

CITY HISTORIC MARKER APPLICATION FORM

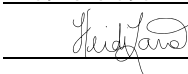


Complete and sign this application and return this page with the Required Submittals listed above to contact-historicpreservation@mckinneytexas.org as a pdf.

By signing this application for a City of McKinney, the applicant affirms:

- All submitted information for this application represents an accurate description and narrative of the history of the property.
- The McKinney Historic Marker does not confer landmark status.
- The marker is one component of eligibility for a Marker Level tax exemption within the HNIZ which is subject to a separate application process when available.
- The Marker will be mounted on the front façade of the approved building within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt. The owner will purchase and install the plaque.
- It is understood that approval of this application by the Historic Preservation Officer in no way constitutes approval of a building permit or other required City permit approvals.

I. Owner/Applicant Information

NAME, Owner	John and Heidi Lario	Applicant:	Heidi Lario
ADDRESS (line 1):	512 W. Virginia St.		
ADDRESS (line 2):			
City, ST, ZIP:	McKinney, Texas 75069		
Geographic ID No.	R-0926-000-5910-1		
Phone:	859-414-5952	Email:	heidilario@gmail.com
Signature:		Date:	3/30/2023
Applicant		Applicant	
Phone:	859-414-5952	Email:	heidilario@gmail.com

Provide applicant contact information if applicant is different from owner.

For Office Use Only			
HTM Case #:	HP2023-0042	Date Received:	April 19, 2023
Preservation Priority:	High	Owner Occupied:	Yes
Built Circa:	1919	Compliance Review:	Yes
Board Approval Date:			

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. SEE Items II through IV below.

CITY HISTORIC MARKER APPLICATION FORM p2



II. General Building Information

Name of Building: Pearl Strother's Bungalow
Address of Building: 512 W. Virginia St., McKinney, Texas 75069
Date of Construction: 1920 *Check one:* ☒ Known or ☐ Circa
Architect/Designer: J.M. Pistole
Builder/Contractor: J.M. Pistole
Architectural Period: Bungalow Era **Architectural Style:** Craftsman Bungalow
Is Building Location Original? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Specify Original location):
Legal Description of Property: MCKINNEY OUTLOTS, LOT 591

Building Use:

Original Uses

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Healthcare
- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Religious
- ☒ Residential Homestead
- ☐ Social
- ☐ Transportation

Adapted Uses

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Healthcare
- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Religious
- ☐ Residential
- ☐ Social
- ☐ Transportation

III. Architectural Description

a. Plan and Orientation

	Original	Current
Number of Stories	Single	Single
Orientation (N,S,E,W)	South	South
Floor Plan		
Open plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
L-plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Modified L-plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Center passage plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-room plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T-plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shotgun plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asymmetrical plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CITY HISTORIC MARKER APPLICATION FORM p3



b. Character Defining Architectural Features (Please check all that apply.)

Roof Form

Gable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hipped	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flat with Parapet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mansard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Windows

Double Hung	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Single Hung	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 over 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 over 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 over 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 over 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Awning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hopper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arched	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fixed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sliding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Doors

Single front	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Double front	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Front Doors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solid Panel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multiple Panel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Decorative Elements

Corbels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brackets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Columns and post	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shutters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Porch(es)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

CITY HISTORIC MARKER APPLICATION FORM p3



c. Materials (Please check all that apply.)

	Original	Current
Construction		
Frame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Solid Brick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solid Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Foundation		
Pier and Beam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Concrete Masonry Units	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Exterior Wall Surface		
Siding (specify type)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood
Stucco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood Shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Windows		
Wood Sash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aluminum Sash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steel Sash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vinyl Sash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Roof Materials		
Shingles (specify type)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tile (specify type)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal (specify type)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary Exterior Color	Unknown - Prior	Renwick Heather
Secondary (Trim) Color	images reveal a white/	Rookwood Blue Green
Additional Colors	ivory color dating to the	Rookwood Antique Gold
	1980s	

CITY HISTORIC MARKER APPLICATION FORM p4



IV. Supporting Documentation

Please attach the following information. All written documentation should be double spaced, 12 point-font, justified.

A. Alterations

List any known changes or modifications made to the property throughout its history.

B. Historical Figures/ Historical Information about individuals who are associated with the property.

List any historical figures associated with the property. Provide names and occupations.

C. Property Ownership

Legal description of property with a location map as well as a list all known owners of the property. Include original owner and subsequent owners. A chart for this information is included in the "Historic Marker Application Reference Packet".

D. Tenant History

List all known tenants of the property throughout its history. A chart for this information is included below.

E. Narrative History

Attach a narrative explanation of the chronological and historical development of the property. (See attached example.) The above information should be included as part of your narrative.

F. Drawing, provide:

- A sketch of the current site plan. Include the proposed location of the historic plaque.
- A sketch map indicating the nominated property and any related sites.
- A sketch or drawing showing the current plan of the house.
 - Sketches or drawings of the historic plan may be included as well.
- Copies of Sanborn Maps™ showing the house's relationship to other homes and the footprint of the house.

G. Photographs, provide:

- At least one historic photograph of the property.
- At least one current photograph of the property illustrating in its surrounding context. For example, photograph the streetscape in which the building is included.
- At least one photograph of each side of the building.
- Photographs of distinctive characteristics and architectural features
- Label each photograph with the property address and a sequential series of numbers,
 - For example, 222_N_Tennessee_1, 222_N_Tennessee_2, etc.

H. Additional Information

Provide any additional information that supports the application. This may include copies of architectural drawings, letters, oral histories, newspaper/magazine articles, etc.

I. References

Attach a list of the books, articles, Sanborn Maps™, newspapers, and other sources used in preparing this form. (See the "Historic Marker Application Reference Packet" for suggestions.)

If not provided in APA or MLA format, each reference should list at least the *Title*, *Date*, *Source* (newspaper, deed, oral history) and *Publisher* if a printed source.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)



Q: Can I get an historic marker but not a tax exemption?

A: Yes, Historic Markers may be applied for and awarded for a property without applying for a Historic Marker Level Exemption.

Q: Will my property be inspected every year?

A: Yes, code inspection and the Director of Planning or their designee will inspect properties with an HNIZ Program Tax Exemption every year. Should the Director of Planning or their designee find that a property is in a state of disrepair and does not meet the intent and philosophy of the program, the owner shall be notified of the specific deficiencies in writing and shall have one year to cure the deficiencies from the date of such written notification. If the deficiencies are not remedied within one year, the City Council may suspend the HNIZ Program Incentive for the property

Q: Can I prepare my own application?

A: Yes, the application can be completed by the homeowner. Please see the “Historic Marker Application Reference Packet” for more information, suggested research, and sample forms. For examples of previously written narratives, please see the McKinneytexas.org/HistoricMap. Click on properties with a blue dot to access previously approved narratives. *Please be sure to include everything required in the current application as some submission requirements have changed since these were written.*

McKinney Texas Historical Marker Application
512 W. Virginia St.

A. Alterations

- a. Detached garage: 1950
- b. Detached carport: 1985

B. Historical Figures

- a. Pearl Strother (See Attachment 1)
- b. Aline Strother McKinney (McKinney ISD educator. Aline and husband built 206 N. College Street)
- c. Lena Strother (McKinney ISD educator)
- d. Inez Strother Wilson (Proprietor: Wilson Shoes of McKinney)
- e. Verna Strother Akin & Charles H. Akin (House of Representatives 1931-1933)

C. Property Ownership

- a. Land 75' x 100' parcel
 - i. 1852: William Davis (part of 3,000 acres)
 - ii. 1852: A. Fickle and Susannah Fickle
 - iii. 1853: Sam Bogart and Leroy Clement
 - iv. 1855: Abraham Rhine and T.C. Rhine
 - v. 1881: L.S. Moore and M.J. Moore
 - vi. 1882: JP Crouch
- b. Prior Homesteads
 - i. 1893: Mrs. M. L. Neal
 - ii. 1903: WC Gray and Mattie Gray
 - iii. 1919: John Edward Gibson and Clara Gibson
- c. Current Homestead
 - i. 1919: Pearl (Gibson) Strother
 - ii. 1956: Bedford F Taylor and Ruby Ione (Bomar) Taylor
 - iii. 1989: Victoria L Hendershot
 - iv. 1993: Staci Yaeger
 - v. 1995: Mark Kalmbacher and Stacy Kaalmbacher
 - vi. 1998: Mike Dileo and Leanne Dileo
 - vii. 2002: Neal Ator and Puala Ator
 - viii. 2022: John Lario and Heidi (Fischesser) Lario

D. Tenant History

- a. See property ownership detail.

