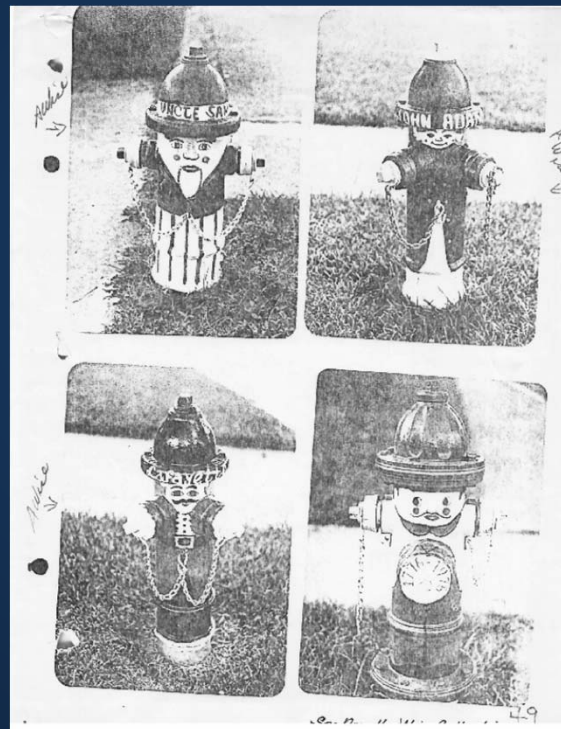


Annette (2008)



Bicentennial Fire Hydrants (1976)



Bicentennial Commemorative Coin

Continued from page 1

new business. Shortly after the death, the mill and plantation were sold to two partners who had accumulated quite a fortune from the California Gold Rush. It was these men, W. A. Kyle and B. L. Terry, who named the property "Sugar Land" and endeavored to make them partners in Richmond so it would come through their newly named sons.

By the time the Civil War started, sugarcane was the major crop grown in the low coastal area of Fort Bend, Wharton, Brazoria and Matagorda, with 35 mills producing the cane for the production of refined sugar or molasses.

In 1861, B. L. Terry organized a far more important known as Terry's House, which, along with the Confederacy, he did, after the same year in 1861, and Kyle died in the Sugar Land plantation a short time afterwards.

Production of sugar declined during the war, and most of the mills in the coastal areas became badly in debt. By the end of the war, most of the mills had closed due to the economic problems of reconstruction and the fact that both were in debt to the United States. By 1870, there were only six mills left in operation. One of which was the Williams mill at Sugar Land.

Most of these surviving plantations, including that of Williams, were purchased by Col. H. Cunningham at auction. Later, to see the sugar industry thrive in Texas, Col. Cunningham has grouped the plantations together. By 1880, he had invested over \$1 million for new buildings and machinery necessary to revive the sugar mill. He added facilities for refining the raw sugar and built a sugar refinery which was thought to be the first in the Southern States at the time.

To service the refinery and mill, Col. Cunningham built 14 miles of railroad through all the other sugar lands, each connected from the State of Texas and began commercial farming. To support his operations, he built a cattle company near the Sugar Land. The cattle raised were sold until the late 1880s. At that time, his personal interest in the concerns began to decline and he allowed his son, W. A. Terry, to run down.

In the 1890s, when around, cane growing began to decline due to higher labor costs, plant pests, diseases and sugar tariff rate changes. Although cane growing was declining, the 35,000 acres of refined sugar from the Sugar Land plant continued to produce. To meet the demand, the



Sugar Land's Commemorative Coin

First there was the \$2 bill in honor of the Rice Ranch. Now in Sugar Land, there is a commemorative coin. Although it is not legal tender, it is being sold by the Sugar Land Bicentennial Commission as a souvenir of America's 200th birthday.

Designed by Arnette Wice of Sugar Land, the coin features Imperial Sugar Company's Chief House, the most widely-known landmark in Fort Bend County, along with one of the old straightflights which for a 30-year period (1860-1900) linked the shores of Sugar Land.

The other side of the coin displays Sugar Land's 70 trademark when colonists the city of Sugar Land as an official bicentennial community.

Imperial Sugar Company is proud to have a coin made for use as a commemorative coin. The coin is made of brass and is 1.5 inches in diameter. It is the only coin of its type in the United States.

On July 4, a limited quantity of the coins will be sold in Sugar Land. To purchase the \$5.00 commemorative coin, contact Bette Annister at 434-2046. The coins are numbered, and the proceeds from their sale will be used by the Sugar Land Bicentennial Commission to help offset the costs for the many bicentennial activities sponsored by the Commission.

and M. Kammor recalled its stationery bore a crown symbol. Consequently, he added the Imperial name and a regal crown as the symbol of the refinery—a company which would produce refined and sugar of unsurpassed quality.

