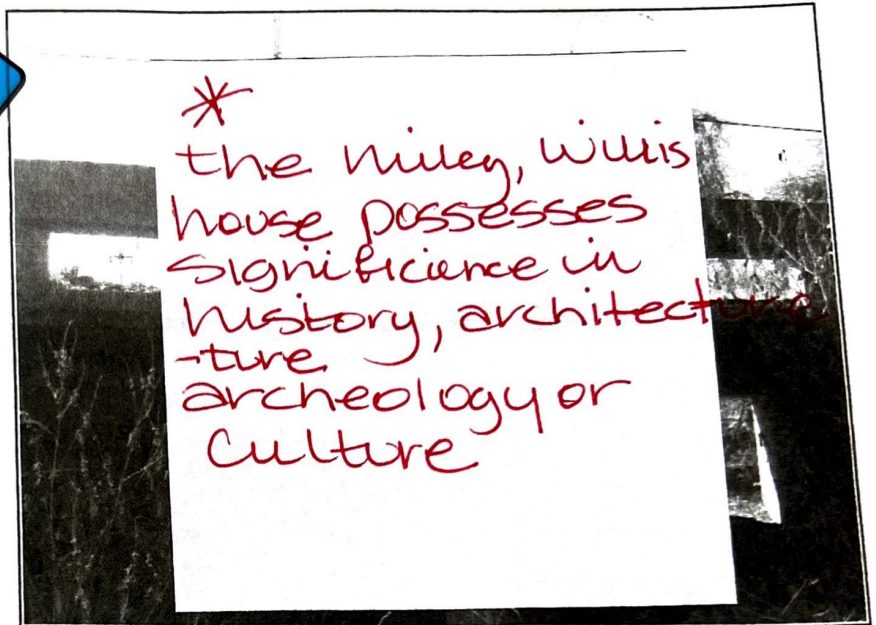


Figure 3-3. Current bridge over Gills Branch.

