

Boonville Heritage Park

A Project of
The Sons of the Republic of
Texas
And
Brazos County

Boonville Entrance

- change to say just **BOONVILLE**



Heritage Park and Harvey Mitchell Path

1.Six Flags Plaza and Council Ring 2. Harvey Mitchell 3.Boonville History 4.Historical Marker 5.Map 6.T-P Cabin 7.Smokehouse 8. Brazos Union Lodge 9. Cemetery Map 10. Twin Sister Cannon Replica 11. Rebuilt Original Courthouse 12. Eli Seale, Sam Houston and Hiram Hanover bronzes 13. Boonville School Play Yard



Stations of the Walking Trail

Underlined indicates an item or a structure, not underlined indicates a history panel only.

Six Flags Over Texas Plaza and **Council Ring**

1. Bronze statues: Harvey Mitchell and 10. Eli Seale,
Hiram Hanover, Sam Houston

2. Boonville History and Original Plat

3. Historical Marker

4. Google Earth Map + Boonville Map Overlay

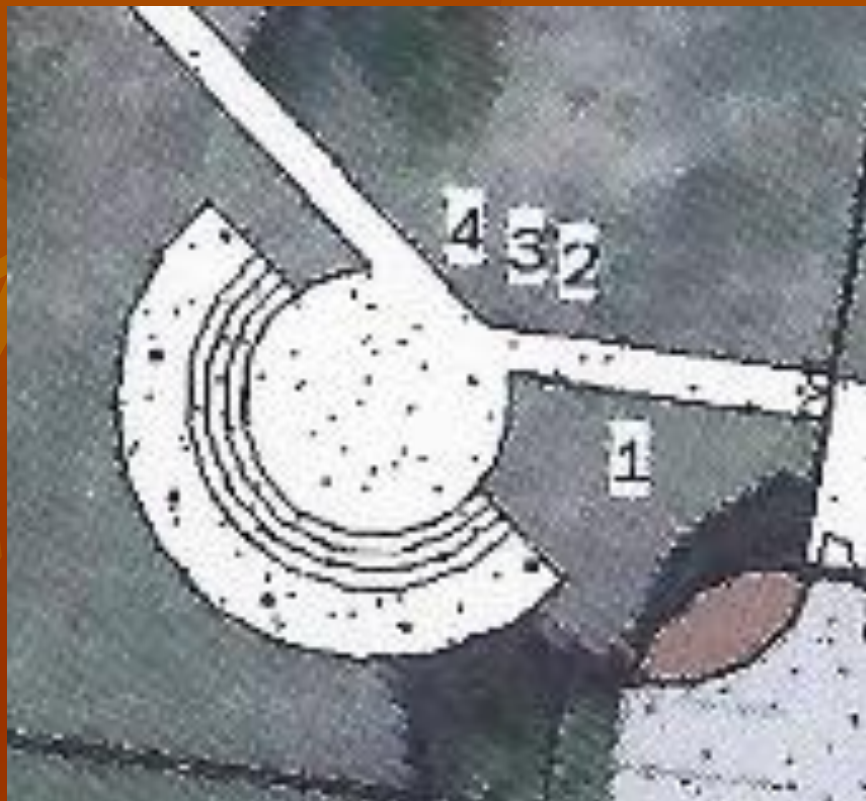
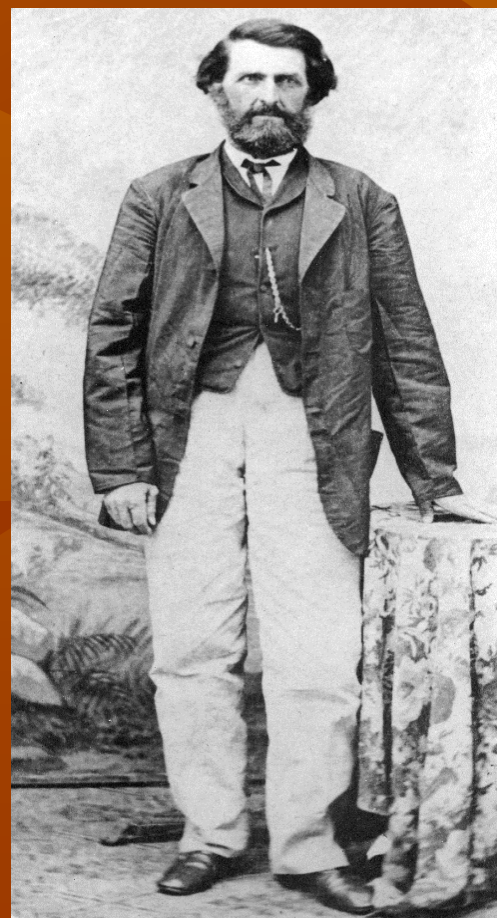
5. Dogtrot Cabin 6. Smokehouse

7. Brazos Union Lodge 8. Cemetery Map

9. Twin Sister Replica 11. Rebuilt Original Courthouse

12. School Play Yard * New north boundry fence of BHP

Six Flags Plaza & Walking Trail 1



BOONVILLE

1

DRAFT

1821 • HARVEY MITCHELL • 1901
 “Welcome to My Town”

Father of Brazos County

Harvey Mitchell was born in 1821 in Tennessee. Because his parents could not afford to send him to college, the ambitious 18 year old came to Texas in 1838. From 1839 to 1842, Mitchell served as a “Minute Man” in Robertson County, helping to secure the countryside from Indian raids from the Trinity River to the Brazos River.

Mitchell moved to the newly created Brazos County after his military service. As one of its first settlers, Mitchell was a leader and county official from 1842 to 1853, acting at different times as County Clerk, Post Master, Chief Justice, Surveyor and County Secretary—in addition to managing his farm. Still needing additional money to make ends meet, Judge Mitchell supplemented his income by teaching the children of the Carter (Carter Creek) family for \$20 a month. Professor Mitchell was one of the first paid teachers in Brazos County. In 1845, he opened the first dry goods and grocery store in Brazos County, also operating a gristmill and blacksmith shop. In 1853, Mitchell left county office to become a fulltime mercantile man and landowner. He was a leader in building churches and the Brazos County courthouses of 1846, 1853, and 1878. During the Civil War, he was assessor of Confederate state taxes.

