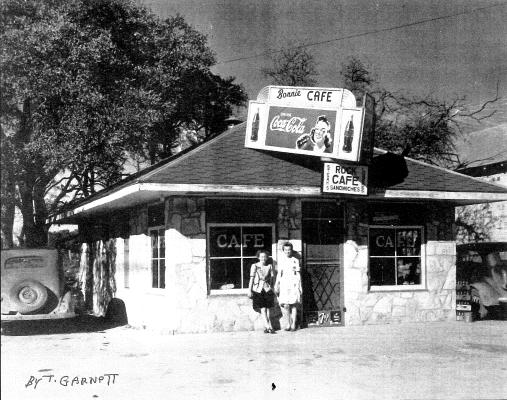




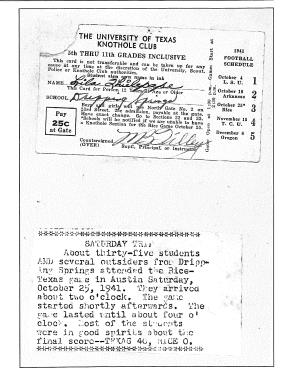
This 1944 photograph shows the Reverend J.N. Marshall standing in front of the Henly Baptist Church. The church continues to host the annual Henly Homecoming reunion for anyone who has ever called Henly home. The event is open to the public. (Henly Homecoming.)

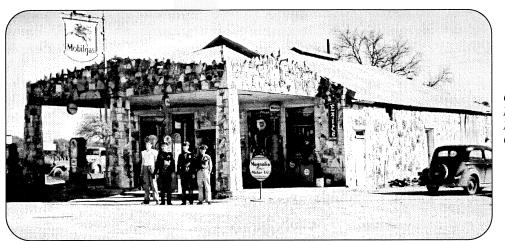
The young folks of Henly were hardly hicks, as can be seen in this engaging photograph of Normaleen Jennings and Vahn Adams. The nation had finally recovered from the Great Depression, and even folks out in the country had access to fashionable clothes and cars, if not paved roads yet. (Henly Homecoming.)



Times were good in Dripping Springs in 1940. Fritz Miller owned the Texaco station on Mercer Street and decided to build a small café next door as an investment. Pictured are Hattie (left) and Lois Garnett in front of the cute café, taken over by the Glossons and renamed Bonnie's Cafe, after their daughter. The Glossons gave up the café in 1956 and took their entrepreneurial skills down the street to run the Red & White Grocery. The Rock Cafe building was converted into a residence in 1965 before being put to use as office space in 1992. (Travis Garnett.)

There was plenty for the young people to do in the 1940s. This 1941 ticket to a University of Texas (UT) football game in Austin cost just 25¢ at the gate for fifth through eighth graders. According to the Dripping Springs Tiger Cry school publication, nearly three dozen local students went to the game. It was worth the trip when UT shut out Rice University 40-0. (Lila Thielepape Gillespie.)





Mobil Station/ Central Garage, 1937 L-R: unknown, Leroy Roberts, Mr. King, Ollie Sorrell

—Courtesy Katherine Roberts

the old Breed Market Place. Mrs. Roberts put in a cafe in the east end of the station. They catered to a very good truck trade that made its way through Dripping Springs at this time. For a while the business stayed open 24 hours a day.

Mr. Roberts' health began to fail and he was forced to give up the business. He asked E. E "Nookie" Myers if he wanted to take over and in September of 1951, he accepted the offer. The cinder block portion of the building was completed in 1954-55. It was needed to protect the workers from the elements as they serviced the cars. Until then, the racks that held the cars being worked on, were on the outside of the building. Alva Haydon got an early jump on the move to the new 290 location and built a new station in 1959, and Mr. Myers made the move and left the front of the building vacant.

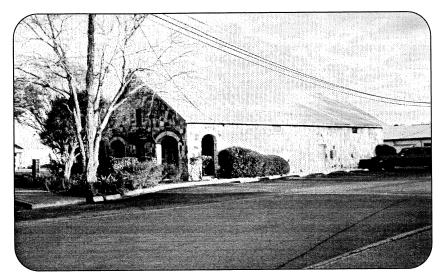
After taking over the garage in 1939, Alva Haydon ran this business until 1964 when he, too, would move to another location along 290. The old building would not stay in mothballs very long. In 1967, Jake Spears leased the garage for his repair shop and remained in the business until his retirement in 1991. The more prominent business to occupy the front of the building was a glassworks business owned by Drew Patterson in the late '80s. In the spring of 1993, Buddy Lewis leased the building and the lot behind it to open up his rental enterprise and small engine repair. A woodwork-

ing business now occupies the cinderblock portion of the building.