Today, Imperial Sugar Company is the oldest business in Texas still operating on its original site. It is still owned by the Kammor family, who are proud of the Sugar Land refinery, most of the nation's original and most up-to-date sugar refineries.

With a heritage such as this, Imperial has been very much a part of the nation's Bicentennial celebration. The refinery, selected as a historical site on the Texas Bicentennial Trail, is marked with a colorful sign and flag at the refinery entrance. Imperial's "Bicentennial by Design" advertising program has been the only one in the nation to feature a variety of products and services. A new bicentennial copy of Imperial's new "Revolutionary Progress" booklet

Annette Painting



Annette and Artist Friends



Annette with Student Artists



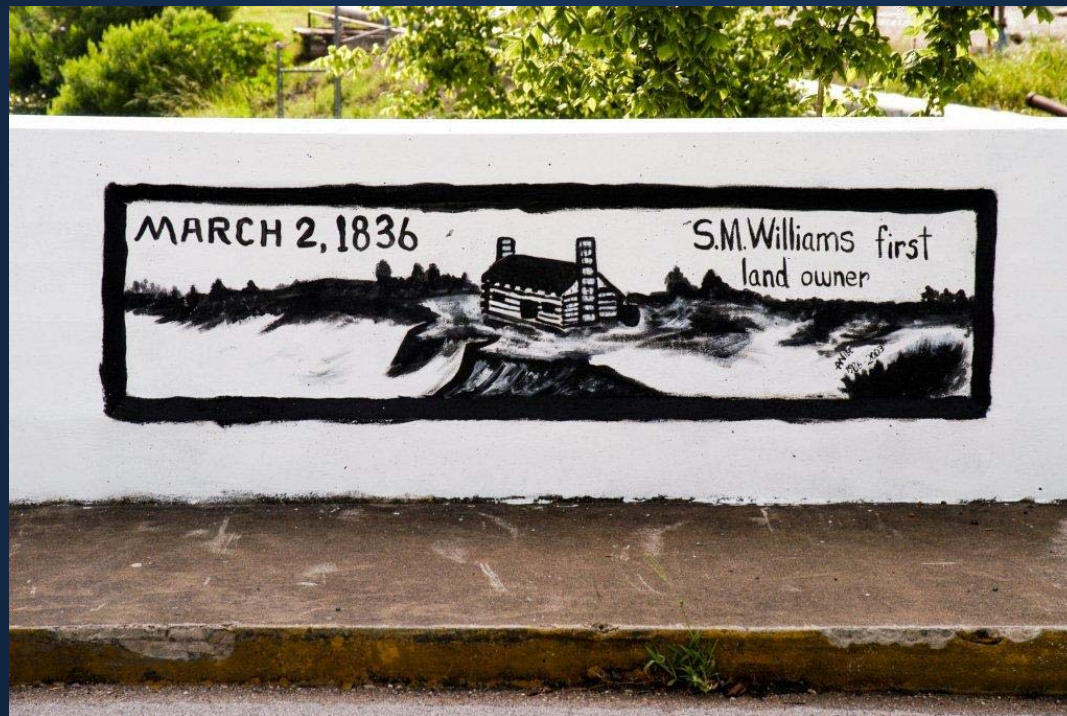
Dennis Parmer



Student Artists Hard at Work



S.M. Williams Panel (2003)



East Side of the Bridge (2003)



East Side of the Bridge (2008)



West Side of the Bridge (2003)



West Side of the Bridge (2008)



The Hill Sign



Student Artists Celebrating (2008)



Annette's Obituary (2011)

Annette Williamson Wise, resident of Sugar Land, Texas went to be with the Lord on Saturday, February 5, 2011 in Houston, Texas. She was born in Pearsall, Texas on March 11, 1945, the daughter of late James Paul Williamson and Estelle Idell Williamson, who survives.

Annette was a talented artist and aspiring writer; she received her Bachelor's degree from Texas A & I in Kingsville, Texas.

Her artwork is a part of Sugar Land's history. Her work is displayed on the walls of the bridge on Main Street over the waterway from Cleveland Lake into Oyster Creek near the Imperial Pure Cane Sugar Char House building. For our nation's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976 she designed Sugar Land's Commemorative Bicentennial Coin which can be found in The Smithsonian. The fire hydrants she painted in Old Sugar Land as a part of the Celebration were featured in Firehouse Magazine in the July 1977 issue. Her fire hydrant painting of Benjamin Franklin was 1 of 9 chosen across the nation to be published in a book about America's Bicentennial Celebration.

