



## 1927 DENTON CITY HALL

FROM 1894 UNTIL OCTOBER 1927, THE DENTON CITY HALL WAS HOUSED IN AN 1877 RED BRICK BUILDING LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF OAK AND BOJNAR STREETS. THE RAPID GROWTH OF DENTON IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY CALLED FOR A NEWER AND MORE SPACIOUS BUILDING. IN 1927, A NEW CITY HALL WAS DESIGNED BY THE PROMINENT FORT WORTH ARCHITECTURAL FIRM VAN SYKE AND WOODRUFF IN THE SPANISH RENAISSANCE STYLE, A VERY POPULAR STYLE IN THE SOUTHWEST DURING THE TWENTIES, REMINISCENT OF SOUTH TEXAS MISSIONS. THE WHITE BRICK BUILDING WITH ORNAMENTAL STONE EMBELLISHMENTS, ARCHED WINDOWS AND TILED ROOF HAS TWO STORIES AND A BASEMENT. THE ORIGINAL PLAN INCLUDED A REFRY TO HOLD THE FIRE ALARM BELL BECAUSE THE FIRE STATION OCCUPIED THE REAR AREA OF THE BUILDING. THIS ARRANGEMENT LASTED THROUGH THE 1970s UNTIL A NEW FIRE STATION WAS BUILT NEAR THE CITY HALL. GOVERNOR DAN WOODY, MAYOR S.W. MCKENZIE AND OTHER LOCAL AND STATE DIGNITARIES ATTENDED THE DEDICATION CEREMONY ON OCTOBER 8, 1927.

IN 1969, CITY OFFICES MOVED TO THE O'NEAL FORD-DESIGNED MUNICIPAL COMPLEX WHICH CONSISTED OF THE CIVIC CENTER, MUNICIPAL POOL, LIBRARY EXPANSION, AND CITY HALL, LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PARK (NOW QUAKER TOWN PARK) ON MCKENNEY STREET. IN 1970, THE DENTON COMMUNITY THEATRE MOVED INTO THE OLD CITY HALL AND USED THE AUDITORIUM FOR PERFORMANCES. THIS FACILITY WAS CALLED THE "FIREHOUSE THEATRE" AND OCCUPIED THE SPACE UNTIL 1981 WHEN THE CITY DECIDED TO MOVE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT INTO THE BUILDING. INTERIOR RENOVATIONS BEGAN IN 1982. THE CITY HALL WAS KNOWN FOR ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS THAT STARTED IN THE LATE 1920s AND CONTINUED THROUGH THE 1980s, ATTRACTING THOUSANDS OF VIEWERS EACH CHRISTMAS SEASON.

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1927 Denton City Hall Marker



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