E. Narrative History

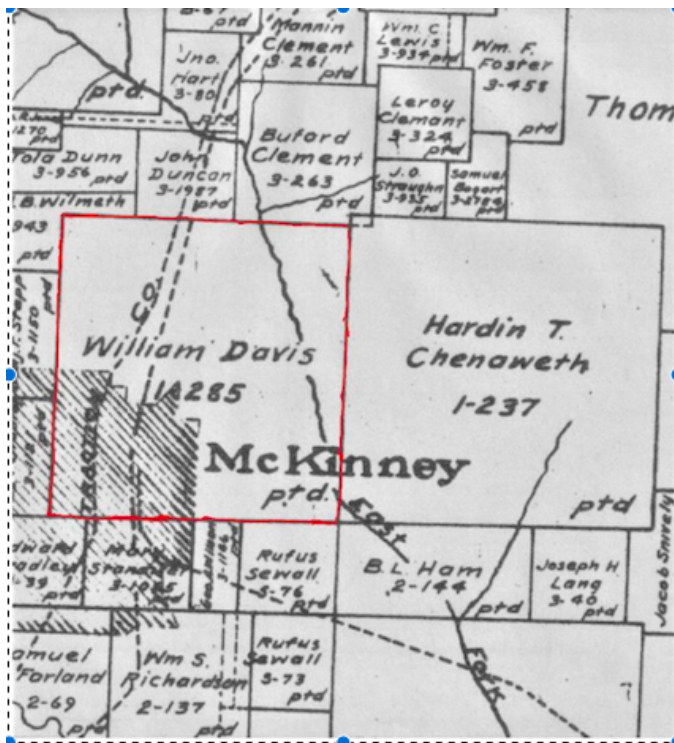
Property Ownership

1852 - 1900

On the corner of Virginia and College streets in McKinney, Texas there lies a 75' x 100' plot of land which has provided the foundation for several different homes over the course of the past 120 years. This small plat of Earth was once encapsulated in a larger 3,130 acre land grant located in the center of Collin County (see fig. 1.). Owned by pioneer William Davis, the land grant once encompassed an enormous portion of what is currently known as the city of McKinney. Davis earned this land grant in 1841 as the result of his service to the Republic of Texas during the fight for independence from Mexico.

Figure 1

August Gast Company Map



Source: Walsh, W.C. "Collin County Texas." *Texas General Land Office. Map Store*, <https://s3.glo.texas.gov/glo/history/archives/map-store/index.cfm#item/794>. Accessed 10 Jan. 2023.

In 1848, McKinney was declared the new county seat of Collin. Davis and his wife donated 120 acres of land to serve as the townsite for the new city. Following this donation, Davis continued to sell smaller parcels of land surrounding the city. In 1852 William Davis sold a western portion of his land to A. and Susannah Fickle, who then sold some of the land to Sam Bogart and LeRoy Clement. Bogart and Clement sold the 13 acres of parcel in 1855 to Abraham Rhine for \$325.

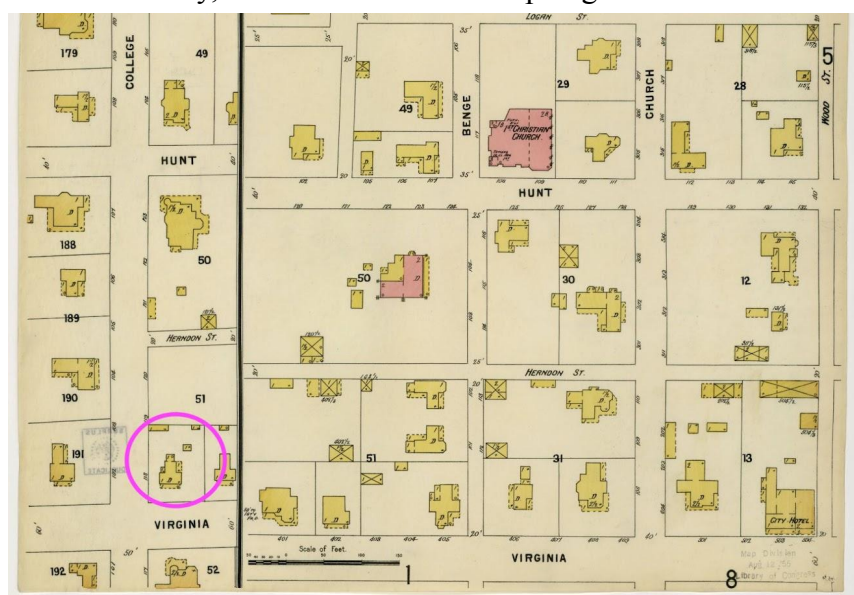
It is after this transaction between Rhine and Bogart/Clement that the land was subdivided further into the current 75'x100' lot which is currently still intact. On January 29th, 1881 L.S. Moore purchased the plot of land on the corner of W. Virginia and N. College Streets.

The following year, 1882, the plot was sold to J.P. Crouch for the sum of \$400.

It is unknown when the first home was built on the plot, however, due to the close proximity to town it is logical to hypothesize that a dwelling structure would have been present on the land after it was first plotted in 1881. The earliest documented home at this location appears on the 1897 Sanborn Fire Insurance map (see fig. 2). At this time the property was deeded to Mrs. M.L. Neal, therefore it can be reasonably inferred that she resided at the property during this time.

Figure 2

1897 McKinney, Texas Sanborn Fire Map Page 4



Original located at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin

"1897 McKinney Texas Sanborn Fire Insurance Map ." Sanborn-Perris Map Company Limited, Sanborn-Perris Map Company , 1897, pp. 1–9,
<https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/m-o/txu-sanborn-mckinney-1897-4.jpg>. Accessed 10 Jan. 2023.

An interpretation of the 1897 Sanborn map provides many interesting details. The single story home faces South towards Virginia Street with the Western side facing North College Street. The home is t-shaped and constructed of wood framing with a large single-story porch running the width of the front. There is a side porch documented on the North East corner of the building. The letter *D.* in the center indicates that the building was used as a residential property and was not occupied by more than 2 families. The x in the right hand corner indicates that the roof is wood covered and constructed of wood shingles. At the rear of the house there are three single story wood frame structures. A purpose for the buildings such as additional dwelling or garage has not been noted on the map. The same structure mentioned in the 1897 Sanborn map appears again on the 1902 Sanborn map with no alterations.

1900 - 1918

The land changed hands once again in 1903 when W.C. “Bill” Gray and wife Mattie Gray purchased the land and house. The 1908 Sanborn map (see fig. 3) depicts the same dwelling structure as the 1897 & 1902 Sanborn maps with the exception of one out building.

