

POSTAL CARDS

SAN MARCOS

Bird's Eye View of San Marcos, Texas.



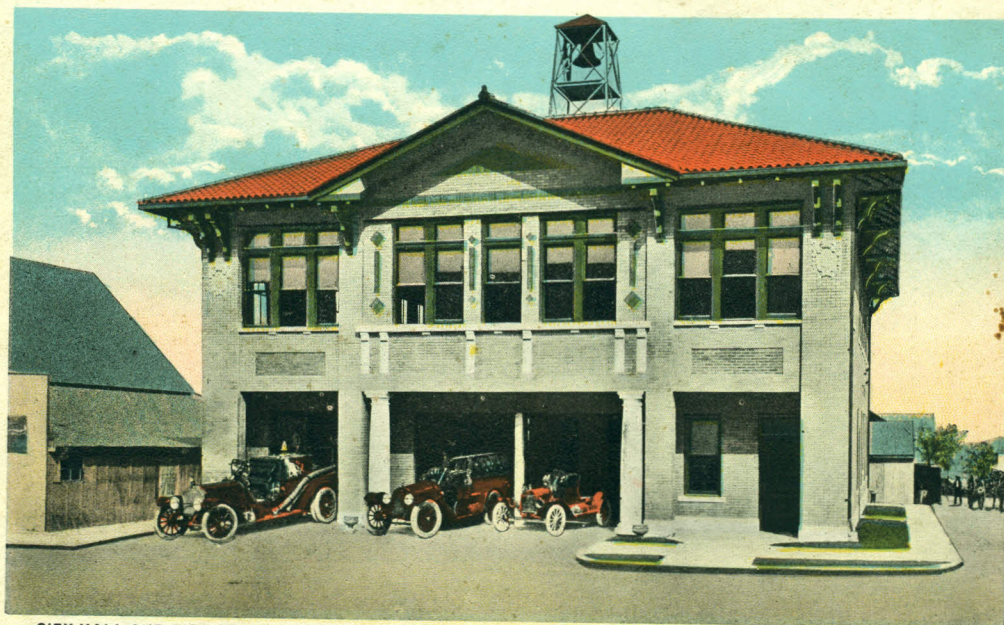
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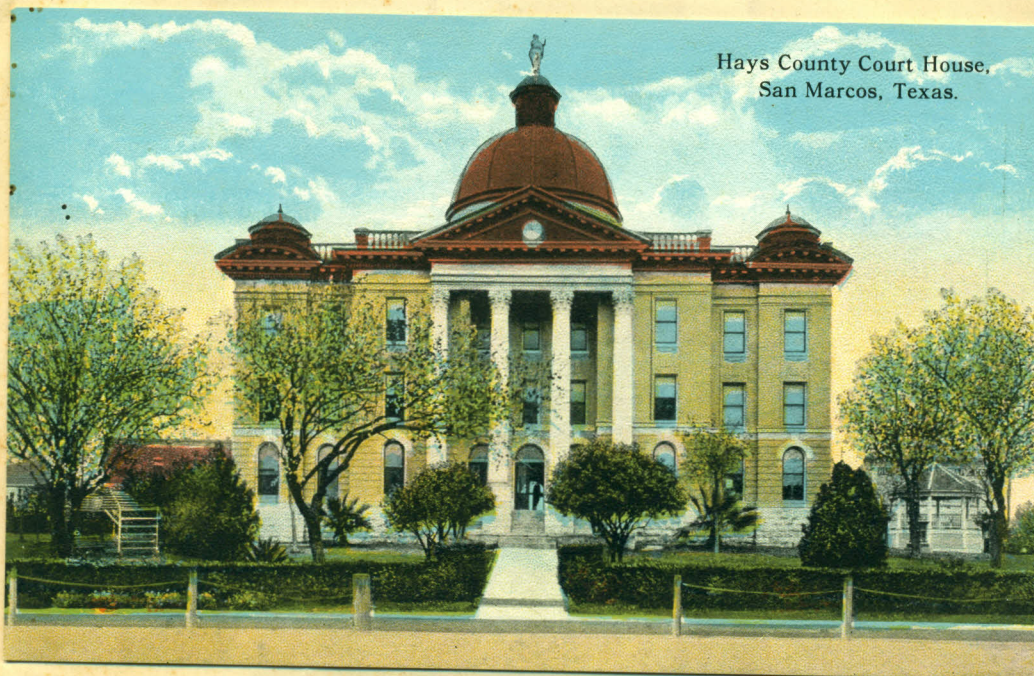
by
Deborah