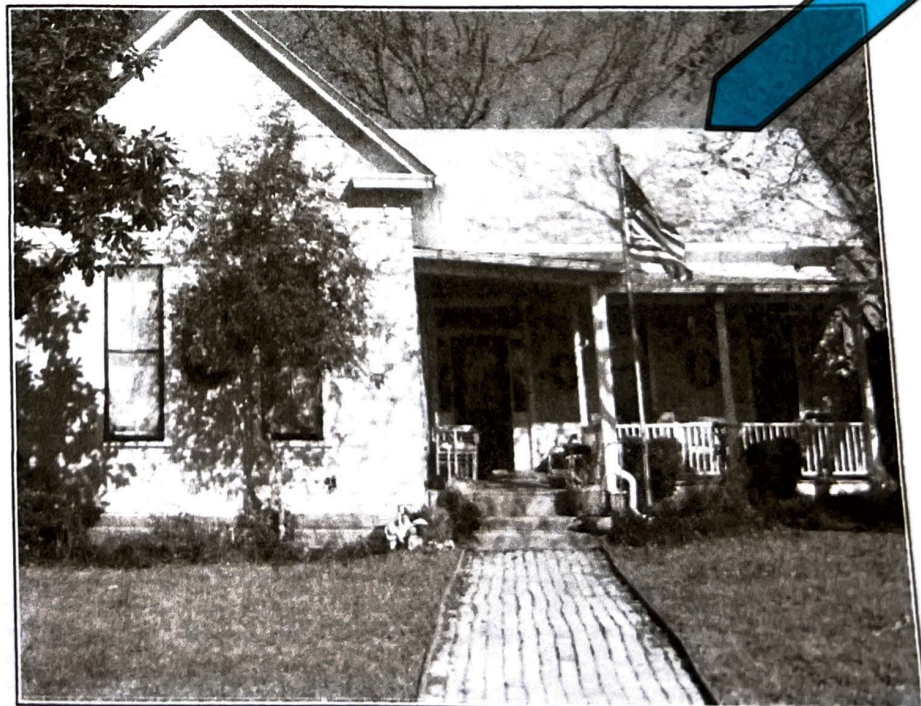
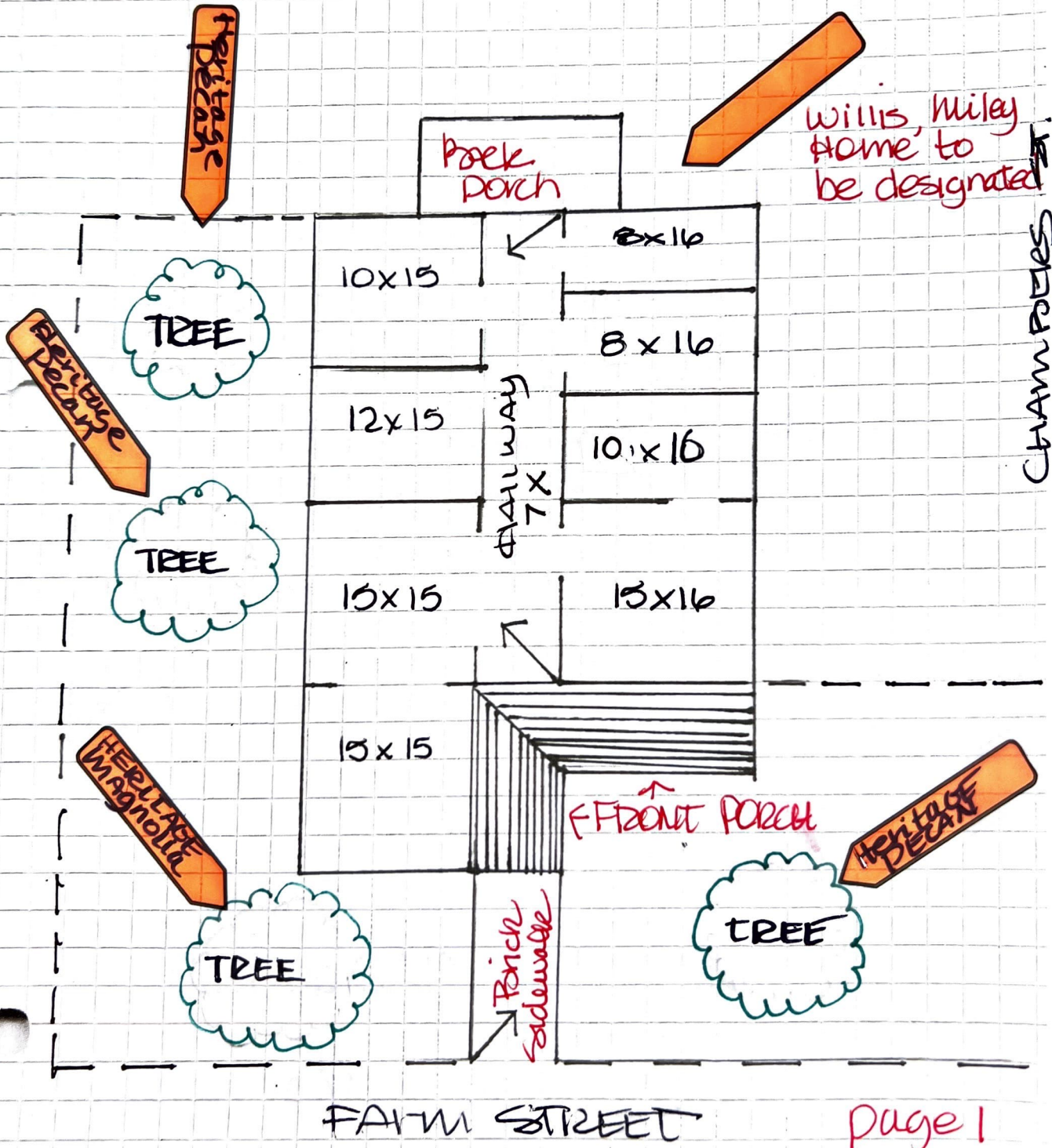


Figure 3-4. Miley, Willis House at 1320 Farm Road.