Figure 3

1908 McKinney, Texas Sanborn Fire Map Page 13

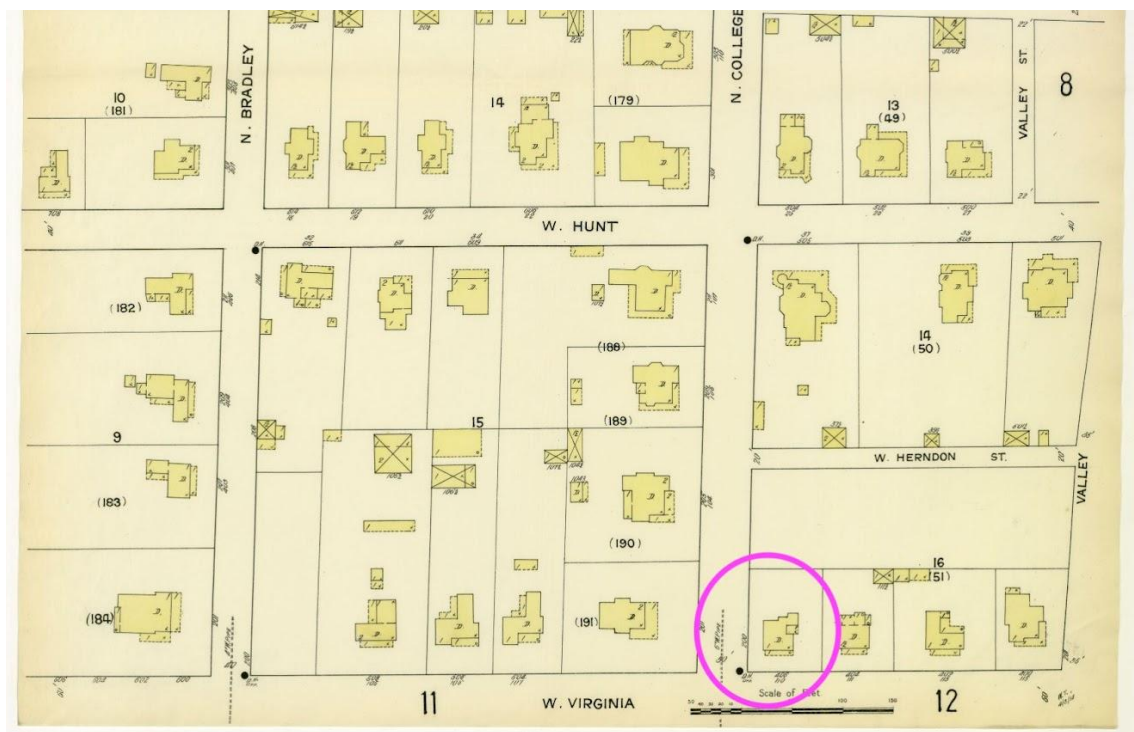


Original located at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin

“1908 McKinney Texas Sanborn Fire Insurance Map .” *Sanborn-Perris Map Company Limited*, Sanborn-Perris Map Company , 1908, pp. 1–11.

At some point between 1908 and 1914 the Grays built a new home on the lot. The 1914 Sanborn Fire Insurance map is the only remaining source of this particular dwelling (see fig. 4) . Unlike the “T” shape of the first structure, the Gray’s home was a single story wood-framed square. On the front of the building there is a single story wood framed covered porch running the width of the home. There is a second small single-story porch on the North Eastern corner of the home. There are no outbuildings represented on the map.

Figure 4
1914 McKinney, Texas Sanborn Fire Map Page 12



Original located at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin

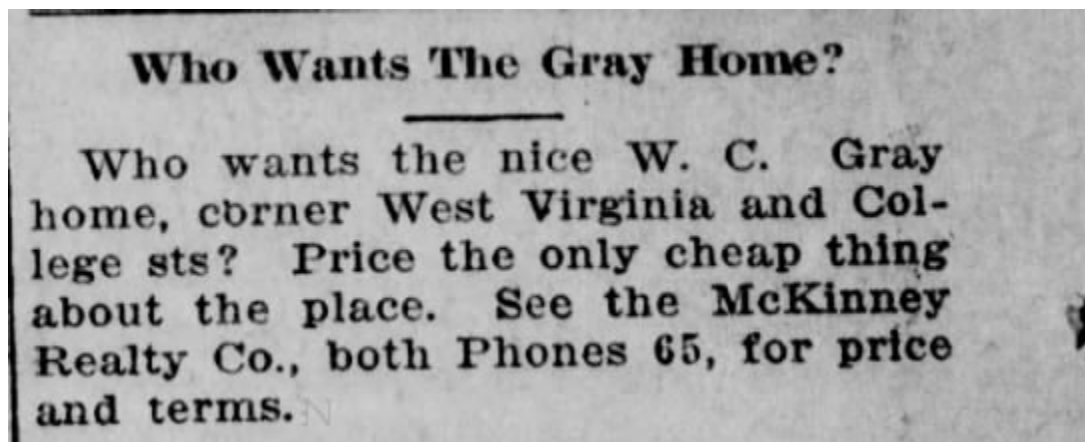
“1914 McKinney Texas Sanborn Fire Insurance Map .” *Sanborn-Perris Map Company Limited*, Sanborn-Perris Map Company , 1914, pp. 1–19.

1919

The Grays ran several advertisements for consecutive months listing their home on W. Virginia St. for sale in 1914 (see fig. 5). However, they did not incur a buying until 1919 when the home was purchased by J.E. Gibson and Clara Gibson.

Figure 5

The Courier-Gazette, McKinney, Texas, 1914



“1914 McKinney Texas Sanborn Fire Insurance Map .” *Sanborn-Perris Map Company Limited*, Sanborn-Perris Map Company , 1914, pp. 1–19.

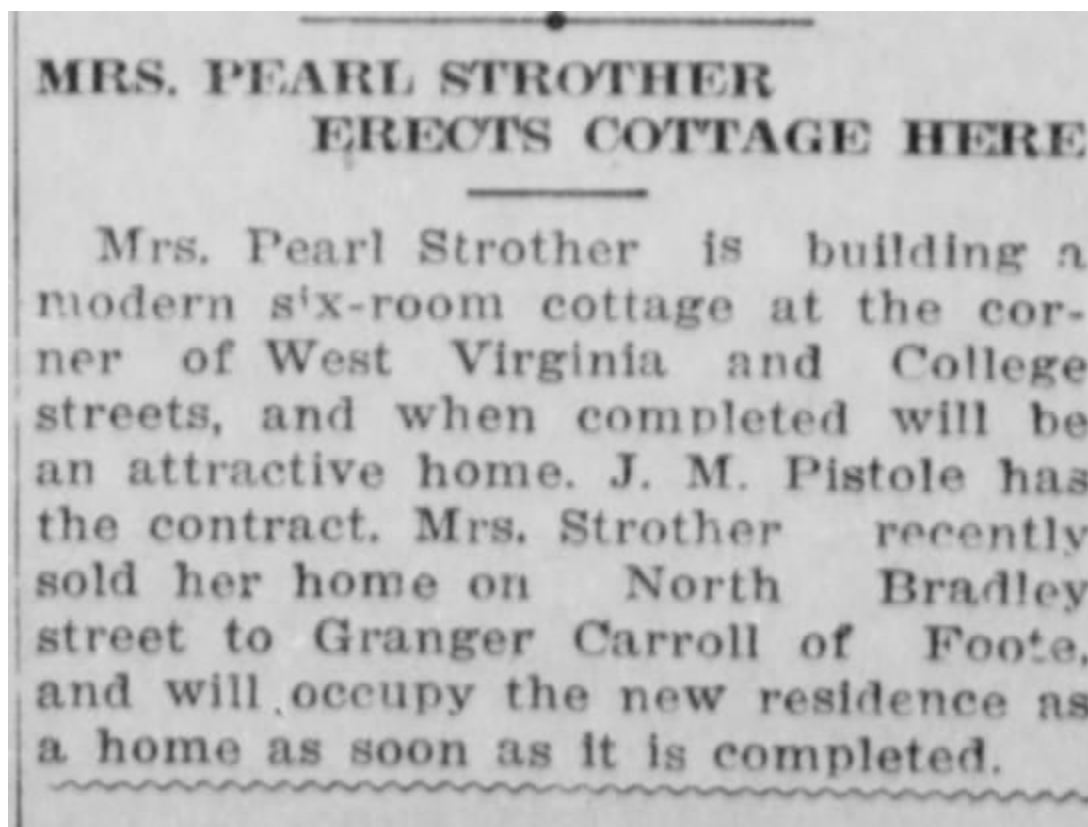
Later that same year, Pearl Strother, a widowed woman, purchased the home and land from the Gibsons.

In 1919 female United States citizens were not legally allowed to purchase real estate. Additionally, women residing in the United State were also not legally allowed to acquire a loan from a bank. As a result, Pearl Strother’s brother J.E. Gibson and wife purchased the real estate from the Grays on her behalf, then sold it to her. To supplement the large repayment sum of \$2,500 Pearl took out a personal loan from her friend and wealthy McKinney resident Mrs. Louise Brannon.

The Courier-Gazette announced in November of 1919 that Pearl Strother had purchased the land and intended to build a cottage on the corner of W. Virginia St. and N. College St (see fig. 6). The six bedroom abode was contracted for build with a well known McKinney home builder J.M. Pistole.