Crenshaw/Ferrell Movie Theater

It was probably a good idea, but the timing proved to be all wrong. D. Waite Crenshaw owned the garage across the street and James Ferrell worked as a mechanic for him. Dripping Springs was growing and the new highway was to come in front of it, instead of beside it. Austin was still a good trip in for any type entertainment. They recognized what they thought would be a good business opportunity—to build a movie theater. They bought Lot 12 of block one and built a rock structure in 1937 that would hold up to 300 patrons at a time. Years ago this site housed a blacksmith shop.

Wade Turner and Leland Lyle lent their skills in putting up the rock on the stylish building. Unfortunately for the owners, despite the accommodations, it was not a money-making proposition. The country was just coming out of the Depression and this may have had something to do with it. Within a couple of years the business went bankrupt. James moved his moving picture equipment in November of 1940 to Moulton for a couple of years and Waite moved permanently to Austin. In 1941 creditors bought the building in a sheriff's sale. It changed hands again but it was not used as a theater. Finally in 1945, the building was



Crenshaw/Ferrell Movie Theater, now a Wells Fargo bank

purchased by Joe K. O'Bryant of Austin. He already owned two theaters in Austin, one being the Ritz, and was looking to expand. He named the theater DisTex. Some remember it as Dixie. Movies were shown only on the weekends. During his senior year in high school, Raymond Whisenant managed the theater for its final hoorah. He recalls showing movies on Friday and Saturday nights. He would then pack up the receipts and films and ship them by bus to Austin on Sunday. That was the last time the building was used for the purpose it was built.

In 1948 James Lumpkin came to town to set up a business named the Texas Insulation and Manufacturing Company where Central Garage now resides. In doing so, he purchased the old theater building to be used, among other things, as a warehouse. He removed all the seats and converted the building into a feed store and warehouse for his insulation supplies. One of the problems they encountered was the sloping floor that was necessary for all to see the movie from the seats. When it rained, water would stand at the bottom of the slant and workers would have to wade through water. Luckily they could use the stage to store the feed on and it would not get wet. Others remember getting to use this big floor for roller skating. This should have offered some exciting challenges for them.

Lumpkin coaxed Felix Rippy to run the feed store for him and he did so until around 1950. At that time Leland Lyle tried his hand at it. M. Z. Piland, who was a partner with Lumpkin, was a part of the business with Lumpkin. Lumpkin ran the feed store for a while himself, when the insulation business began to falter. The building fell vacant again. O. B. McKown bought the building in 1962 to be used as a warehouse for his lumber business across the

street. In 1969, it would see life as a business again. A company called Porta Craft made portable buildings there for a while. It went back to being a warehouse when the King Feed Company took over the old lumber yard. James Hurlbut rescued the storied building in 1977 and sent it into an even more exciting future. He remodeled the building into an office complex and leased it out to several entrepreneurs. Another golden opportunity for service was afforded the old building in 1981. Dripping Springs was in line to get its first bank ever. So James went about this new remodeling job. In September of 1981, it officially became the property of the Dripping Springs National Bank. The only major change to the exterior of the building was the annex built on the east side to house the vault. Unfortunately the bank was caught up in the great land bust of the mid-80s and finally failed in 1991. The Texas Bank took over the operation on July 12, 1991. On April 18, 1997, Norwest bought out the interest of Texas Bank and took charge. Wells Fargo bought out the Norwest banks in 1998 and the bank took that name officially in 2000.

J. E. Spaw Barber Shop

When the Haydons decided to move the



still seen around with his wrecker helping out cars in trouble.

Haydon Complex

Alva and Charlie Neal Haydon owned all of block five or what was left of it after 290 went through. They had already built the Mobil station and in 1960 they built the first of three sections to it. The first building, located on the west end of the block, was a restaurant. It was named the Western Kitchen. It was opened in 1960 by Jimmy and Martine Hoard. They operated this very popular eating place until their retirement in 1975. It would not open again until 1976 when Bonnie Pearson reopened it as Tiger Den. Bonnie's parents were Jimmy and Tula Glosson, who had named the little rock cafe on Mercer Street, that they had operated in the '40s and '50s, after her. Blackie and Jeanne Cutrer retained the name when they took over in 1979. Bert Reid changed it to Bert's Restaurant for his 1981-83 stay. In 1983, high school student Louie Alvarez managed the eating place for one year and brought back the name Tiger Den.