As County Clerk, Mitchell issued his own marriage license and married Miss Archaisa J. Foley in 1847. He fathered nine children. In 1870, in a single week, Col. Mitchell and his wife lost four daughters to meningitis: Eunice, age 9, died January 18; Ada and Josephine, age 2 and 8 died January 22; Mary Etta, age 14, died January 25. Fittingly, their joint tombstone has the following inscription: “OUR CHILDREN Sleep here. Disturb them not. H. & A.J. Mitchell”. He is buried beside his wife with his family in the Boonville cemetery.

Father of Texas A&M

Harvey Mitchell’s determination and tact helped secure the location of the A.&M. College of Texas for Brazos County. In 1862, the U. S. Congress extended the Morrill Act to former Confederate states to create land-grant colleges. The Morrill Act, as well as the Texas State Legislature, allowed public lands to be granted for sale at auctions to establish permanent funding to support future colleges. In 1871, the Texas Legislature was searching for a college location.

Mitchell, leader of rural low-populated Brazos County, saw an opportunity. Although several large cities, including “San Antonio, Austin, Waco, and other prominent and wealthy places” were avidly seeking this prize college, Mitchell and his three-man committee reached out to grab the brass ring. He managed to learn what bonus amount was needed to secure the prize. Mitchell wrote out a bid, which was accepted, on condition that he would have perfect titles to 2,500 acres of previously shown land—within 48 hours. With the help of other citizens, the money was raised; the lands bought; deeds secured and delivered to the commissioners, within the time specified. The prize was theirs. *Legend has it that somewhere in the process Col. Mitchell held a winning hand of poker securing the opportunity for the Brazos County location for A.&M., arguably the highest stakes in the history of Texas, if true?*

Texas A.&M. was established on land that would later become College Station by the state legislature on April 17, 1871, as the state’s first public institution of higher education. As an interesting footnote, Jefferson Davis, former President of the Confederate States, was offered the first presidency, but he declined.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas officially opened with classes on October 4, 1876. There were 40 students and six professors—and wild animals roaming freely on the frontier campus. By the end of the school year, there were 106 students, all male and required to participate in military training in the Corps of Cadets. In 1963, ninety years later, during the tenure of 16th president, Major General James Earl Rudder, women were finally admitted as students to Texas A&M University.

Harvey Mitchell left an indelible mark on Texas, Brazos County, and Texas A.&M.

HERITAGE PARK

The Six Flags Over Texas Plaza



Just inside the park at the start of the walking trail where stations # 1, 2, 3 and 4 are positioned



Walking Trail #2 and #3



BOONVILLE

2 DRAFT

THE CITY PLAT

The State of Texas consists of 254 counties. Washington County, with its settlements of Independence and Washington on the Brazos was one of the 23 counties created in 1836 following Texas independence. Most of the area of present-day Brazos County was included in Washington County. The Brazos River, which bisected the original Washington County, proved a serious obstacle to county government, so a new county, Navasota, was formed in January 1841. Seven months later, Brazos County was created from Navasota County. Brazos was the 35th of counties created in the era of the Republic of Texas.

The area around Boonville is part of a land grant to Moses Austin by Spain. Austin's son, Stephen F. Austin, known as the Father of Texas, helped bring settlers to the area. Boonville, the first county seat of Brazos County, was on Farm Road 158, also known as Boonville Road, two miles northeast of the site of what is now Bryan. The Republic of Texas Congress appointed a committee - made up of J. H. Jones, Eli Seale, William T. Millican, Joseph Ferguson, and Mordecai Boon, Sr. - to select a tract of 150 acres from the John Austin league for the county seat.

Later in that momentous year of 1841, the first court, presided over by Judge R. E. B. Baylor, was held in Joseph Ferguson's cabin at Ferguson Crossing on the Navasota River fourteen miles west of the site of present Bryan. Boonville, the county seat, was named for Mordecai Boon, Sr., a nephew of Daniel Boone. Surveyed by early settler Hiram Hanover, Boonville was located in John Austin's league. Originally Brazos was one of the state's poorer counties. In the 1870s an effort was made to improve the county's prospects. 2,416 acres of land were donated to create the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, a farsighted endeavor that ultimately led to the county's financial success.

The town was built around a public square. In 1843,

Boonville residents built a jail, and in 1846 they acquired a post office and built a courthouse. The Boonville courthouse, known as the "board shanty," served many purposes: General Sam Houston and other prominent statesmen made speeches; circuit preachers, William Tryon and Robert Alexander gave sermons. It also served as a school and church. A stage line went from Houston through Boonville in 1850; its drivers and passengers stopped at the Boonville Hotel overnight.

The town enjoyed growth and prosperity from 1842 to 1866. But the end of the Civil War meant the resumption of railroad building. The Houston and Texas Central Railway tracks were laid from Millican, reaching Bryan in 1867. A county election and referendum on the seat of county government was held in the fall of 1866. Bryan won - supported by Boonville citizens who had already begun to move nearer the railroad. Later that year mail was routed through Bryan. The last days of Boonville were approaching.

Among the early settlers in Brazos County was William Joel Bryan, the nephew of Stephen F. Austin, who conveyed the property in what is now the downtown area of Bryan. The railroad reached Bryan in 1867; the courthouse was moved, joining businesses with commercial progress in sight. The city of Bryan incorporated in 1871. In that same year a site on the rail line a few miles to the south was chosen as the location for the proposed Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas - aptly named College Station. In 1876, as the nation celebrated its centennial, Texas A. & M. College opened its doors as the first public institution of higher education in Texas. The College's train stop became part of the Bryan/College Station economic hub of Brazos County and the Brazos Valley.