Figure 6

The Courier-Gazette, McKinney, Texas, 1919



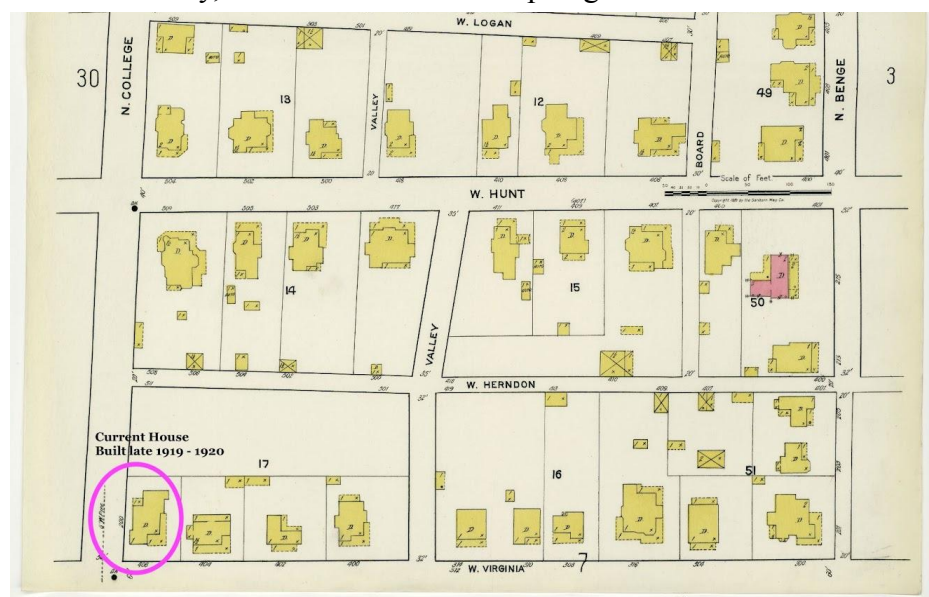
Unknown. "Mrs. Pearl Strother Erects Cottage Here ." *The Courier-Gazette*, 20 Nov. 1919, p. 1, <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/115819642/pearl-builds-house/>. Accessed 11 Jan. 2023.

512 W. Virginia

The home that Mrs. Pearl Strother built in late 1919 through early 1920 currently stands at 512 W. Virginia St. The single-story South facing home is approximately 1,700 square feet. The home was constructed on a pier and beam foundation using bodark tree stumps to retain the foundation. The 1920 Sanborn Fire Insurance map (see fig. 7) is the first record of the home's features.

Figure 7

1920 McKinney, Texas Sanborn Fire Map Page 8



Original located at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin

“1920 McKinney Texas Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.” *Sanborn-Perris Map Company Limited*, Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1920, pp. 1–19.

As described in *The Courier Gazette*, Pearl Strother’s home is built in the Bungalow style with Craftsman architectural detailing. This single-story style home was wildly popular in America from the early turn of the 20th century until the 1930’s. The traditional Bungalow is small and built for the way the average family lived. Typically, Bungalows were affordable, aesthetically appealing, and afforded families all of the modern amenities of the time. According to Washington State’s Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, “Central to the Bungalow’s popularity was the idea that simplicity and artistry could harmonize in one affordable house.” This Historic District of McKinney, Texas has many of the coveted homes residing throughout its beautiful streets.

512 Virginia boasts six rooms, 1,700 square feet, and many respectable Craftsman style details. The home has a cross-gabled roof which is gently pitched and broad. The rafters are exposed, and in the Craftsman way, the purlins and ridge beams are also visible. Painted horizontal wood boards surround the house, acting as siding.

The windows of the home are a true defining characteristic. All are in the Craftsman craftsman style; double hung with a sash-glaze pattern of 4 over 1. Each window is woodcased. Several rooms including the dining and family room feature large wood-framed ribbon (triple) windows. The master bedroom, located at the rear of the house and has 2 walls of complete windows. The rear North facing wall is completely covered with a series of 5 windows. The adjoining West facing wall is also completely covered with 4 windows.

Similar to the windows, the front and side doors have a sash-glaze of 4 over 1 and are each single paneled. The home was originally designed with two West facing entry doors. The first entry door is located at the front of the porch and the second entry door at the back end of the front porch.

Like most Bungalows, the front porch is a very large space. Originally designed in an 'L' shape the front porch is offset and a partial width of the front of the home. The porch includes low wood-board pedestals holding up the column supports for the roof. Like many Craftsman style porches, the rake above is supported with triangular knee brace supports.

The Western facing side of the home features two cross gables featuring staggered wood shingles. Each rake is also supported with triangulated knee brace supports.

Alterations

While the home has remained structurally intact since it was built in 1920, a few owners have taken liberties to make exterior additions and modifications. In 1950 Pearl Strother added on a small detached garage. The garage holds the same Craftsman detailing as the main home. It is hard to know for sure, but there is evidence of a previous driveway on N. College Street. The East front-facing single gable make it reasonable to assume that this garage was made accessible from N. College St. At some point, the entrance to the garage was changed to be from W. Virginia.

In 1985 a detached carport was added as an addition to the garage. The carport is not attached to the main building structure. The carport and garage make one "t" shaped building, sharing a single roof. However, the carport does have its own distinctive Southern facing single gable. The

carport mimics the Craftsman style with exposed end gables and trusses. There is a brick wall at the Eastern side of the carport separating 512 from its neighbors.

Additionally, an image from 1985 shows that the front porch was screened in (see fig. 8). It is not known when the screens were installed on the previously open front porch.

Figure 8

1985 Image of 512 W. Virginia St. depicting screened porch.



Unknown. "1985 512 W. Virginia St. ." *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5029>. Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

At some point between 2015 and 2022 the front porch was altered to create an additional small office space inside the home. The original “L” shaped porch (see fig. 9) was blocked off to create a long straight porch with no “L” turn (see fig. 10). When closing in and creating the office space on the Western corner of the porch, the original windows and door were used. This repurposing of the original materials has aided in maintaining the home's original charm and beauty.

Figure 9

2015 image of 512 W. Virginia St. depicting the original “L” shaped porch.



Unknown. “2015 512 W. Virginia St. .” *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5032>. Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

Figure 10

2022 image of 512 W. Virginia St. depicting the modified front porch and Victorian style exterior painting.



Unknown. "Google Maps ." *Google Maps*,

https://www.google.com/maps/place/512+W+Virginia+St,+McKinney,+TX+75069/@33.1979498,-96.6209565,3a,75y,50.96h,82.7t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sj__2H_wK5N3ZE5VJzb8KHA!2e0!6shhttps:%2F%2Fstreetviewpixels-pa.googleapis.com%2Fv1%2Fthumbnail%3Fpanoid%3Dj__2H_wK5N3ZE5VJzb8KHA%26cb_client%3Dsearch.gws-prod.gps%26w%3D86%26h%3D86%26yaw%3D19.276999%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100!7i16384!8i8192!4m5!3m4!1s0x864c124b2bb9eab9:0xe963d9ee07f4f86f!8m2!3d33.1981881!4d-96.6208524. Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

During the summer of 2022, John and Heidi Lario took ownership of 512 W. Virginia Street. Together they began extensive restoration on the exterior of the home. Their work included extensive repairs to the foundation, wood siding, and repainting/ceiling of the exterior. The couple partnered with world renowned Craftsman Bungalow restorationist Peter Wilson of Pasadena, California. Together, a historically accurate color scheme for the exterior of the home was selected. Peter Wilson also provided guidance on bringing the color scheme back from a Victorian color pattern (see fig. 10 pillars) to a truly Craftsman style. With the new exterior paint the craftsman style of the bungalow was returned. Three paint colors were selected with the pillars, brackets, fascia boards, and beams were painted a solid color to highlight their form and function, as is the craftsman way (see fig.11).