The Willis, Miley House
 1320 Farm Street
 Part of Farm Lot #36
 East of Main St. City of Bastrop

Built 1870 - 1890 0.53 acres











Bend Burial Ground Reids

Birth: unknown
Death: unknown

Reid Bend's Burial Ground (Lost Cemetery)

This was a private cemetery used by the descendants of James Reid Sr. from 1838 until at least 1919. It was located on the Austin tract above and aligning the town of Bastrop, TX i.e. "2.5 miles north of the town of Bastrop, TX" as described in 1889. There is no longer any trace of this cemetery. There are three confirmed burials on this site but many more presumed. These presumed individuals would have been buried here between 1838 and 1919. Once the Reid's Bend property was no longer owned by the Reids, family burials were moved to either other Bastrop County cemeteries or cemeteries found outside of Bastrop County as 3rd and 4th generations moved away from Reid's Bend tract.

Because members of the James Curtis Sr. family also lived on this Austin tract from 1829 to 1849 and were related by marriage to the Reids, the burial ground might also have been the final resting place for the earliest members of the Curtis (Old 300), Sims (Old 300), and Stewart families. No proof has been found to support this theory. By 1853, the first and most of the 2nd generation of the Curtis family were deceased.

This cemetery is not to be confused with Reid's Bend Hispanic Cemetery (abandoned) which is located on a shelf bank (first flood plain) on Reid's Bend river bend just above the Colorado River. There is a large physical separation of these two Reid's Bend located cemeteries. The cemetery was used in the 1920's and 1930's and on land now owned by Texas Aggregates, Inc. Only 7 graves can be found but others might exist.

Until Sept 2010 the Reid's Bend land was a mixed of cleared, grassy pasture and heavily brush. In June 2001, a group of Reid-Hutchi(n)son descendents tried to locate the cemetery with permission of the present owners, Bar W Ranch. They were unsuccessful. The last time the cemetery had been visited, prior to this, was in the 1950's by Effie and Claude Sharp who had taken her mother to visit the family plot. The Sharps were part of the 2001 gathering. The property has changed hands many times since the Reids. Bulldozing

Reids Bend's Burial Ground
Lost Cemetery

James Reid Sr.

- Willis O. Miley's
Great grand father
- Rebecca Greg Reid's
grandfather

Rebecca Greg Reid
Willis O. Miley's
mother.

has changed the surface of the land. It is very possible that the cemetery has been bulldozed over. The Sharps recall that most of the headstones are petrified rocks. However, the approximate location can be determined from Bastrop County deed records and a funeral card.

In September 2010, Bar W Ranch cleared some of the brushy land to make new pasture. Remains of a past settlement were uncovered. However, the bulldozer operator had scattered the remains of the archeological sites and burned the debris before he realized the significance of the find. All the finds were in the area that the cemetery was supposed to be based on early records. Bar W Ranch gave permission to Reid and Cindy Sharp and Charles and Linda Reid, descendants of James Reid Sr., to examine the newly cleared land before it was seeded for pasture.

The archeological finds included a large, single rock. According to the Effie (now dec'd) and Claude Sharp in 2001, there was a rock that marked the entrance to Reid's Bend Burial Ground. It was the only small boulder found. The rock was moved by the bulldozer but still remained in the general area. Three home sites used as late as the 1920's and 1930's were found. Bricks, both handmade and commercially made, were found scattered over the ground. A hand dug water well, that was manually lined with plaster, was also found near one of the home sites and the large rock.

Looking at a 1899 topo map of Bastrop County which showed the road to Reid's Bend and comparing it to a modern street map of Bastrop, TX and aerial map of Bar W Ranch, it was determined that the 2010 route to Reid's Bend is almost identical to one in 1899. Following directions to Reid's Bend Burial Ground from an 1889 funeral card, the location and mileage correlates to the location of the newly uncovered archeological site.