Name changes continued with Oak Shadows Restaurant (1984), Texas Traditions (1986) and finally Green Mesquite (1988) managed by Dart and Gail Hyde. In 1989, the restaurant string came to an end. Sherry Burke leased the building and converted it into a flower shop she named Flowers To Go. In 1992, Flowers To Go was purchased by Sylvia McCaslin. She ran the business until late 1999 when she sold it to Dawn Fultz Kidd. Brenda Smith would purchase the business from her in February 2002.

In 1962 a second building was erected to the east of the Western Kitchen. Its first tenant was Virgil Conn. He had a small business down the street in the old insulation building now owned by Haydon. He kept pushing the Haydons to put in a building for his business and Alva obliged. Virgil's nickname was Nut so he called it

Nut's Hobby Shop. He was just ahead of his time as he had all types of objects to satisfy the curious. Unfortunately this type of business had not hit its stride in small towns and he struggled with it for eight years before having to give up his love. Nell Graham opened an antique store called The Gallery in 1971. In the late '70s it had a short life as an amusement center. By 1987, Ben Woodland was managing Aunt Nell's Attic. In 1989, antiques gave way to coffins when Harrell's Funeral Home took over the area. They stayed until 1993. For a short time a children's store called the Little Rascals was in there. In 1995, Nancy Haffelder moved her store over from the Veranda and named it the Gateway Emporium, having a variety of gift ideas, much like its predecessor so many years before. A runaway trailer, loaded with a band's musical instruments, crashed into the building in June 1999 and destroyed much of the building and its contents. The building was repaired by late July but the owners of Gateway Emporium decided not to continue. Other businesses have since moved in.

1984 saw the gap between the two buildings closed in to make another business room. In its career each of the two other buildings have used it to enlarge theirs. At first it was used as one of the dining rooms for the restaurant. When they ceased to be, it turned to other uses in combinations. When Harrell's Funeral Home took up residence, this area became the visiting room. It has spent time as an antique store as well and the headquarters for an insurance agent.

Ragland's Village Center

Alva Haydon was not the only one who took advantage of the new Hwy. 290 to start a thriving complex. Louise and Skeet Ragland chose an excellent spot on the south side of 290 just west of the Creek Road. They purchased the small strip of land that included a four-room house and put together



Village Center, 1961

the forerunner of the one-stop shopping center for Dripping Springs. The center included a cafe, grocery, beauty and barber shop. The house became the west end of the main building. The front two rooms became the barber and beauty shops and the back two rooms were used as living areas or storage. When the grocery was expanded to include the rooms previously being the barber and beauty shops, the portion that was the house could be noted by the slanted floor leading to those rooms. The grocery and cafe was run by the Raglands. Bersha McIntyre had the beauty shop and Ira Ruston the barber shop. It opened in August 1961. A Conoco station was separate from the rest of the center and located on the east side of the property. The station was completed by April 1962, and Melvin McNair was the first to run it. Later Fisher would take over. The cafe occupied the east end of the main building with the grocery in the middle and the barber/beauty shops on the west end.

The Conoco station was managed in its early years by the Raglands (1963-64), Corky Pendleton (1965) and John Glass (1966). The cafe was handled by Womack in 1964 and J. W. Hunnicutt in 1965. Oscar Vineyard took over in 1966 and ran it until the McCartys took over in 1970. The station and cafe were phased out and the space used for other things. Today, the entire complex is one building dedicated to the grocery and market business. The station portion housed

feed for animals. There are Shamrock self-serve gas pumps out front.

The Dietchers took over the Village Center in 1967. The next year Bill Tracy purchased the establishment and ran it until 1982. His health was failing him and Mack Crow took it off his hands. Billy Peters bought the store from Mack in 1987 and renamed it Dripping Springs Grocery & Market. In January 1992, the title went to Jim Powers. He sold it to Jeff Harris and Keith Askey and they sold it to an Arab group headed by a man named Amir in 1994. On 9-15-2001, they sold the business to El San, Inc.

Felps Drug & Grocery

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Felps were still in the building mood after completing the Sinclair station. Next door they built a cinder block building that stretched almost the entire length of the lot. This was still 1961 and this building was one of the last to be built during this year of growth for Dripping Springs businesses. George Wiest, who had run the cafe and Sinclair station for the Felps in the '50s, was biding his time with a grocery business on Mercer Street and quickly moved into the building and ran his drug and grocery business from there. This association lasted until 1966 when the business closed. For several years in the late '60s and early '70s, Marion Jackson used the facility for his antique auctions until it simply grew





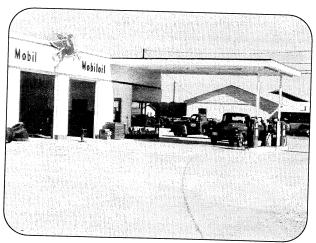


Wilson TV & Appliance

more than thirty years, the building became woefully small for the expanding business and in 1987, a new and larger building was built on the southeast corner of the same property. The old building has remained a useful member of the family as a storage facility, although many inquiries about leasing it have been proffered.