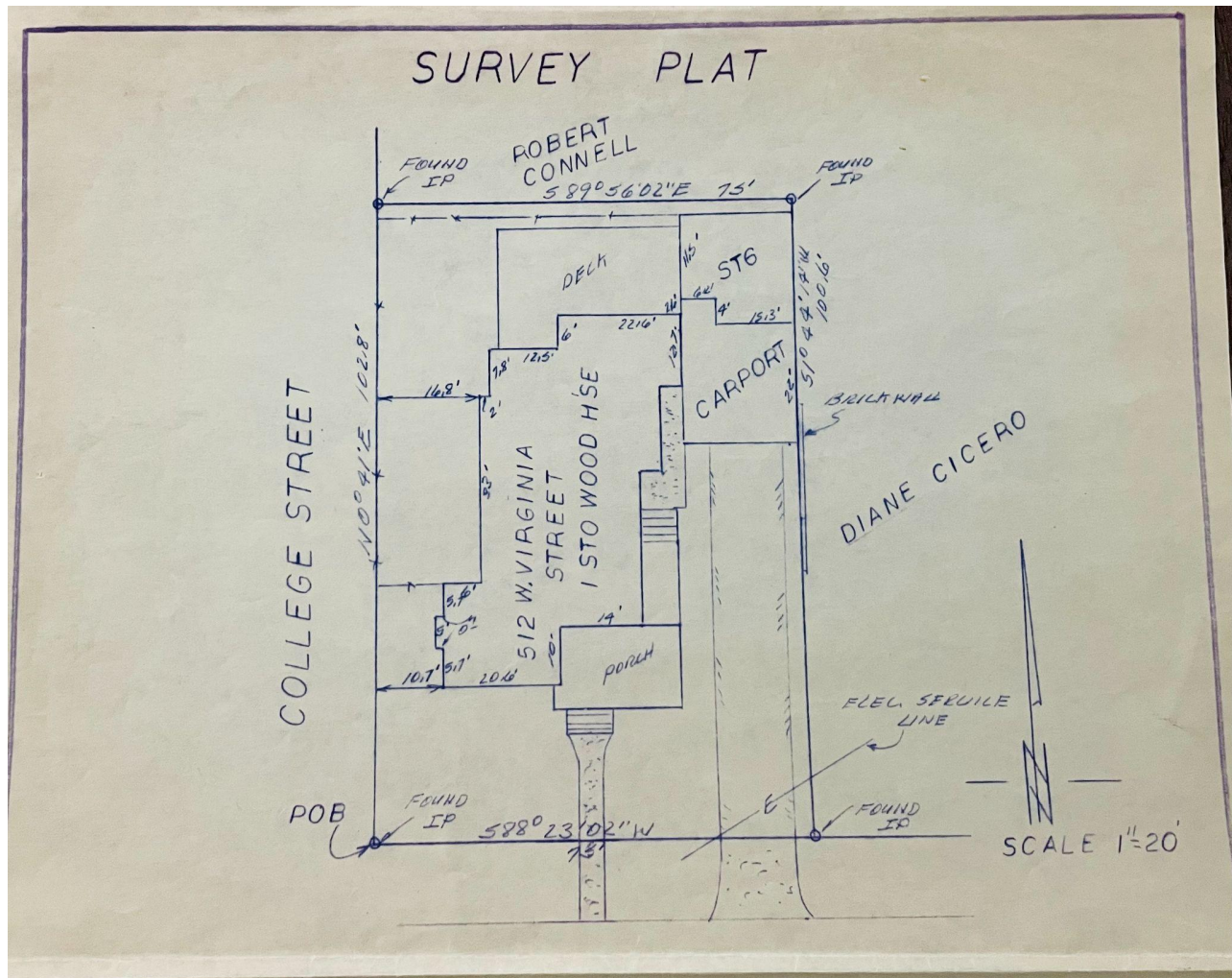
Figure 11

2022 image of 512 W. Virginia St. depicting the restored craftsman style pillars and beams.



512 W. Virginia 2022 Restoration. 27 Aug. 2022.

F. Drawing: June 1998



G. Photographs

Ownership Documentation

Image 1

Collin County Record of deed transfer from Wm. Davis to Abner Fickle, March 15, 1852.

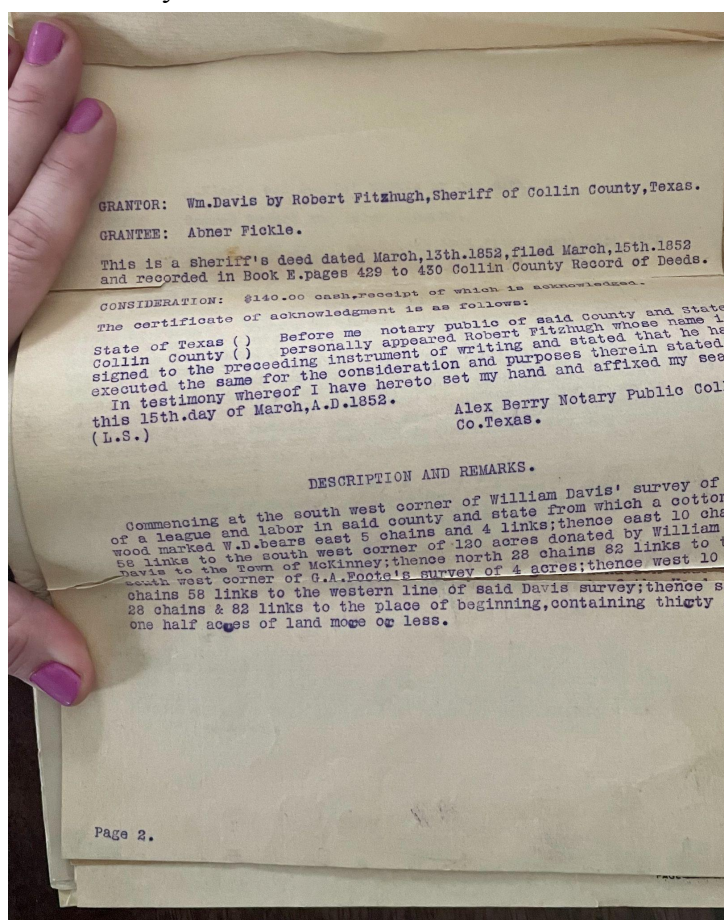


Image 2

Collin County Record of deed transfer from A. Fickle & Susanah Fickle to Samuel Bogart & Leroy Clement, April 16, 1853.

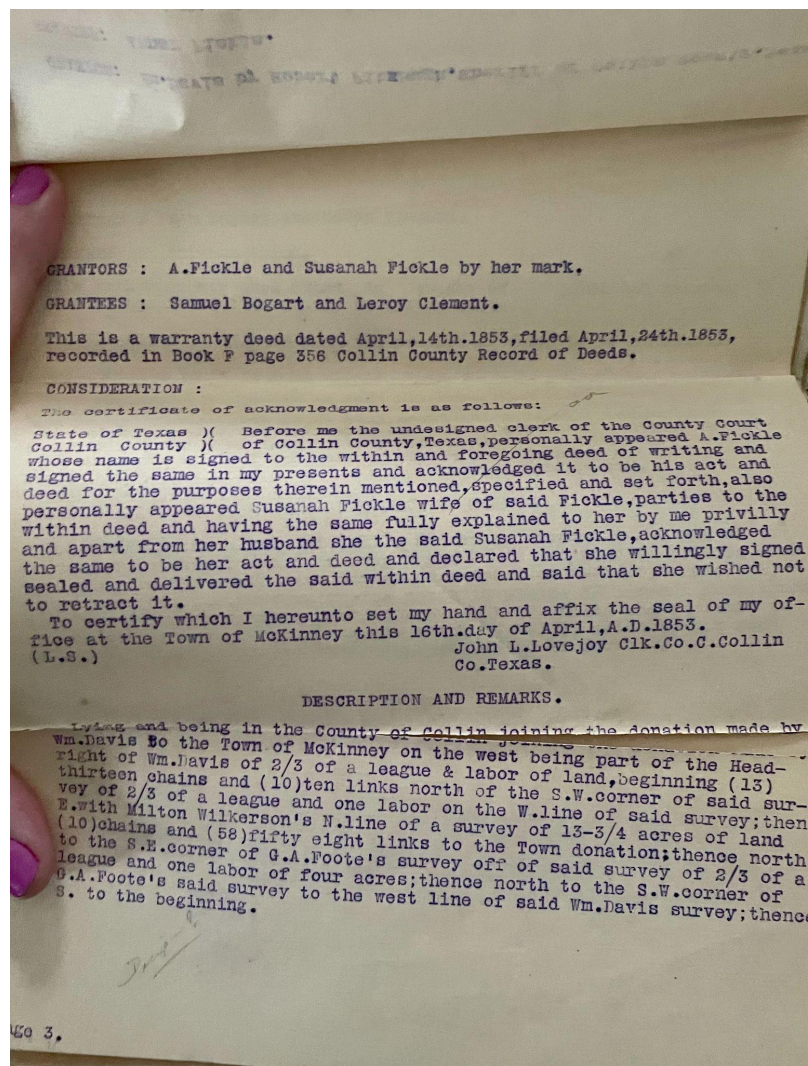


Image 3

Collin County Record of deed transfer from A. Rhine and T.C. Rhine to L. S. Moore, January 28th, 1881.