When James Sr.'s estate was finally settled in 1854, Thomas Reid [eldest son] bought back the portion of land that contained the burial ground from the new owner, W.J.S. Carter. The men were associated to one another by marriage through the Dancer family. As stated in Deed Book I, page 504, 21 Feb 1855 - 1/2 ac granted to Thomas Reid (pd \$1) for land on which James Reid Sr. was buried. The deed also described the cemetery location: "East of the Colorado River near the bank of said River, above the place where the house stands in which Bartlett Sims family [lived]." [Note: Bartlett S. Sims and Samuel H. Reid married

Curtis sisters. The Simses later moved to Williamson Co., TX in 1849.] Sims had his residence being "a part of the upper 1/3 part of the league above and aligning the town of Bastrop." The wording in the deed is such that it indicates more than one grave was buried on this half acre. The last know burial recorded was a granddaughter, Rebecca Greg Reid Miley in 1919. The funeral announcement in 1889 referred to the cemetery as Reid's Bend Burial Ground.

Burial:

Reid's Bend Burial Ground (lost)

Bastrop

Bastrop County

Texas, USA

Created by: Linda Reid

Record added: **Feb 28, 2011**

Find A Grave Memorial# 66275123

Willis Oliver Miley's mother.

Rebecca Greg Reid
 Born: 3-28-1856
 in Bastrop, Tx
 Died: 7-26-1919

Willis Oliver Miley's
 mother

the last known
 burial recorded
 at Reids Bend
 "the lost cemetery"

Alfred Crisenbeck signed wall
in original house owned prior to
Willis Oliver Miley



Willis Olive Miley
worked for the
Railway Express (REA)
Bastrop, Texas

a National package
delivery service that
operated in the U.S.

from 1918 to 1975

REA arranged trans-
port and delivery via
existing railroad.

He is listed as a
Journeyman,

an experienced
worker whose role
will vary on the
line of industry.

worked for
the Bastrop, Taylor
and Houston Railway

Texas, Death Certificates, 1903-1982 for Willis O Miley

SAVE v

Bastrop > 1947 > Jul-Sep

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF **Bastrop**
 CITY OR PRECINCT NO. **Bastrop**
 5. FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Willis O. Miley**
 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE WHERE DEATH OCCURRED **34** YEARS MONTHS DAYS (SOCIAL SECURITY NO. **497-30-1118**)
 RESIDENCE OF THE DECEASED | STREET AND NO. **CITY BASTROP** COUNTY **Bastrop** TOWNSHIP

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL PARTICULARS	
3 SEX Male	4 COLOR OR RACE White	17 DATE OF DEATH Aug. 31, 1947	
6 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (WRITE THE WORD) Married		18. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED THE DECEASED FROM Aug. 22 1947 TO Aug. 31, 1947	
8 DATE OF BIRTH Nov. 16, 1876		I LAST SAW HIM ALIVE ON Aug. 31, 1947	
7 AGE YEARS MONTHS DAYS IF LESS THAN 1 DAY 70 9 15		THE DEATH OCCURRED ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE AT 4:10 PM	
8A. TRADE, PROFESSION OR KIND OF WORK DONE Railway Express		THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH WAS: Coronary Occlusion	DURATION
8B. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH ENGAGED			
9. BIRTHPLACE (STATE OR COUNTRY) Bastrop, Texas		CONTINUING CAUSES WERE:	
10 NAME Barney Miley			
11. BIRTHPLACE (STATE OR COUNTRY) U.S.A.			
12. MAIDEN NAME Grace Reid			
13. BIRTHPLACE (STATE OR COUNTRY) U.S.A.			
14 SIGNATURE Mrs. Grace Ferguson		DATE OF OCCURRENCE OCT 2 1947	
ADDRESS Bastrop, TEXAS		PLACE OF OCCURRENCE TEXAS	
15. PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Bastrop, TEXAS		MANNER OR MEANS IF RELATED TO OCCUPATION OF DECEASED, SPECIFY	
DATE Sept. 2, 1947		SIGNATURE R.M. Jolley	M.D. OR
16 SIGNATURE Mrs. Bernice H. Jenkins		ADDRESS Bastrop, TEXAS	
ADDRESS Bastrop, TEXAS			
20 FILE NUMBER V9	FILE DATE 9-5-47	SIGNATURE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR J. Williams	ADDRESS Bastrop, TEXAS

