

BELLAIRE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

The Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission was established by Bellaire City Council in 2003 to enhance the quality of life in Bellaire with public and performing art by transforming the places we live, work and play into more welcoming and beautiful environments. Commission meetings are open to the public the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm in City Hall.

BELLAIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

To learn more about Bellaire's fascinating 100 year history, join the Bellaire Historical Society. Educational meetings are the second Thursday of every month September through May at 6:30 pm in City Hall. See the website , www.bellairehistoricalsociety.org



BELLAIRE CENTENNIAL HISTORY MARKERS

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TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKERS



5 **Bellaire Trolley Station and Pavilion, 1911**
 Folks would wait for or disembark from the trolley at the Trolley Pavilion, but they also gathered there for picnics, Church school, and all sorts of community activities. A replica of the Pavilion, constructed by the Bellaire Historical Society, was located at S. Rice & Bellaire from 2000 to 2008.

6 **Rosner's General Store and US Post Office, 1929**
 The "main" street of Bellaire was Cedar, and the chief center of commerce was Rosner's General Store. Rosner's faced south on the northwest corner of South Rice and Cedar. In 1929, Rosner's built the store shown in this drawing to replace Munger's general store.

7 **"The Little Brown" Bellaire's First One-room School**
 In 1910, A. J. Condit prevailed upon the Harris County School Board to provide one teacher for Bellaire's twenty students. The house, second from the corner was "The Little Brown." There was room for 36 desks. The building also served as town meeting hall, and the Union Sunday School.

H4 - Bellaire Bicentennial Veterans Memorial

H5 - Texas Historical Commission Marker Texas Capture of Mexican Dispatchers

8 **Alfred J. Condit House, Damaged in 1915 Hurricane**
 The home of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Condit still stands on the northwest corner of Bellaire Blvd. and First Street. During the hurricane this house lost its roof and second floor, and the City lost a third of its buildings. After the hurricane everyone gathered at Condit School bringing food to share.

9 **Convent of the Incarnate Word, 1931**
 In 1927 Rev. Mother M. Scholastica bought 40 acres at Post Oak Road and Bissonnet to build a boarding school and convent. Ground was broken in 1931 for the four-story building. The property was sold in 1976, and today is home to The Episcopal High School.

H6 - Texas Historical Commission Marker Teas Nursery, Bellaire's First Business

10 **Home of Frank S. Henshaw, Jr., Mayor, 1933-1937**
 Built by Earl E. Edwards in 1925, this house served for 54 years as the homestead of Frank Henshaw. In 1983, the Friends of Bellaire Parks purchased the estate and began a six-year renovation effort. Today the Nature Discovery Center inspires us to be responsible caretakers of the earth.

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Research, Design, Editorial: Kathryn Hardin, Kay Hieronymus, Lynn McBee
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City of Bellaire CENTENNIAL HISTORY WALK Bellaire, Texas



Welcome to the City of Bellaire, Texas, Centennial History Walk. This walking tour was designed to enrich our community through a recognition of how we have grown over the last 100 years. You may begin your walk at any place along the route. This walk is a joint effort of the Bellaire Cultural Arts Commission, Bellaire Historical Society and the Bellaire Centennial Committee in honor of our City Centennial Celebration 1908-2008 and the City of Bellaire..



1 **City Hall, Community Center and Library**
 This building was erected in 1949. Prior to that, taxes were paid at the home or business of the city secretary. The 1949 building was replaced in 1981 by the current Bellaire Civic Center, the hub of Bellaire Town Square. In 1947, Mayor Madison Rayburn named Bellaire "The City of Homes."

H1 - Texas Historical Commission Marker Bellaire City Hall Site

2 **Original Bellaire School Building, 1914**
 Bellaire School on Laurel Street stood on pilings that lifted the classrooms and auditorium above the occasional flood and shaded student activities. In 1928 Bellaire joined H.I.S.D. and built an addition facing Third Street. In 1959 the school was greatly expanded, and the Laurel building was torn down. The school was renamed for A. J. Condit.

3 **Bellaire Mission Presbyterian Church, 1919**
 With the help of First Presbyterian Church of Houston, Bellaire Mission Presbyterian built a white frame sanctuary on the southwest corner of Bellaire and Third, facing the esplanade. In 1931, a larger building replaced the original church, then, as the congregation grew, was replaced again in 1957.

H2 - Texas Historical Commission Marker Bellaire Presbyterian Church

4 **Trolley Dedication Day, 1910**
 The Trolley has become the unofficial symbol of Bellaire. Dubbed the "Toonerville Trolley" after a popular newspaper cartoon, it traveled across six miles of prairie bringing residents to high school, work, and the shopping mecca of Downtown Houston. The trolley ran from 1910 until 1927.

H3 - Texas Historical Commission Marker Bellaire Streetcar Line