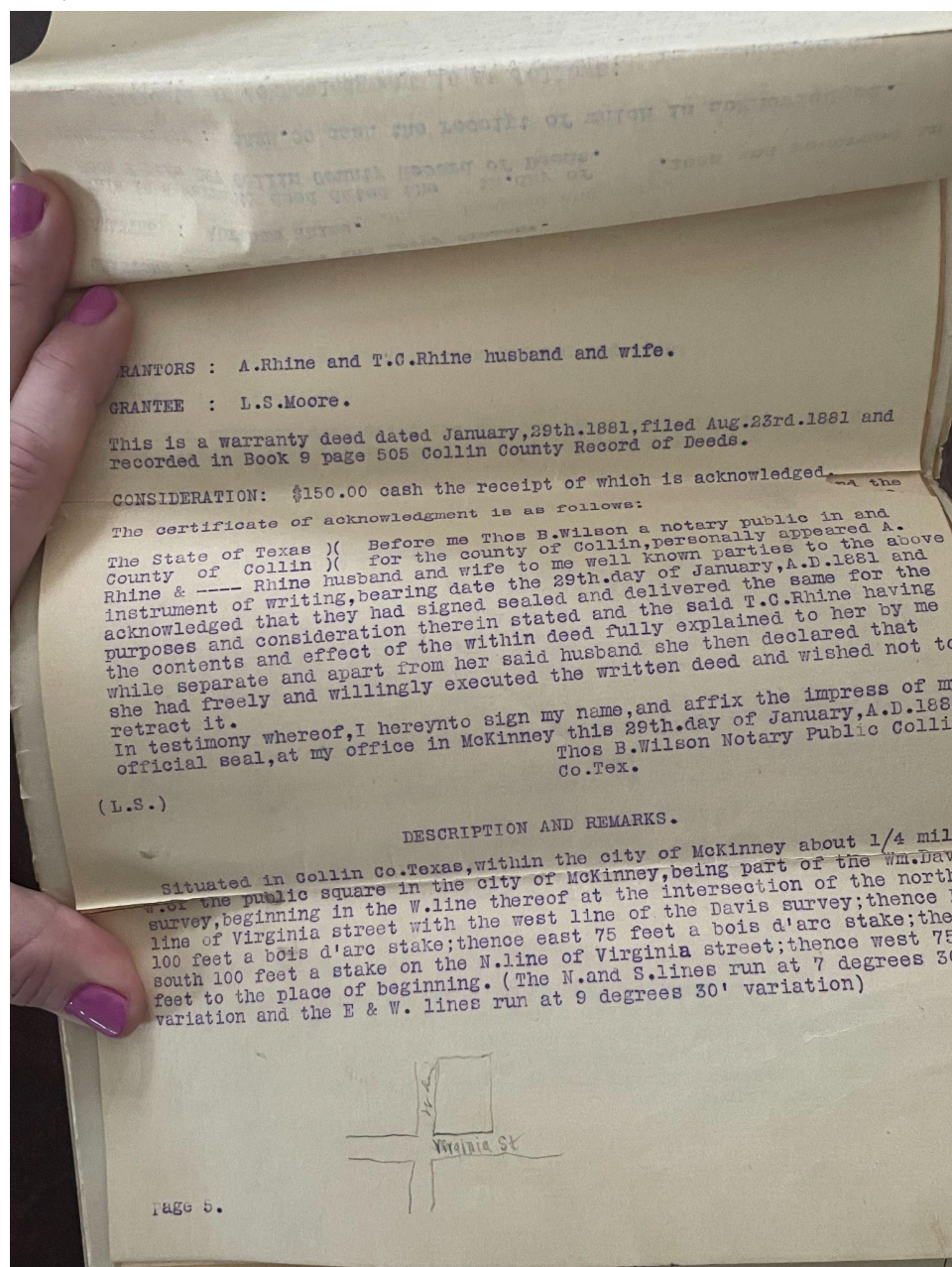


Image 4

Warranty deed transfer document from J.E. Gibson & wife to Pearl Strother on November 18, 1919.

A-119

SPECIAL
WARRANTY DEED
 With Vendor's Lien Joint Acknowledgment

J. E. Gibson, and wife

TO

Pearl Strother,

FILED FOR RECORD

This 18 day of Nov. A. D. 19 19

at 3 o'clock P. M.

R. E. Holcombake
 County Clerk.

By Pearl Strother
 Deputy.

RECORDED

A. D. 19

In County Record

of Book

Page

County Clerk.

By Deputy.

Recording Fee \$

This instrument should be filed immediately
 with the County Clerk for record.

Martin Stationery Co., Dallas
 225-331

Image 5

Loan documentation.

L 21-NOTE-With Vendor's Lien-(Series)

MARTIN STATIONERY CO., DALLAS, CLASS 2.

\$2,000.00 *No* One, McKinney, Texas Nov. 17th A.D. 1919
 Three Years after date I promise to pay to
 Mrs. Lou Brannon, of McKinney, Texas or Order the sum of
 Two Thousand— Dollars
 with interest thereon from Date until paid at the rate of
 Eight per centum per annum, the interest payable Annually
 as it accrues, both principal and interest payable at McKinney, Texas
 for value received. This Note is given in
 part payment for a certain lot or parcel of land situated in
 County of Collin, State of Texas, within the city of McKinney, being
 part of the William Davis Survey, Beginning in the W. Line thereof at the
 intersection of the North line of Virginia St. with the west line of the
 Davis Survey; Thence North 100 ft a Boisdaro stake; Thence East 75 ft a
 Boisdaro stake; thence south 100 ft a stake on the North line of Virginia
 St; Thence West 75 ft to the place of beginning.

this day conveyed to Pearl Strother
 by J. E. Gibson and wife and to
 secure the payment of same according to the tenor hereof, a Vendor's Lien is
 retained in said conveyance, and is hereby acknowledged.
 All past due interest on this Note shall bear interest at the rate of Eight
 per centum per annum after the annual maturity thereof.
 This Note is one of a series of One similar notes this day given
 by Pearl Strother as part of the
 purchase price for said above mentioned property, and it is understood and
 agreed that failure to pay this Note, or any installment of interest hereon,
 when due, shall at the election of the holder of all of said series of Notes, or
 of any one of them, mature all the said Notes and they shall become at once
 due and payable, and the Vendor's Lien herein mentioned shall become
 subject to foreclosure proceedings as the holder may elect.
 And it is hereby specially agreed that if this Note is placed in the hands of
 an Attorney for collection, or if collected by suit or through the Probate Court
 I agree to pay ten per cent. additional on the principal and interest
 then due thereon, as Attorney's fees.

It is hereby agreed and understood that all
 or any part of this note may be paid on any
 interest paying date.

Consideration	When Due	North Day Year
Cash \$ 500 00		
Note No. 1 \$ 2000 00	Nov.	1922
Note No. 2 \$		
Note No. 3 \$		
Note No. 4 \$		
Note No. 5 \$		
Note No. 6 \$		
Total \$ 2500 00		

Pearl Strother
 J. E. Gibson

Image 6

Collin County Record of deed transfer from Pearl Strother et al to Bedford F. Taylor, August 25, 1955.

E-1134 3665

Warranty Deed

Pearl Strother et al

TO

Bedford F. Taylor

FILED FOR RECORD

This 24 day of Aug, A. D., 19 55
at 11:10 o'clock A. M.

W.C. Nagy County Clerk.
By Martha Dubhishy Deputy.

RECORDED

....., A. D., 19.....

In.....County Records

In Book....., on Page.....

.....County Clerk.

By Taf. 11.00 Deputy.
Recording Fee \$ 1.25

This instrument should be filed immediately with the County Clerk for record.

Mail to
M. Kinney Abstract Co.
McKinney, Texas

Exterior

Image 7

1985 Front view of the home.



Unknown. "1985 512 W. Virginia St. ." *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5029>. Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

Image 8

1985 Western view of home.



Unknown. "1985 512 W. Virginia St. ." *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5030>. Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

Image 9

2005 Front view of the home with the screened in porch now exposed.



Unknown. "1985 512 W. Virginia St. ." *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5031> Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

Image 10

2015 front view of the home.



