

County history book update

Dear Editor:

The Walker County History Book Committee would like to update contributors and purchasers as to the progress on publication of the book, a Sesquicentennial project sponsored by the Walker County Genealogical Society and the Walker County Historical Commission.

We are pleased to report that approximately 1,085 family stories have been sent to the publisher. Half of the computer print-outs have come in for proofing and re-proofing and have been returned to the printer for processing. Stories from 30 churches have been received, indexed, and proofed.

There will be a military section in the book — dedicated to the men and women of Walker County who have served or who serve in any or all of the wars related to the history of this area. To the men who gave their lives — this division of the book is planned as a MEMORIAL and for the living — it will be a

tribute. Brig. Gen. William R. Lynch Jr. (retired) has written a history of Company F, 143d Infantry, Texas 36th Division, up through World War II. Lucy Alice (Bruce) Stewart has through countless personal contacts obtained information concerning those men who sacrificed their lives in defense of our country.

Information from City Hall reflecting the action of past city councils and mayors has been compiled from the minute books of the Huntsville City Council by Ruth DeShaw, city secretary. Historical background for county offices with lists of former officeholders will be included in the book. Business firms have written accounts of their establishments. The development of Sam Houston State University has been updated. The Texas Department of Corrections has provided history and early photographs of the system.

Stories of communities include many which were not reported in the Bicentennial History of our

county. Old maps have been discovered which reveal layouts of former villages and ghost towns.

All of this material will be compiled by Nov. 15. The publisher will be able to complete the final "copy" phase of the book and prepare all materials for final proofing by the Walker County History Book Committee. It is hoped that the book will be ready for distribution during the Sesquicentennial month of March, 1986.

The history book committee has prepared gold gift certificates for the Walker County History book. We suggest this as the perfect Christmas gift for friends and relatives who dream of home and the way it used to be ... here in the piney woods. These certificates are available at the Huntsville Public Library for \$57.82. You may call 295-9868 for further information.

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