Haydon Mobil Station

The rerouting of Highway 290 to go straight through on Spring Street caused a stampede of new businesses that depended on traffic for their livelihood and previously had been on Mercer Street. Alva and Charlie N. Haydon already owned the land in block



Mobil Station, 1959

five that bordered 290. This allowed them to get the jump on others. The first thing they did was to build a new Mobil station on the corner of San Marcos and 290, where the old gin stood a couple of decades before. E. E. "Nookie" Myers, who had run the Mobil station on Mercer, moved over to the new facility in June 1959. They had a grand opening complete with music, coffee, and cake. Myers ran the Mobil station until his retirement in December of 1972.

Clyde Gillis took over the station and ran it until 1976. At that point Dan Triesch of Blanco took over management of the station. In 1982, Dan converted it to a Texaco Station. In 1985 Ray and Gibb Duvall bought out Triesch and then turned over the business to Thomas Brownson in 1987. One year later, Glenn Louvier took over and ran the business until late 1995 when he closed the doors. After being vacant for a while, Jones Eckols leased the premises for the purpose of selling used cars. That business lasted until Jim Powers bought the property from the Haydons in 1997. He immediately remodeled the facility into a combination Texaco Station and Popeyes Fried Chicken. It opened February 25, 1998.

Felps Sinclair Station

It was definitely an advantage to already



own the land alongside the new 290 route, if you wanted to get a head start on building. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Felps owned the southeast corner lots in block two. They built a Sinclair station on the old route and proceeded to build the new station at the corner of 290 and now RR12 north, finishing their building just a few months ahead of the Garnett-Glosson Humble Station across the way. It opened in November of 1959. L. B. Wooten moved over from the other Sinclair station to be the first operator.

Unlike the other two service stations, the Sinclair station had a string of operators during its career. In 1961 it became Fulton's. From there it was Jennings (1962), Bowmans (1963-64), Wiests (1965-66), John Glass (1967), Rhodes (1968). Faye Dee James ran the station when it was a Fina in 1973-74. J. F. Glosson recalls that the last person to run the station was a Mrs. Sinclair who drowned while driving back to her home in Johnson City. In 1976, James McCrocklin put an end to its original use, when he purchased the property and converted the building into his headquarters for the Dripping Springs part of his real estate business. It remains in that capacity today.

Garnett/Glosson Humble Station

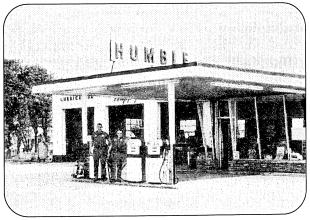
Travis Garnett, who had been running the Humble station on Mercer Street, was next to make the move. He asked J. F. Glosson, Jr., to be his partner and they bought the land on the corner of San Marcos and 290 from the Charles Seal family in late 1959. It was located diagonally from the Mobil station. By July 1960, the place was ready for business.

Part of the interesting history was in the holes for the gasoline storage tanks. As most around here knows, there is a lot of solid rock. It is not easy to get holes put into the ground. In this case, it was necessary to blast out the holes with dynamite. Travis set 52 sticks of dynamite, expecting them to be set off in intervals. Instead, when Louis Gourley came in to set them off, he decided

to set them all off at once. He was afraid he would not be able to find the other wires after the first blast. The battery he was going to use to detonate the charge was not strong enough to do the job. They had to run an extension cord over from the Mobil station across the street and this worked.

At the same time, the Sinclair station was being built across the street, now McCrocklin's. Travis went over there to warn the worker on the roof that a blast was eminent. He was unconcerned, thinking he was far enough away to not be in any serious danger. When Travis mentioned the 52 sticks, the worker could not get down fast enough. The blast blew chunks of rocks through the roof of the Methodist parsonage next door. That was the only damage attributed to the blast.

In 1973, Travis offered his share of the business to J. F. At that point, J. F. and his wife, Cleo, became the sole owners. They purchased the six lots of that block and expanded the building to meet the growing population, selling gas plus car repair. Over the years, the name of the product changed but not the first name on the sign. The gas company went from Humble to Enco to Exxon. On June 1, 1999, when Cleo and J. F. decided to close the doors for the last time and enjoy retirement, there still was not a name change. Son, Monte, who worked alongside his dad for most of his adult life, carried on the Glosson tradition. He and his wife Bridgette now own the business. J.F. is



Garnett-Glosson Humble Station, 1960