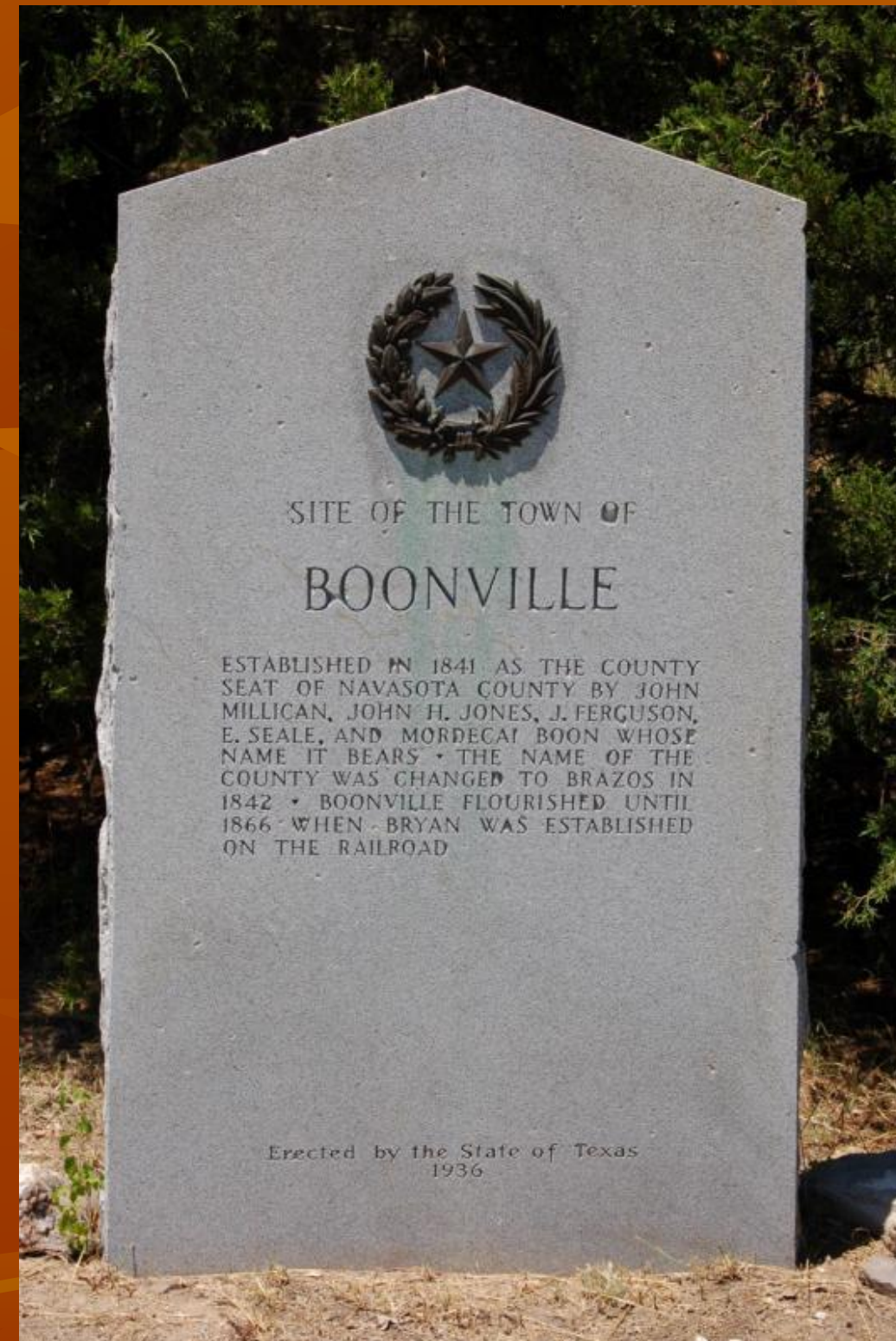




BUILDINGS IN BOONVILLE

A Courthouse	H "Exchange Saloon," Bowman and Wootton (1858)	O Gristmill, Mitchell
B Jail (1844)	I Public Well (1857)	P Boonville Hotel
C Hanover Cabin Post Office (1841)	J Store and Post Office, Mitchell	Q J.P. Mitchell Doctor Office (1856)
D Bowman Hotel (1841)	K Blacksmith Shop, Mitchell	R Foley House, Built by J. Vaughan (1841)
E Millican Sheriff Cabin (1841)	L House, Mitchell, Later McIntosh	S Store House, Soyles (1841)
F "Drinking Saloon," Martin (1866)	M School, Mitchell (1842)	T Brazos Union Lodge (1855)
G Sheriff Hudson Cabin (1856)	N Depot Civil War (1863)	U Public School Yard (1854)

HERITAGE PARK



Walking Trail #4

Original Boonville Plat





BOONVILLE

4 DRAFT



LEGEND

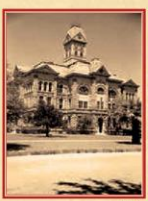
- A - Courthouse
- B - Jail (1844)
- C - Hanover Cabin Post Office (1841)
- D - Bowman Hotel (1841)
- E - Millican Sheriff Cabin (1849)
- J - Store & Post Office (Mitchell)
- K - Blacksmith Shop (Mitchell)
- L - House Mitchell (Later McIntosh)
- M - School Mitchell (1842)

THE TALE OF THE COURTHOUSE TREE

An eastern red cedar tree growing near the southwest corner of the courthouse square beside the Brazos County Courthouse in Bryan has grown at the site of five Brazos County courthouses. The tree was a sapling in January 1841, when the Congress of the Republic of Texas established Navasota (now Brazos) County. That spring, county officers were elected and the first term of district court convened in Joseph Ferguson's home, near the Ferguson Springs crossing of the Navasota River. At that time the sapling grew beside Ferguson's cabin, which served as the county's first courthouse.

Later that year, Boonville was chosen as the county seat, and a new courthouse was built there. The cedar sapling did not grace courthouse grounds again until 1854, when a two-story frame building was erected on the previous Boonville site. At this time Harvey Mitchell, called by some "the father of Brazos County," decided to plant native shrubs and trees around the new courthouse. He moved the little red cedar that had grown near the Ferguson log cabin to the new courthouse grounds.