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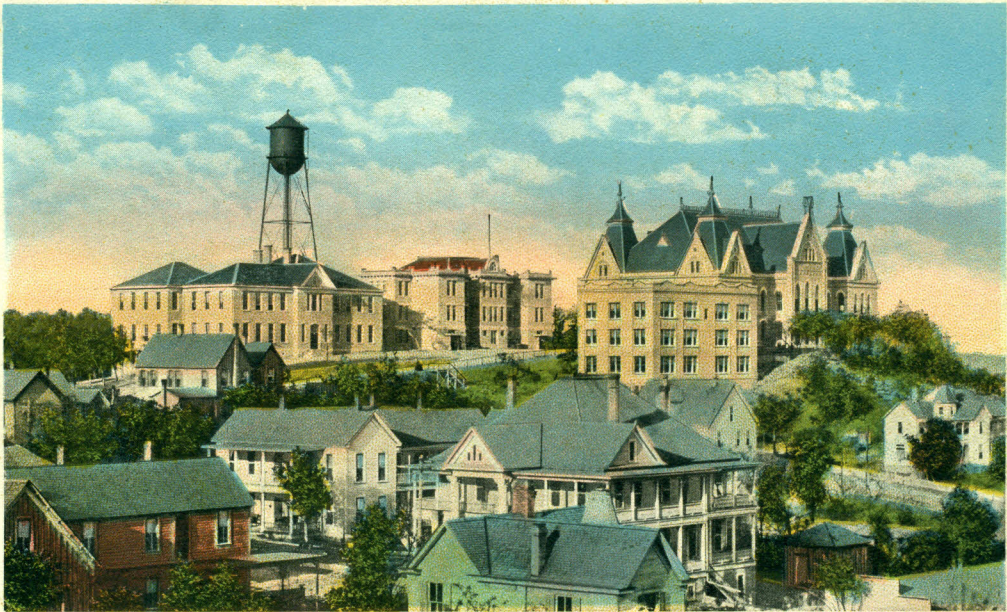
c. 1919 - 1920



CITY HALL AND FIRE STATION, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.



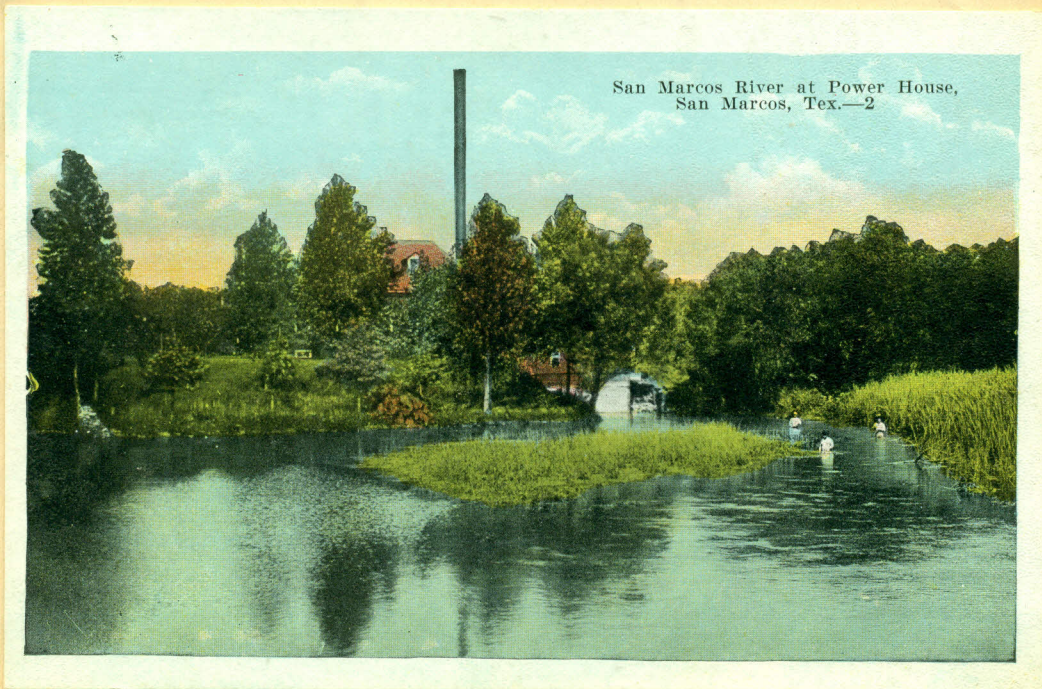
Hays County Court House,
San Marcos, Texas.