Annette loved to volunteer her time and recently taught an art class at the City of Sugar Land Senior Art Center. She was an active member of Woman's Missionary Union of Texas.

Annette is survived by her mother, Estelle Idell Williamson; her daughter, Regina Leann Gore, and her husband, James and two granddaughters, Rachael and Rebecca; her son, James Lowell Wise and his wife, Annamarla along with her grandson, Garrett Lee; her Uncle Larry Cottrell and his wife, Yvonne; her adopted sister, Linda Kay Stollman and many Williamson cousins.

Annette was preceded in death by her father James Paul Williamson and her brother Lowell Ray Williamson.

The family will hold a private memorial service at sunset on Saturday, February 12, 2011 at Rochelle Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to City of Sugar Land Senior Center, Attn: Kelly Penewitt; P. O. Box 110, Sugar Land, Texas 77478.

Annette Williamson Wise

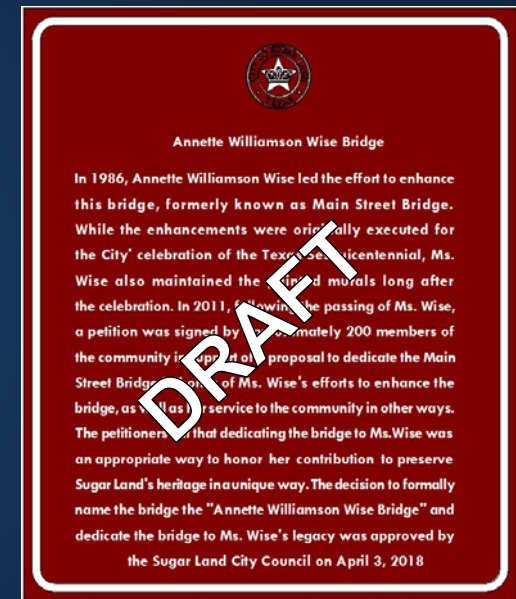


Next Steps – Signage & Dedication

- Plan dedication ceremony at the bridge
 - Unveil signage created in-house at City's Traffic sign shop



Smaller Name Plate Signs (2)

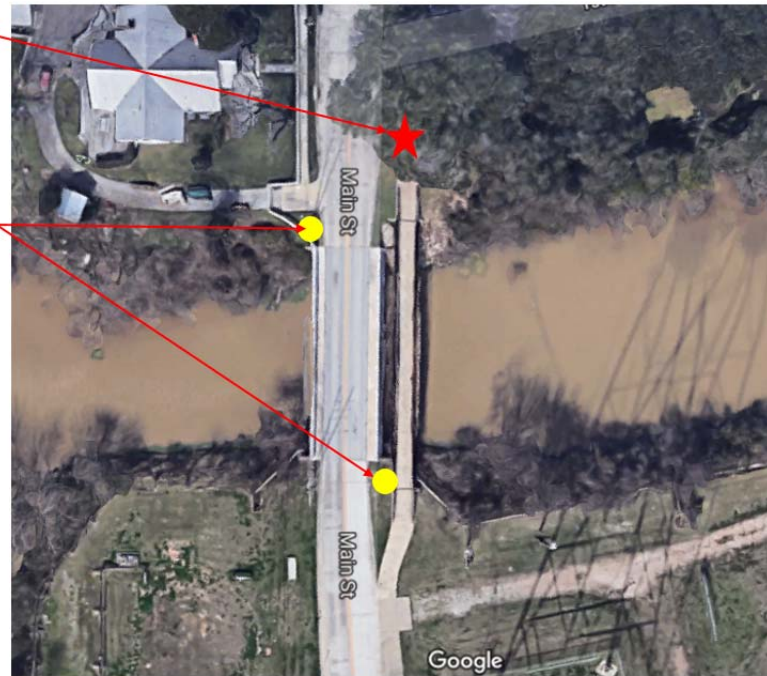


Large Dedication Sign (1)

Proposed Signage Locations

Large Sign

Smaller
Name
Plate Sign



Recommended Action

Approval of CITY OF SUGAR LAND RESOLUTION NO. 18-14 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND, TEXAS, NAMING THE BRIDGE CURRENTLY KNOWN AS THE MAIN STREET BRIDGE AS THE ANNETTE WILLIAMSON WISE BRIDGE.

Questions