In 1866 Bryan, three miles to the west, became the Brazos county seat. In 1879 a new brick courthouse was built on the present courthouse square, and Mitchell moved the historic cedar to the new site, its third courthouse home. The brick courthouse was adjudged unsafe after about twenty years and was replaced in 1891 by a stone building. The present courthouse, built in 1957, towers protectively above the red cedar tree, whose existence is interwoven with the history of Brazos County. — *Handbook of Texas Online*




HERITAGE PARK



Trail #5 The Dogtrot Cabin

Front and East End Elevations





BOONVILLE 5 DRAFT



FRONT ELEVATION



CABIN FLOOR PLAN



EAST ELEVATION

1856 • TURNER - PETERS LOG CABIN • 2015



Though it's called a cabin, the Turner-Peters Dogtrot was home and home during the 1800s to early settlers. For over 160 years the homestead was situated atop a sandy hill overlooking a small branch of Peach Creek in Grimes County. Thanks to restoration efforts, it has become a featured educational experience and living history landmark in the Boonville Heritage Park—some 30 miles on the same roadway from its original site.

The dogtrot home is in excellent condition, one of the best to be found in Texas in recent years and typical of southern "pioneer style" architecture. The red cedar dwelling consists of two "cribs" or cabins; each approximately 20'x20' constructed with horizontally laid, notched hevn logs separated by a 10 foot wide "dogtrot". Typically the dogtrot breezeway served as a covered place of safety for playing children; kept provisions and firewood kindling close at hand; and during the hot summer months, meals were served there to take advantage of the breeze and shade. A dogtrot was sometimes closed in on both ends, as space was needed for an expanding family. The home had protective porches and the breezeway was closed in the rear long ago. Although the cabin is approximately 90 percent original, the hearth and chimney have been reconstructed from materials from the original site. The replaced logs on the east and west walls are of red cedar and specific to the period.

The story of this log dwelling began far to the east in Alabama. Samuel Turner was born near Raleigh, North Carolina at the end of the 1700s. As a young man and a veteran, he settled in Alabama, established a prosperous farm, and raised his family near Greenville. But rumors from the west persisted: fertile vast tracts of land available at good prices—in a fabled country once part of Spain and Mexico and recently, a republic. By 1845, Texas

The long-awaited time of disassembly of the 1856 Turner-Peters Dogtrot began in March 2014. At the end of four grueling days, the unusable parts were separated into a burn pile. The remainder was neatly assembled, banded into bundles of like items including wall logs, roof rafters, floor joists, and flooring, separated into two large trailer loads and hauled to Heritage Restoration in Waco for treatment and reassembly, adding acquired replacement red cedar logs and other lumber as needed.

had become the 28th state. Though sparsely populated with settlers, Texas was home to the legendary heroes of the Alamos, Gonzales, and San Jacinto. David Turner settled his affairs and joined the "Gone to Texas" migration. After the Civil War, Samuel Turner's kin and many others journeyed to rich bottomlands of Texas. They were self-reliant pioneer farmers lured by reports of excellent water, good soil, and abundant fish and game. From those bygone days, a first home has remained as a reminder of a great adventure and a tribute to self-sufficiency. In 1937 the family of Marshall Peters purchased the land from Turner heirs and another era of use for the old homestead began. In 1945 it was sold to his brother, Douglas Peters. The fallow fields were used to run cattle and the still-sturdy house of logs became a hunting cabin and overnight sleeper for cattle roundups and fall hunts.

The Peters family sold the acreage and dogtrot cabin to Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA) in 1989. Thanks to TMPA's excellent care; which included assessment, preservation, and stabilization, as well as an historical assessment by Texas A&M's College of Architecture; the cabin remained safe for 25 years. The Mise, Land, and Environmental Manager of TMPA, with support and guidance from his Board, applied to the Texas Historical Commission for release of guardianship and permission to donate the cabin. THC's approval, TMPA's donation, and the unanimous approval by the Brazos County Commissioners Court for the cabin's placement in the Boonville Heritage Park; all culminated in February of 2014. Collateral descendants of the Turner and the Peters families helped open a new chapter of the story of the Turner-Peters Log Cabin.



With guidance from the staff of the Star of Texas Museum at Washington-on-the-Brazos, acquisition of furnishings for a mid-1800's settler's log home was undertaken. As well, the Brazos Valley Master Gardener Association graciously accepted responsibility for planning an early Texas yard and garden.



HERITAGE PARK

Walking Trail # 6

Smokehouse





BOONVILLE

6 DRAFT





SMOKEHOUSE

Before refrigeration and the canning process were developed, salt curing and smoking meats was the only way to preserve fish, poultry, beef, and pork. Almost every farm family had a smoke house and many cities had commercial smoke houses that sold smoked meats to city dwellers. Whether the meat should be smoked as well as salted was personal preference, frequently backed up with strong local or family custom.

A smokehouse is a building where meat or fish is cured with smoke. The finished product might be stored in the building, sometimes for a year or more. Even when smoke is not used, such a building—typically a subsidiary building—is sometimes referred to as a “smoke house.” When smoke is not used, the term “meat house” is common. The lower interior walls of both meat houses and smoke houses are characterized by the extreme furling of the wood, caused by the salt. The upper areas of smokehouses are also black with the smoke. A meat house has a solid wood floor; a smokehouse will have a brick pit in the center of the dirt floor, or sometimes a broken/cast-off cast iron pot, for the fire.

Old Smokehouses were impressive structures that served both as meat smokers and as storage facilities. Communal smokers were responsible for supplying meat for many families. The same was true of bread ovens. They were far too expensive for one household to own, so many shared the same one.

The main purpose of the smokehouse was not to produce cold smoke to improve taste, but to preserve the meat so it will last for a longer period of time. Preservation was achieved by salt curing and prolonged smoking which took about two weeks or more, with cold smoke. The product continued to hang in a different area of the smoker, sometimes up to two years, and during that time it lost more moisture and acquired more smoke, although at smaller rates. The meats were not cooked to an internal temperature of 160° F (72° C) because that would require strengthening the fire and the smokehouse would fill with flames. They didn’t know about the effects of food poisoning yet. During that time, the lack of refrigeration promoted smoking to state of the art meat technology. Given cooling facilities, sausages would have been cooked much like they are now, quickly. There would be no need to worry about the meat spoiling, and therefore no need to develop smoking techniques for preservation purposes. The logs for the smokehouse are from a storage building given by Jimmy Weedon of the Harvey Community.