SOUTHWEST TEXAS NORMAL SCHOOL, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.



SAN MARCOS BAPTIST ACADEMY, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS.



San Marcos River at Power House,
San Marcos, Tex.—2

The Climate in San Marcos

The seasons in San Marcos are divided into three months of winter, two of spring, five of summer, and two of autumn. For instance, in San Marcos roses can be grown out doors all year 'round nearly every year. Farmers begin planting their crops in February.

The average temperature in San Marcos is about sixty-four degrees, and the lowest temperature ever reached around this vicinity was four degrees, and the highest was one hundred seven degrees. This last winter was very mild as the temperature did not drop below thirty degrees, and there have been only two freezes, both very light.

The rainfall is abundant in this part of Texas, and the average rainfall here is thirty inches per year. A few days ago there was a rainfall of about ten inches, about twenty or twenty-five miles above San Marcos.

There are some crops that can be grown here all the year around in the gardens, such as lettuce and onions. Two crops of corn and beans can be grown every year, and winter grasses such as wheat and oats can be grown in

the winter months. Cotton is planted at the first of May, and is ready to be picked at the first of September.

In San Marcos we would have no use for ice skates as we have no ice to skate on, but roller skates are very popular here. Skating rinks can be found in nearly every town in Texas. Swimming is one of the most popular sports in Texas. The swimming in San Marcos opens in April and closes in October, but some people go swimming all through the year. Baseball, volley ball, and basket ball can be played in outdoor courts in the winter, but most people prefer indoor basket-ball courts. Tennis is another favorite sport that can be played in the winter as well as in the summer.

General View of Normal College

The South West Texas State Normal College is located on top of the most prominent hills of San Marcos. In this way it gets a fine breeze all the year round, and is delightful in the summer. It can be seen when coming into San Marcos about six or seven miles away.

The view from Normal Hill is ~~excellent~~ excellent. Especially from the south side; as one can see for miles and miles over the country.

The Main Building is built with spires and little steeples, but the other buildings are very modern. It contains the history, class rooms and music rooms on the second floor, and also the auditorium, which will approximately seat nine hundred. On the ground floor is the office of the general secretary and Dean.

The Library Building was constructed in 1910. The English Class rooms, the Reference Library, Study hall, Dramatics room and Commercial Department and Debater's room are in the library building.

The Manual Arts Building was constructed in 1912. It is three stories high and the view from the third floor is very beautiful. The laboratories and class rooms for Home Economics, Manual Training and Mechanical Drawing are in this building.

The Power House was built in 1915. It has a tank which holds fifty-five thousand gallons and takes twelve hours to fill. It furnishes light and water for all the buildings.

The Education Building was constructed in 1918 and cost \$5,000. It is very plain but artistic.

San Marcos Chamber of Commerce

Circular letter gotten out by the Chamber of Commerce of San Marcos, Texas

San Marcos, The City Beautiful, is situated thirty miles south of Austin, the capitol of Texas, and fifty miles north of San Antonio. It is located at the foot of the Rio Blanco Mountains, where the San Marcos river, from which it takes its name, leaps in one mighty volume of more than 65,000 gallons per minute, from the hills' rock ribbed side, where the mind is constrained to muse. "Here God must have finished the earth and laid down the rosebud of his pleasure."

