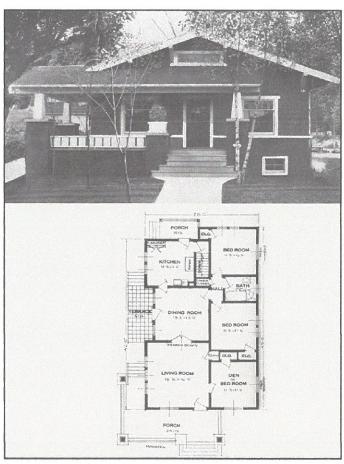
The Craftsman Style

The elements that characterize the Craftsman Bungalow Style are:

- · low-pitched roof with broad eaves
- · typically 1 to 11/2 stories
- · spacious, wide front porch
- · tapered columns supported by piers
- · exposed structural beams & rafters
- · broad horizontal elevations

This style of home evolved from the Arts & Crafts Movement in England in the second half of the 19th Century. The style was a conscious reaction to the overly elaborate Victorian Styles. Since the Bungalow Style was simpler in its aesthetic, it was also more affordable to middle-class home owners. But, it was also popular because its floor plan better suited the lifestyle of the early 20th Century.





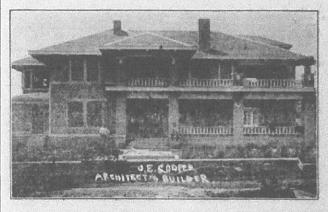
The above illustration is from a pattern book of 1923 showing a typical Craftsman Bungalow home design.



Builder J.E. Cooper took a straight-forward approach to the design and construction of the house he built for Anne McKey in 1919. The home has all the earmarks of the Craftsman Bungalow Style. The home's large porch is the dominant architectural feature of the home demonstrating the owner's desire for maximum comfort and ventilation in a time when air-conditioning was beyond the budget of most homeowners.

Fred Brannon's New Home

J. E. COOPER, Architect and Builder



Have the following buildings in course of construction: Geo, W. Fox, two-story brick; Thos. E. Craig, two-story, eight room residence; Fred Brannon's two-story, eight room residence.

Thirty years in McKinney building business. My work is my guarantee. See me if you need my services.

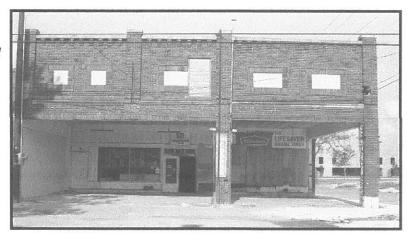
The Work of J.E. Cooper

J.E. Cooper was active in both commercial residential construction. Along with building homes for some of McKinney's well-known residents, he was also awarded several municipal contracts, including the water and light plant. He was responsible for building a series of warehouses at the Cotton Mill. Other projects included remodeling storefronts for Dowell Hardware and J.C. Penney.

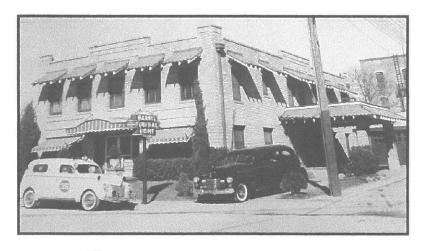
However, perhaps Mr. Cooper's most historically significant project was the constructions of the gallows for Ezell Stepp's 1922 execution, the last of three legal hangings to occur in Collin County.

The following photos on this page and next show some of the existing structures built and/or designed by J.E. Cooper.

This garage at the corner of South Tennessee and Davis Streets was built for Avery Dowell in 1918. It is now the home to Cross Engineering at 131 S. Tennessee.

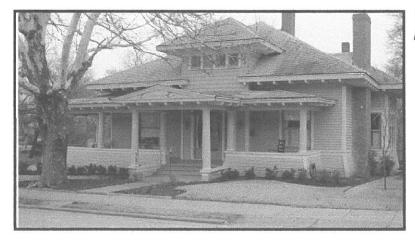


The Harris Funeral home at 202 W. Louisiana Street was built for Clarence C. Harris in 1926. The Courier-Gazette declared that it was designed for "convenience."





This photo from 1985 shows the home built for postmaster Don O. Davis. Little has changed over the years.



This house at 515 W. Hunt was built in 1915 for N.A. Burton.



This house at 309 N. Bradley was built in 1904 for dry-goods merchant Vernie Graves



This house at 311 N. Waddill was built in 1923 for S.E. Walker.