1. Leg 2. Head 3. Feet 4. Open Rib 5. Head 6. Tail
A pig is divided into two fore quarters and two hind quarters. The fore quarters are the front legs and the hind quarters are the back legs. The legs are numbered 1 through 6.






This is a typical log smokehouse. Cuts of meats, sausages and other goods hang inside to illustrate the purpose and importance of smokehouses in nineteenth century Texas. Without refrigeration, smoking meat was a way to preserve it for long periods of time. After hogs were butchered in the winter, the smokehouse was put into service.

HERITAGE PARK

Walking Trail #7


Brazos Union Lodge





BOONVILLE

7 DRAFT



BRAZOS UNION LODGE No. 129

Brazos Union Lodge was organized in Boonville in 1852. Four years before, another lodge, named Boonville Lodge No. 55, was created at Boonville, and worked under a dispensation for several months before receiving a charter in January 1849 from the Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons. At this same meeting of the Grand Lodge, the name of Boonville Lodge was changed to Gillespie Lodge No. 55. Later, the Lodge moved to a community near Wheelock, where many of its members lived. In 1868, Gillespie Lodge demised and surrendered its charter.

On December 7, 1852, with the consent and recommendation of Gillespie Lodge No. 55, the following Masons: Harvey Mitchell, E. M. Millican, James M. Paxon, William C. Boyles, William Reed, Robert Johnson, James I. Bowman, C. C. Seale, H. R. Henry, John Fullerton, Henry Fullerton, and William Lawrence submitted a petition for a dispensation to organize a new Masonic Lodge in the town of Boonville.

This petition was submitted through Francis L. Barziza, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District, who granted the dispensation the same day. By virtue of this authority the members assembled in their temporary lodge room at Boonville, opened the Lodge, and there duly elected and installed the following officers: Harvey Mitchell, Worshipful Master; Wilson Reed, Senior Warden; E. M. Millican, Junior Warden; C. C. Seale, Treasurer; Robert Johnson, Secretary; William C. Boyles, Senior Deacon; and James M. Price, Tyler. Harvey Mitchell served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the next three years.

On December 10, 1853, the Lodge entered into a contract with Brother John Wilson for the erection of a suitable building. Wilson agreed to construct the building as soon as the material could be furnished at the lowest cost prices per square foot in the county, and to wait for payment until the Lodge should be able to pay him free of interest. C. N. Atwood, Robert Johnson, and J. C. Johnson were appointed as a building committee, whose duty was to draft a suitable plan for the building, make an estimate of its cost, solicit contributions, and report at each meeting.


Brazos Union Lodge No. 129 was granted a charter dated the 21st day of January, 1854, after having worked under dispensation for slightly over one year. The Lodge's new building was completed by early spring, as the building committee was discharged on April 7, 1854. This first Lodge Hall at Boonville was probably no more than a one-room cabin.


As a result, in less than one year, the Lodge was making plans for a larger building. At a meeting held on January 27, 1855, a building committee was appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, to select a suitable site for a building, and to report their findings at the next regular meeting. This committee was made a standing committee at the next meeting on March 3, 1855. On April 28, 1855, a motion was approved that the building should "be placed at right angle lengthwise from the street." On September 22, 1855, it was recorded in the Lodge minutes that Brazos Union Lodge No. 129 held its meeting in their second new building.

This new building, a larger two-story replacement for the one built in 1853, took the familiar form of many other Masonic Lodge buildings in early Texas. It was common for one of the first buildings in a community to be a two-story Masonic Lodge hall, which had the Lodge meeting room on the second floor, and normally included a first floor room to be used as a schoolroom on weekdays, a town meeting hall on Saturdays, and a place of worship on Sundays. In December 1855, the Lodge minutes record an approved motion that the lower room of the Lodge Hall be appropriated for the use of a school and also that of public worship.

In 1866, the railroad was extended through Brazos County, and located three miles west of Boonville, marking the beginning of the decline of Boonville. However, a store remained in Boonville for many years, and it is possible Brazos Union Lodge continued in Boonville as well. After the move to Bryan, it occupied three buildings, on Bryan Street where the Dr. Pepper Bottling works was later located. From there to Brother Bernard Shiner's building, located in the vicinity of the I.G.N. Depot, and then, for a short time before the present lodge building on Maine Street was completed in 1910, the Lodge met in rooms over W. E. Saunder's Grocery on Main Street where the La Salle Hotel is now.

