



Historic Marker Application

1306 N Waddill
Muse House & Site of
Muse Academy



Historic Preservation Advisory Board
Meeting
June 4, 2026
5:30 pm

Construction and Preservation Priority

- Constructed: c. 1858-59
 - Timber frame
 - Heart pine from Jefferson, TX
 - Mortise-and-tenon joinery with wooden pegs
 - Bois d'arc foundation blocks
- Priority: High
- Style: Colonial



Above: 2023

Character Defining Features

- First and second floor full-width porches
- 6-over-1 windows
- Stately columns



Historic Information

- Construction began in 1857 by James Sanford Muse
- Housed Muse Academy (1866-71)
- Originally had full two-story 10' wide wrap-around verands completely encircling the structure
- Final cost to build was \$6,000 (\$2.5 million today)
- Received State historic marker in 1978



Students and faculty of Muse Academy (Mount Pleasant Male and Female High School) gathered on the front porches of 1306 N. Waddill Street, circa 1858–1871. A framed copy of this photograph currently hangs by the front door of the home as a reminder of its history.

Historical Figures & Property Owners

- James Muse & Margaret Slaughter Muse (1857-1878)
- Thomas Henry Muse (1878-1900)
- Jim Muse & Claudia Acker Muse (1900-1940s)
- Mr. & Mrs. Walter P. Bomar (1971-c. 2000)
- Luke Gunnstacks (2000-2024)
- James & Emily Martin (2024-Present)



Childhood sweethearts Lizzie Waddill Muse and her husband Roger B. Muse, shortly after their marriage in 1912. Roger was a grandson of Reverend James Muse. (Source: McKinney, Texas community history)



Elevations - Past



Elevations - Past



Elevations - Current



Elevations - Current