NOTE THE INFORMATION CALLED FOR ON THE REVERSE SIDE

FATHER
 Barney Miley
MOTHER
 Grace Reid

Willis O. Miley's Death Certificate
 Born Nov 16, 1876 Bastrop Texas
 Died August 31, 1947 Bastrop, Texas
 Lived @ 1320 Farm St. for 34 years.

William Jefferson Miley (W.J.)

W.O. Miley's $\frac{1}{2}$ Brother.

Born 7-5-1861

Died 3-8-1927

wife Francis Marietta Green

William Jefferson (W.J.) Miley $\frac{1}{2}$ Brother
of W.O. Miley built and opened a Drug
STORE at 1300 Main in 1905, complete
with a soda fountain which is still in
operation. This site has been occupied
since 1853 when it served as the
office of David Sayers, father of
Texas Governor Joseph Sayers.

Now it is Lock Drug Store, known
as the oldest Drug Store in Texas.



HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION

August 1, 2001

Bill Ennis
Chairman

Pinky Smith
Vice Chairman

Dan Hays-Clark
Secretary

Don Cartwright
Commissioner

Susan Long
Commissioner

Billy Maynard
Commissioner

Bill Pletsch
Commissioner

Charles Lee
1320 Farm Street
Bastrop, TX 78602

Dear Mr. Lee:

Several years ago, the Bastrop City Council passed the Historic Landmark Preservation Ordinance, creating the Historic Landmark Commission and giving it the responsibility for coordinating efforts to protect Bastrop's historic structures. One of the provisions in the ordinance is the establishment of a Significant Landmark status which recognizes and preserves structures by preventing their demolition or removal, yet in no way interferes in their ordinary maintenance and upkeep.


Because of the historical and architectural significance of your property at 1320 Farm Street and its listing on the National Register of Historic places, the Commission would like to nominate your home for this designation. *As an invitee, you will not be responsible for the \$300.00 application fee which you would incur if you requested designation later.* The process is simple and the Commission can assist you in completing the application.

If you agree to this nomination, your home will be among several structures to be brought to the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council in the fall for Significant Landmark designation. You will receive an official notice from the City Planning Department regarding the dates, place and times. It is not necessary for you to be present at either meeting.

After the Council has approved this designation, we invite you to sign and return the enclosed agreement for the highest level of recognition, that of Historic Landmark Status. This status awards your home the new bronze *Historic Landmark Plaque* provided by the City and entitles you, as the property owner, to an annual percentage city property tax rebate.

With the changes evident in the current and future growth of Bastrop, we hope that you agree that preserving the downtown historic district is not only important from an architectural and historical standpoint, but will also have a positive effect on property values and the continuance of our small town ambience.

If you have any questions at all, please call me at 303-0442.

Very sincerely,

Bill Ennis
Chairman

8:38

5G



Bastrop
April 4, 2018 8:22 AM

Edit



We cannot forget the Historic Chickens
Sanctuary located on Farm Street.
Photo taken from the porch of the W.O. Miley House.