—Pit. Norwood, Librarian, Brazos Valley Masonic Library & Museum





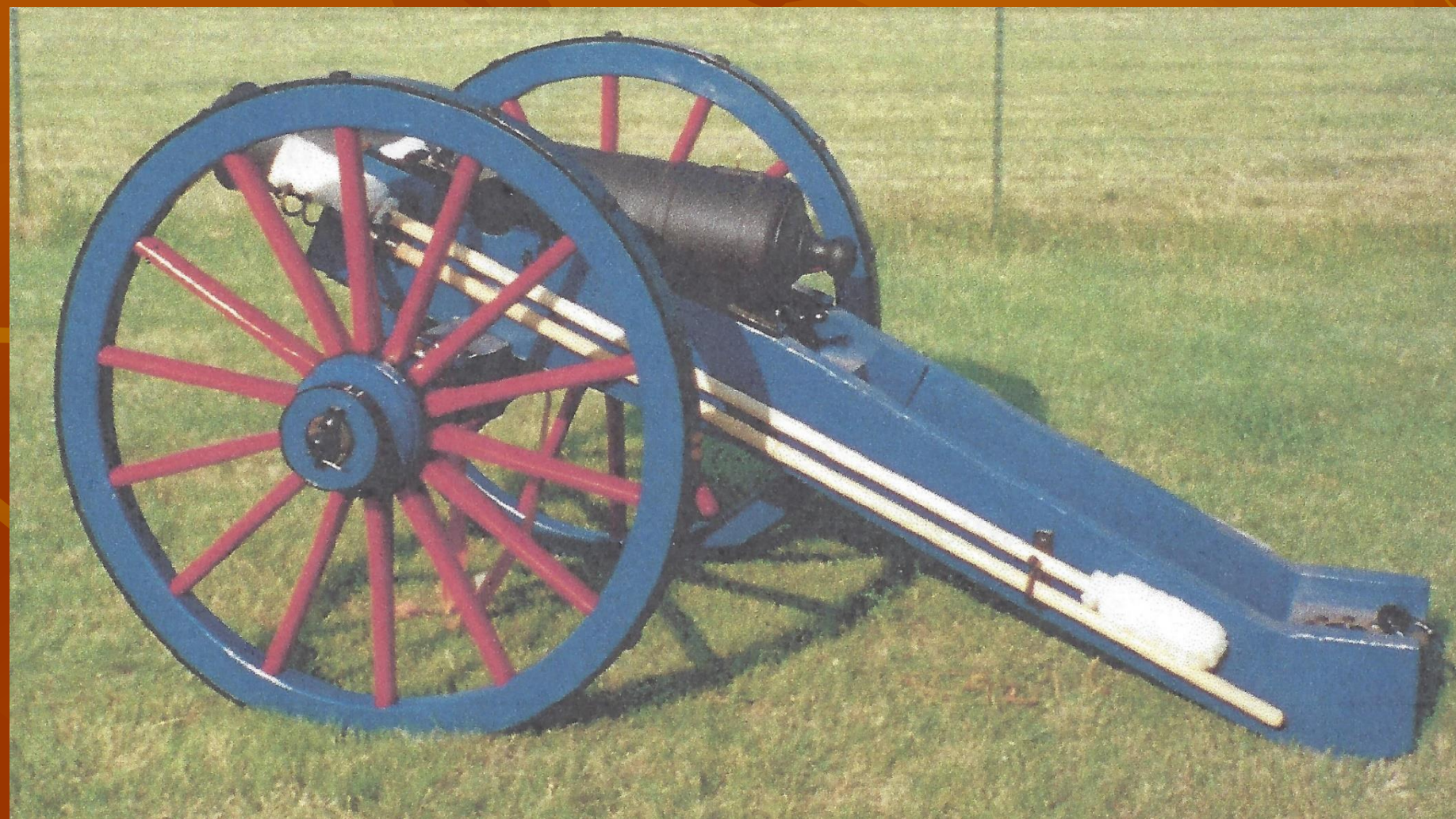
This Lodge building erected in 1855 at Mather Mills in Williamson County, Texas and being two hundred and fifty square feet is likely very similar to the initial, somewhat smaller, Lodge built at Boonville for Brazos Union Lodge No. 129 two years earlier.



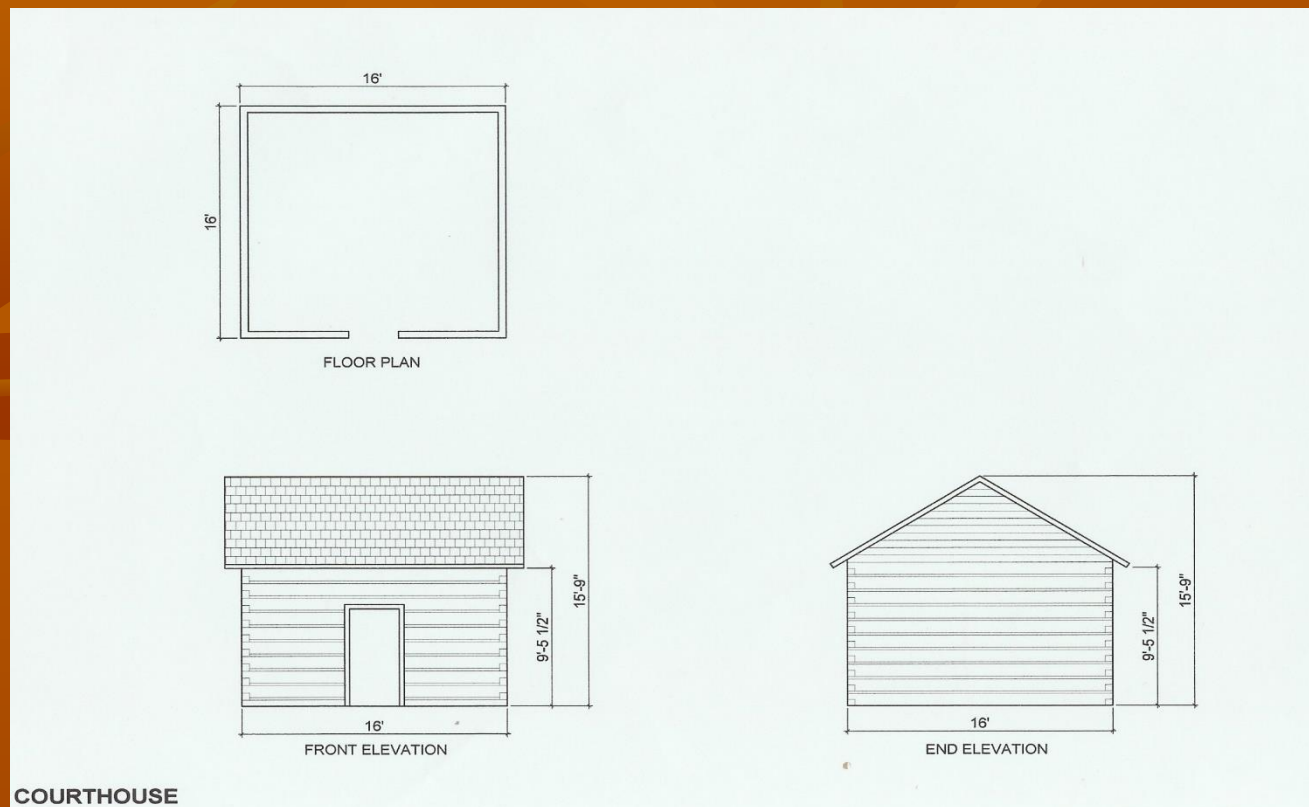
Trail #8 Cemetery

History Panel is being created by Henry Mayo that will provide a map of the cemetery with graves marked and numbered. An alphabetical list of graves will be included so that a visitor can look up the name who they would like to visit and locate it by the number.