Unknown. "1985 512 W. Virginia St. ." *City of McKinney Historic Preservation Resources* , <https://maps.mckinneytexas.org/mckinney/rest/services/MapServices/HistoricResources/MapServer/0/1137/attachments/5031> Accessed 18 Jan. 2023.

Image 11
2023 Front view of the home.



Image 12

2023 Front view of the home.



Image 13

Rear view of the home with the former garage in the back.



Image 14

Built in kitchen ironing board.



512 W. Virginia Ironing Board 1. 8 July 2022.

Image 15

Butler's Pantry

*512 W. Virginia Butler's Pantry. 8 July 2022.*

Image 16

Wallpaper discovered during September 2022 kitchen renovation.



512 W. Virginia Wallpaper 1. 6 September 2022.

Image 17

Wallpaper found underneath the wallpaper pictured above. This paper appears to be hand painted.

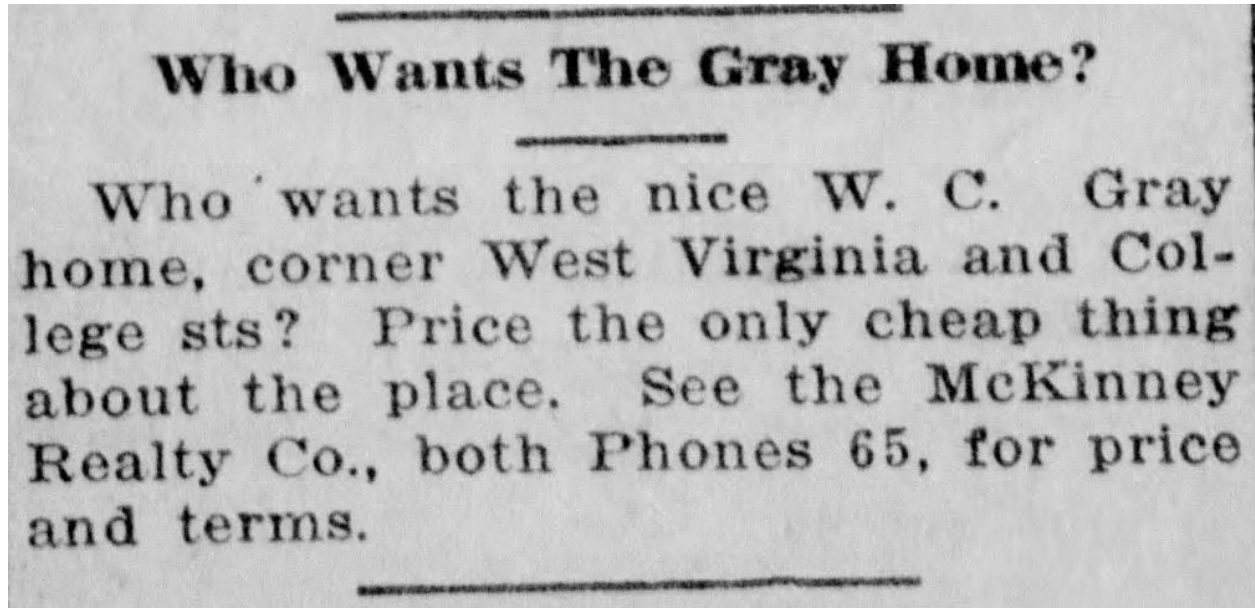


512 W. Virginia Wallpaper 2. 6 September 2022.

Newspaper Clippings

Image 18

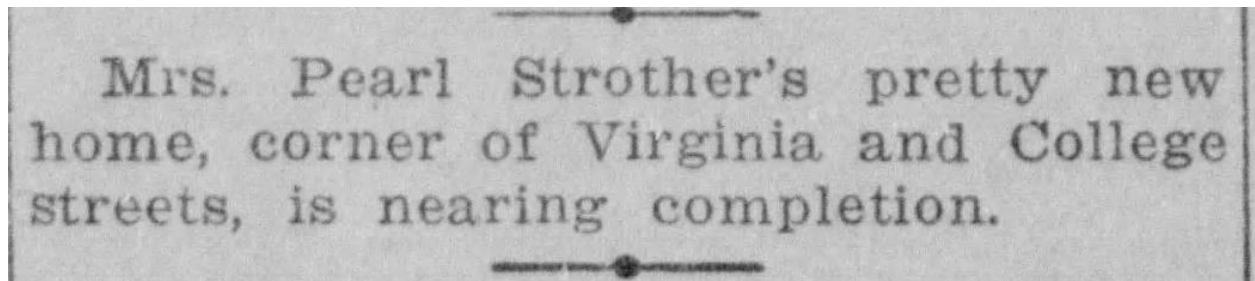
Advertisement for the sale of the home by W.C. Gray.



Gray, WC. "Who Wants the Gray Home? ." *The Courier-Gazette*, 23 Sept. 1914, p. 8, WC Gray. Accessed 1 Feb. 2023. *Newspapers.com*, WC Gray. Accessed 10 Dec. 2022.

Image 19

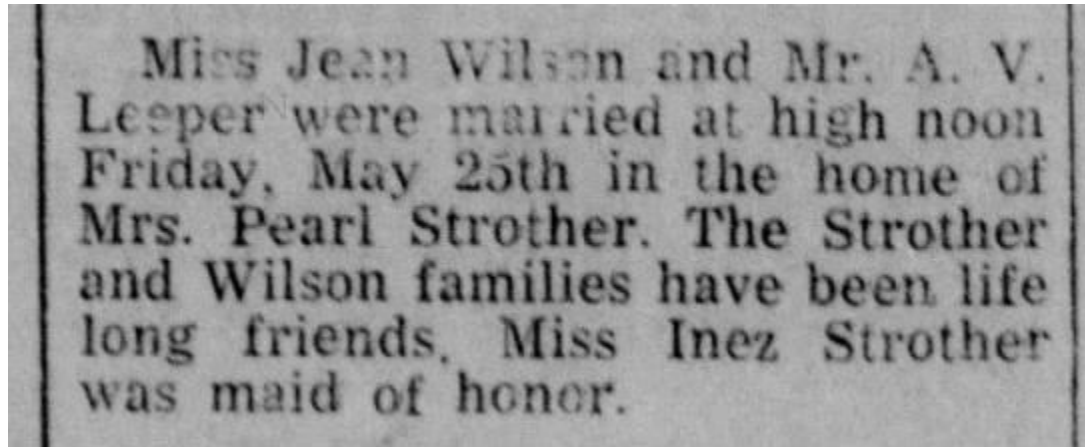
Building Announcement



Unknown. "Strother Home." *The Courier-Gazette*, 7 Feb. 1920, p. 4, WC Gray. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 10 Dec. 2022.

Image 20

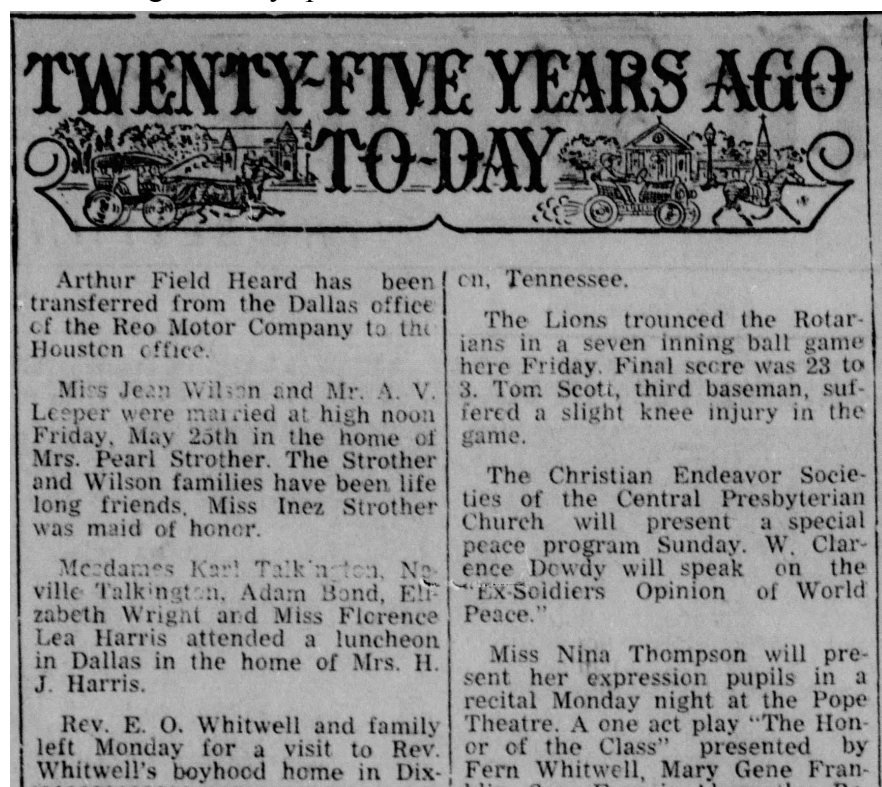
1928 wedding held at 512 W. Virginia. This clipping appeared in a 1953 special section of The Courier Gazette titled "25 Years Ago To-Day" (see below)



Unknown. "25 Years Ago To-Day." *The Courier-Gazette*, 27 May 1953, p. 2. *Newspapers.com*, Inez Strother. Accessed 10 Oct. 2022.