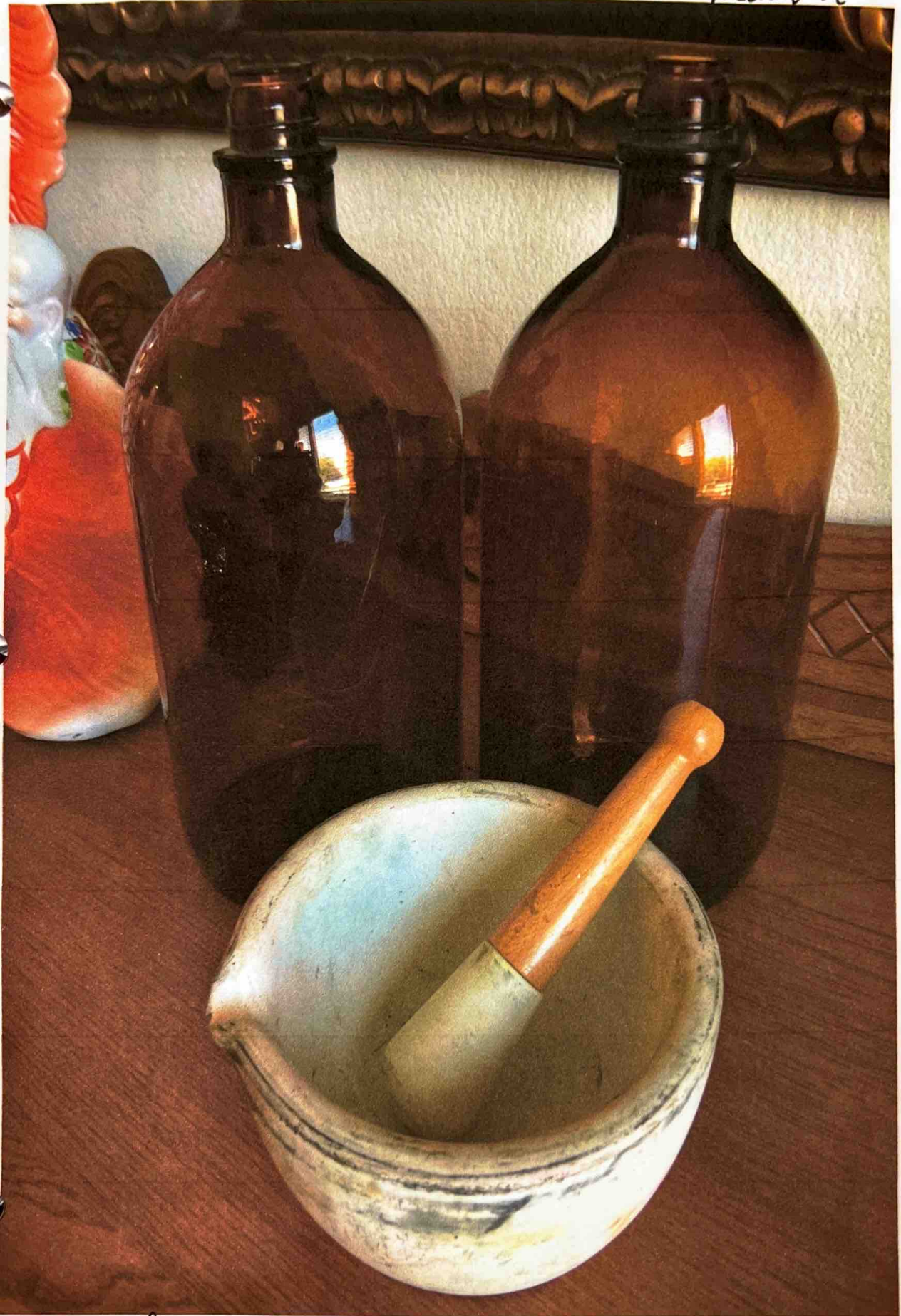


Rooster

L.O.L.



Items from Wileys (W.S) Pharmacy 1905
1300 Main St.



Items from the barn of W.O. Wiley that I
am in possession of.

Found in the ceiling at 1320
Farm Street covering a wood stove
hole.



W.O. Miley Deme

Most likely came from W.J. Miley's
Pharmacy (Locks Drugs) 1300 Main
Houston, TX