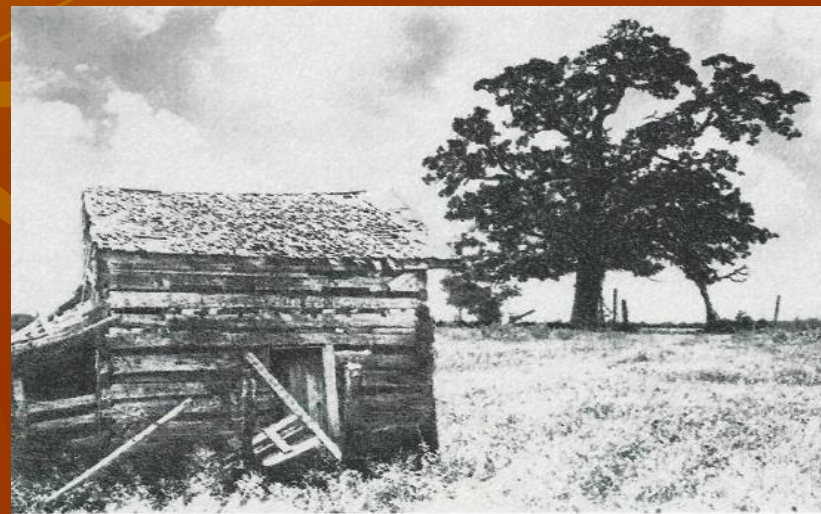
**Trail #9 Twin Sister Cannon Replica –
under cabin matching cedar pavilion on
raised octagonal stone pad and protected
by cast iron cemetery type fence.**




Walking Trail #10



COURTHOUSE








BOONVILLE

9

DRAFT



The Early History of Bryan, narrative prepared by Joseph Milton Nance, 1962. Photo: Miss Lucy Harrison.

1841 • BRAZOS COUNTY COURTHOUSE • 1846


Boonville was selected as the county seat of Navasota County in 1841. In January 1842, the name was changed to Brazos County. The area selected was named Boonville and was to encompass one hundred and fifty acres purchased for \$150. A one-acre square was laid out in the center with twelve ten-acre lots surrounding the square. Within the square were four large corner blocks and between them were eight half-blocks, two between each of the four corners. In September 1841 and again in April 1842, auctions were held to sell lots but not many were sold. Harvey Mitchell bought six for \$30, Joshua Seale and Byrum Wickson bought one each for \$8. Only six other lots were sold. Most of the development occurred within the town square with the courthouse located squarely in the middle along with the town water well.

The first court, with Judge R. E. B. Baylor presiding, was held later in January 1841 in the home of Joseph Ferguson, 14 miles east of the site of present Bryan at Ferguson Crossing on the Navasota River on what is now Highway 30 to Hustville.

Later that year, 20 men assembled to build a 16'x16' one-room log courthouse in one day in Boonville in time for the October term of court. The building was without a floor or windows and had only one door. Records were kept at the home of Harvey Mitchell and juries had to meet outside in the woods. After two or three terms of court sessions were held, the log cabin courthouse was abandoned and court sessions were held in a log house that had been built for a store by William Broyles.

In 1843, a jail was built. It was said that only two county residents ever spent time there. In 1846, Boonville acquired a Post Office and built a second courthouse. The courthouses served many purposes: General Sam Houston and other prominent statesmen made speeches, and circuit preachers, such as William Tyson and Robert Alexander, gave sermons. Some prominent lawyers accompanied Judge R. E. B. Baylor, on his semiannual circuit, spoke from the rostrum. Frequently, on the night preceding the last day of court session, a kangaroo court entertained the visitors and some residents. These sessions were mock trials of a local farmer or a city lawyer on some absurd charge, with the predictable verdict of guilty and the usual fine the price of the best whiskey and cigars available. A stage line went from Houston through Boonville in 1850, its drivers and passengers would stop overnight at the Boonville Hotel.

In 1846, Harvey Mitchell contracted to build the second courthouse for \$150. This 18'x26' structure of oak timbers was weather boarded. The flooring and seats were of hand-sawn cedar planks. The location of these courthouses was approximately 330 yards southeast of the current entrance to Boonville across Boonville Road and down Tom Light Drive to the east. Look for the old oak tree to the left at the top of the ridge in a fence line. It was near that oak tree that the courthouses stood. You will pass the site of the Jail with an appropriate marker in the parking lot at the corner of Boonville Road and Tom Light Drive in the building parking lot.



It had no floor except for mother earth. There was but one doorway, and no windows; but the large space between the logs afforded ample light in daytime and vent at all times. It was covered with oak boards, fastened down with weight poles, as was the universal custom in roofing houses in those days. There was not a nail or other metallic substance in its structure.

It was created by placing split logs flat side up, all around the inside walls, a proper distance from the ground, on which all hands, except the Judge and Clerk had to sit, or stand up. Two chairs and a small table were borrowed from some neighbors for the accommodation of the Judge and Clerk during the court session.