No town in Texas, perhaps, had quite so good a start. Back in the thirties of the last century came good, wise and educated men. They built their log huts, planted the grape vine and the fig tree, located the preacher and the teacher, believed that "Righteousness exalteth a nation", and having broken down the wildness, laid the foundations of education and religion and order. San Marcos is their monument.

Long before its sons were called to the ranks of the Confederate armies, boys and girls were being fairly well educated here.

As a result therefore San Marcos has been known as an educational center for seventy years. But only in recent years have great institutions of learning been established here. Upon the foundation of Coronal Institute, established more than fifty years ago, some fifteen years ago, The Southwest Texas State Normal School was located here. The plant as it stands today is worth nearly a million dollars, and enrolls something like two thousand students annually.

Coming close after the Normal, The San Marcos Baptist Academy was built on a neighboring hill, both schools overlooking the city. This school has had the most marvelous growth ever known in Texas. With an enrollment the first year of little more than one hundred students, the past year witnessed an attendance of over five hundred. Its plant is worth nearly half million dollars.

The Lone Star Business College, established here thirty years ago is noted for its thoroughness, high grade work, efficient management, and the success of its students. It occupies its own building.

Coronal Military Academy just opened the past year enjoyed an enrollment beyond all expectation.

Our public schools are well provided for in buildings and equipment, and are equal to any in Texas, located in a like population.

The United States Fish Hatchery is located here within five blocks of the business section of the city. This station furnishes more bass to the waters of the country than all other stations combined. Twenty three lakes within a tract of forty acres combine to form an artistic picture. Thousands of visitors visit the station annually and all are impressed with its beauty.

We have the largest cotton breeding farms in the world, where U. S. Reg. Pedigreed cotton is grown and improved.

San Marcos is also the home of the famous McGee Tomato.

Our bathing beach at Rogers' Park on the San Marcos river has the reputation as the finest fresh water bathing resort in Texas. Equipped with the latest paraphernalia to make bathing enjoyable, surrounded by beautiful flower gardens, a dip in the crystal waters of the San Marcos river is the acme of pleasure.

We are now improving on the banks of the San Marcos river a beautiful park and playground, which we offer to the Automobile tourist a free camping site.

San Marcos is on the main line of the I. & G. N. R. R. connecting north-east and south-west Texas, giving quite an easy communication with the Rio Grande valley and the fruitful sections of the northeast. Also on the main line of the M. K. & T. R. R. from St. Louis to San Antonio, and the branch line to Smithville, furnish rapid transportation to and from the North, south and southwest portions of the state and beyond.

As an assembling and distributing point San Marcos is unexcelled for cities of like population.

An Auto Interurban double daily service connects with the Southern Pacific at Luling.

The government post roads to the north and south furnish a constant line of tourist travel by automobile, also convenient truck transportation.

A system of improved highways throughout Hays County is now under construction.

Lying to the north and northwest of town we have hills, valleys and mountains. This region is devoted largely to stock, and yet there is considerable farming.

To the south, east and northeast is a magnificent prairie and 99 per cent of it is in cultivation.

Our climate is characterized by its mild winters and long pleasant summers. It is favorable to a widely diversified agriculture. Plowing can be done during every month in the year. The average growing season is a little over nine months. The raising of live stock and dairying offer good opportunities. Cotton is our money crop, corn being grown chiefly for feed for work stock.

The town's greatest need is small manufacturing plants. To enterprising men who mean business our people offer every legitimate inducement. Men who want social and educational advantages for their families and who desire a happy old age will make no mistake in moving to our goodly little city.

The San Marcos Chamber of Commerce

The San Marcos Chamber of Commerce was organized to promote city development, agriculture and entertainment to advertise San Marcos as a home and school town, and to do everything that helps in the betterment of San Marcos and the surrounding community.

All the officers of the Chamber of Commerce, excepting the secretary, give their services free. Even the secretary receives a very small salary.

The Chamber of Commerce started a rat-killing campaign offering prizes for the largest number of rats killed by one person or by one school. Fifteen thousand rats were killed in this one short campaign. They have also started a cleanup campaign which has been very beneficial to San Marcos.