— COL. MITCHELL

HERITAGE PARK

Walking Trail Bronzes

Station #11




BOONVILLE

10 DRAFT





ELI SEALE
1793 - 1857



SAM HOUSTON
1793 - 1863

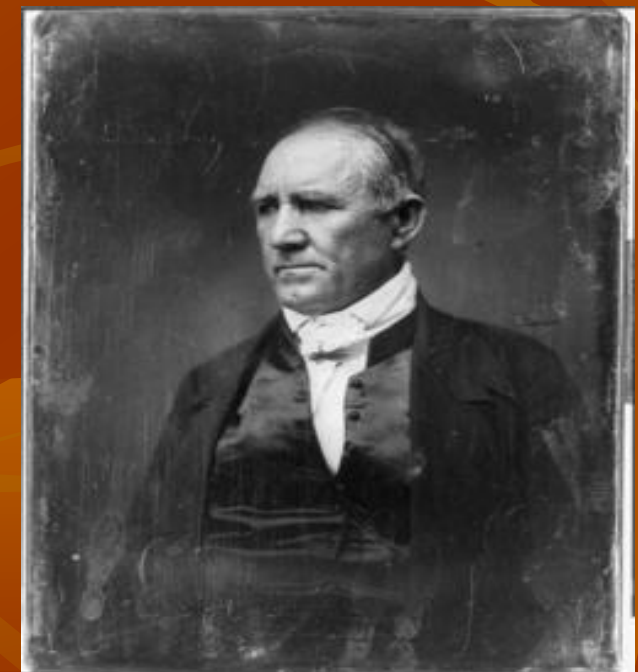
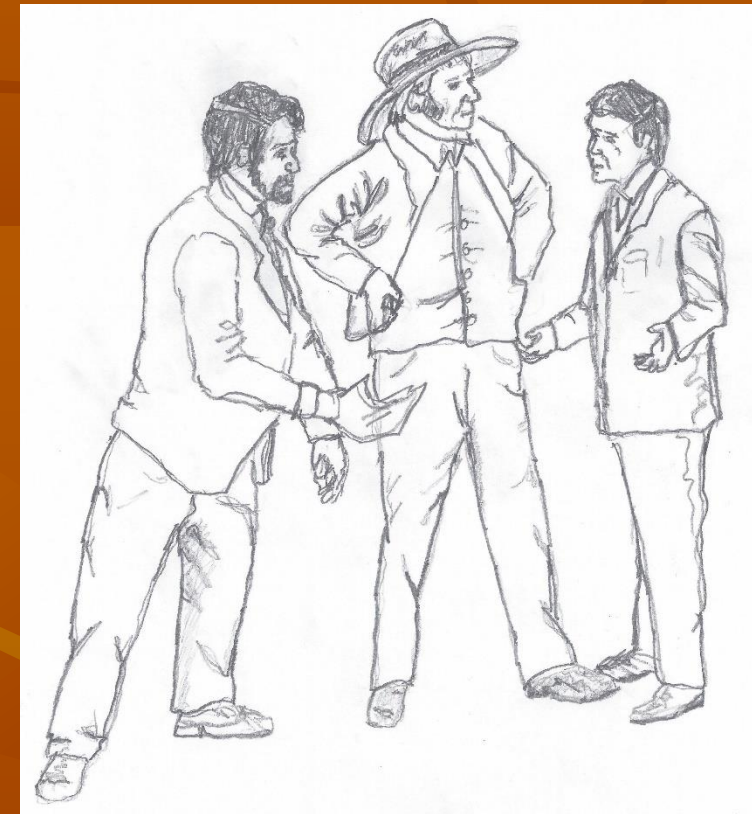
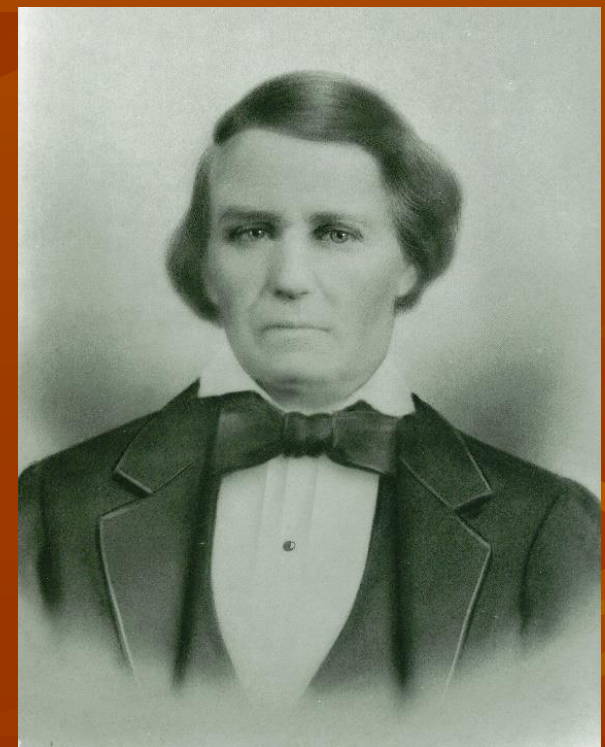
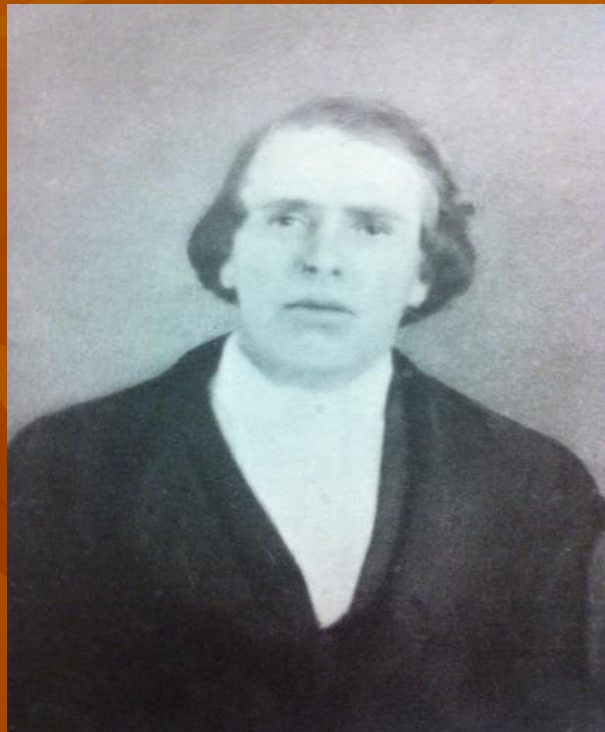


HIRAM HANOVER
1808 - 1884



HERITAGE PARK







Walking Trail #12

BOONVILLE **11** **DRAFT**

THE OLD BOONVILLE SCHOOL PLAY YARD



The Boonville School Play Yard likely was associated with the school conducted in the courthouse building but may have also been used by the school in the nearby Masonic Lodge building. Nineteenth Century playgrounds were located in open spaces and might contain sand piles, swings, building blocks, a giant circle or may pole for younger children, benches, and handball and baseball courts reduced in size for older children. -- Text and photos courtesy of Merrin Plem



HERITAGE PARK