The Chamber of Commerce is going to hold the first fair ever held in San Marcos on the twenty-first of April. They have also signed a license to make a city park near the Normal Resort with play grounds for children and other park equipments.

The San Marcos Utilities Company

The San Marcos Utilities Company has a capital of \$350,000. It has mostly Eastern stockholders.

The Laundry, electricity, ice, and water are combined into one plant, which is situated on the San Marcos River about a half mile from its head.

The Laundry is equipped with electric washers, steam driers, steam pressure collar irons, and electric irons. About twenty women and girls, who turn out first class work, are employed in the Laundry.

One would naturally suppose that the people of San Marcos would get their drinking water from the river. This was true until two years ago. The river has grown up so in vegetation that there is danger of disease if the river water is used for drinking purposes.

Therefore, an artesian well about two hundred feet deep, was dug near the river. Water is pumped from the well into a reservoir on the top of the highest hill in San Marcos. Water is pumped from this reservoir all over the city.

The same process is used in San Marcos for making ice that is used in other places. The ice is made in blocks weighing from three hundred ten to three hundred twenty pounds. The plant turns out fifteen tons of ice daily. The ice is stored in a room with its temperature at zero. It is delivered on ice cars all over the city.

The power for electricity is furnished partly by steam and partly by water power. San Marcos has both day and night current.

Chief Industries around San Marcos

Farming is by far the chief industry of San Marcos. The climate and the rich, black land are well adapted to farming. The average sized farm is about three hundred acres, although some of them are very much larger, the largest containing eleven hundred acres. The crops are cotton, corn, cane, alfalfa and several feed crops for the cattle. Cotton is planted mostly because its great value makes it worth more to the farmer than any other crop.

Cotton growing leads to the ginning industry. There are five cotton gins in the vicinity of San Marcos, and each is doing a good business. Last year's output for one of them was two thousand bales of cotton.

The rocky hills above San Marcos can not be used for farming, but they

are very suitable for cattle and goat ranches. The largest ranch contains about eight thousand acres. The land is very rough, but the cattle feed well on the grass and weeds that come up.

The railroads are so close that when the cattle are fattened they are driven to the railroad in a short time. Wind mills are used for watering the stock. The water is pumped into large ponds where the cattle can wade in and drink.

Points of Interest

The head of the San Marcos River is very beautiful. The surrounding hills on the western banks come close to the edge for several hundred feet from the head. They are covered with shrubbery and grass and large shady trees. This is a delightful place to spend a hot summer day as the water, and the trees spreading over the banks give it a cool and damp effect. The water is very cold as its source is from the springs that are there.

The Wonder Cave is located about one mile from San Marcos near a little creek. It looks like a large hole in the ground, and has natural steps leading down about seven or eight feet. In some places you have to get down on your knees and almost crawl

Some of these tight, close places are named one being, "Fat man's misery". On the top of the cave there are spike like things, resembling icicles. A few hundred feet down a winding path is a natural looking old well. This cave has a very damp and musty smell, and is very warm inside.

Winnierly is the most interesting place around San Marcos, although there are many places of interest. It is situated on cypress creek not far from where it joins the Blanco River. Cypress Creek is a stream of clear water fed by a well called, "Jacobs Well". The Blanco River is a long stream of water, which is not so clear as the cypress creek, but is very pretty with its rapids, falls and pools.

Landa's Park is considered one of

The most beautiful parks in the State of Texas. It is located in New Braunfels. As you go in to the park you pass beds and beds of flowers growing on each side of the path. Beautiful streams surround the park and once in a while you can see swans swimming on the streams and ponds.

San Marcos is situated between two of the most interesting cities of Texas, Austin and San Antonio. Austin, the Capitol of the state, is beautifully situated on the Colorado River. The Capitol is made of Texas red granite, and is said to be the seventh largest building in the world when it was completed. Austin like San Marcos is noted for schools. San Antonio is an old historical town situated on the San Antonio River, fifty miles south of San Marcos. The Alamo still stands there today. All the old missions are there, such as San Jose, Conception and several others. Every one thinks San Antonio a pretty old town with all its beautiful parks and places of historical interest.