Image 21

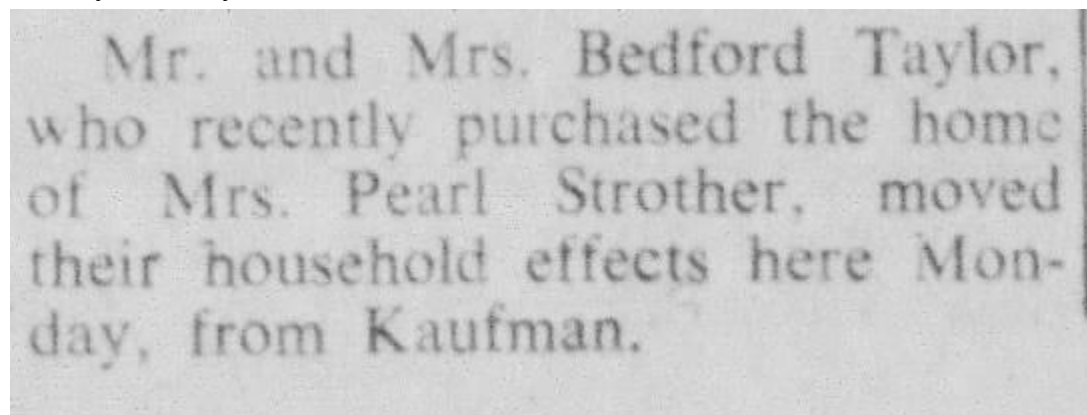
25 Years Ago To-Day special section in The Courier-Gazette.



Unknown. "25 Years Ago To-Day." *The Courier-Gazette*, 27 May 1953, p. 2.

Image 22

The Taylor family moves in.

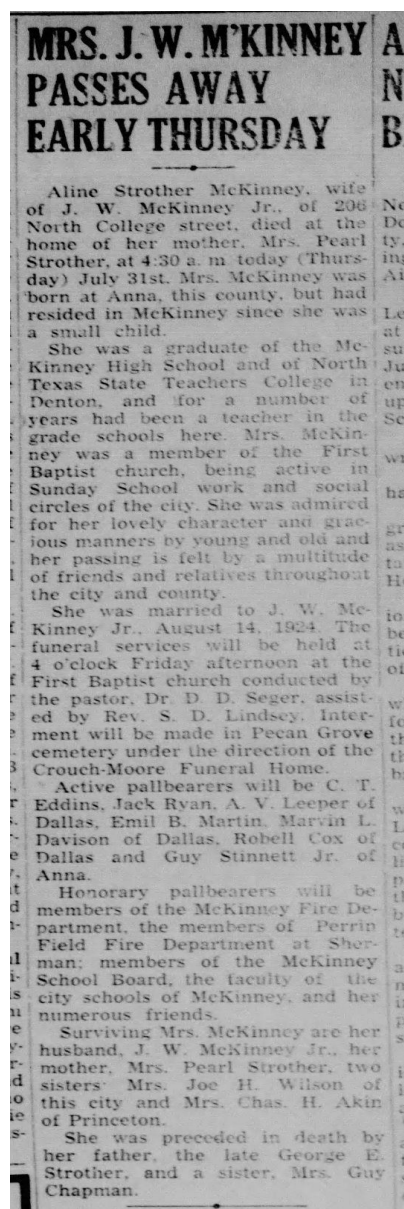


Unknown. "Bedford Taylor and Family Move." *The Courier-Gazette*, 5 Oct. 1955, p. 1. *Newspapers.com*, Bedford Taylor. Accessed 10 Oct. 2022.

Obituaries

Image 23

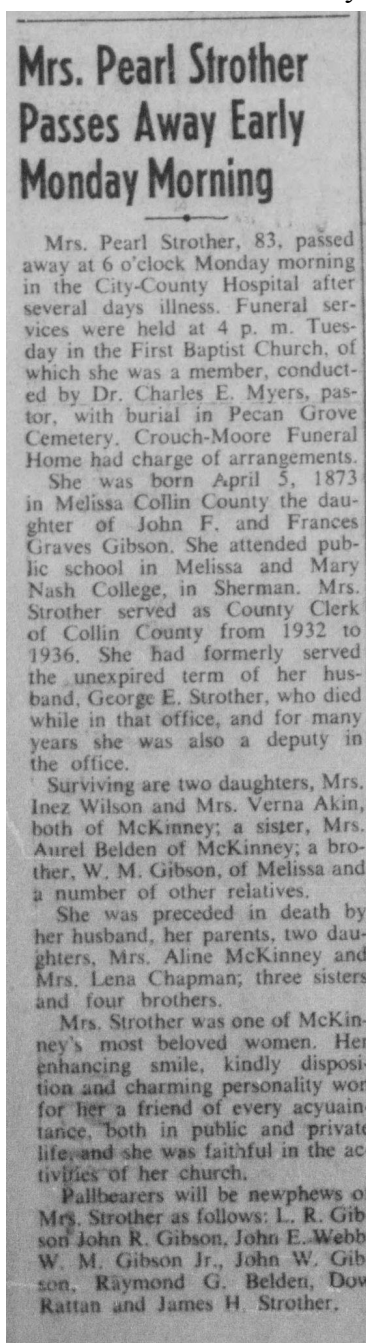
Mrs. Aline Strother McKinney passed away in her mother's home, 512 W. Virginia.



Unknown. "Mrs. J.W. M'Kinney Passes Away Early Thursday ." *The Courier-Gazette*, 31 July 1947, p. 8. *Newspapers.com*, Aline Strother. Accessed 1 Feb. 2023.

Image 24

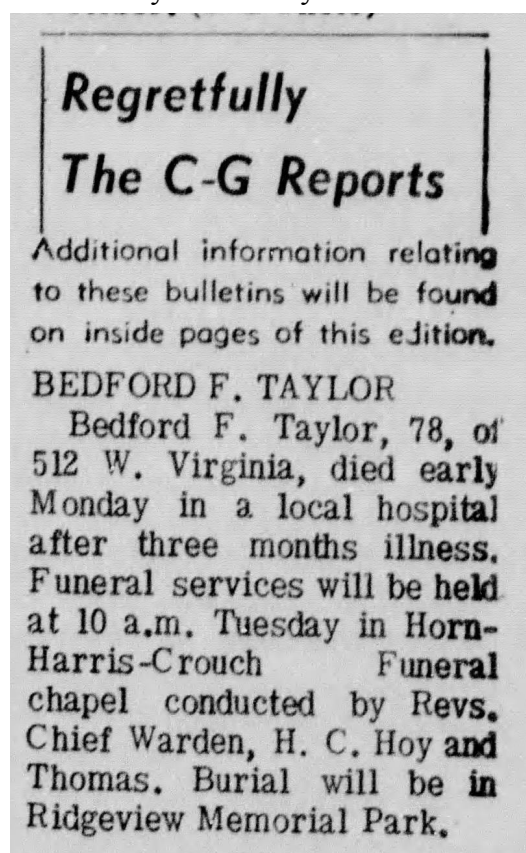
Mrs. Pearl Strother obituary.



Unknown. "Mrs. Pearl Strother Passes Away Early Monday Morning." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 2 Aug. 1956, p. 4. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 3 Feb. 2023.

Image 25

Bedford Taylor obituary. Bedford and Ruby Taylor purchased 512 W. Virginia in the 1950's.



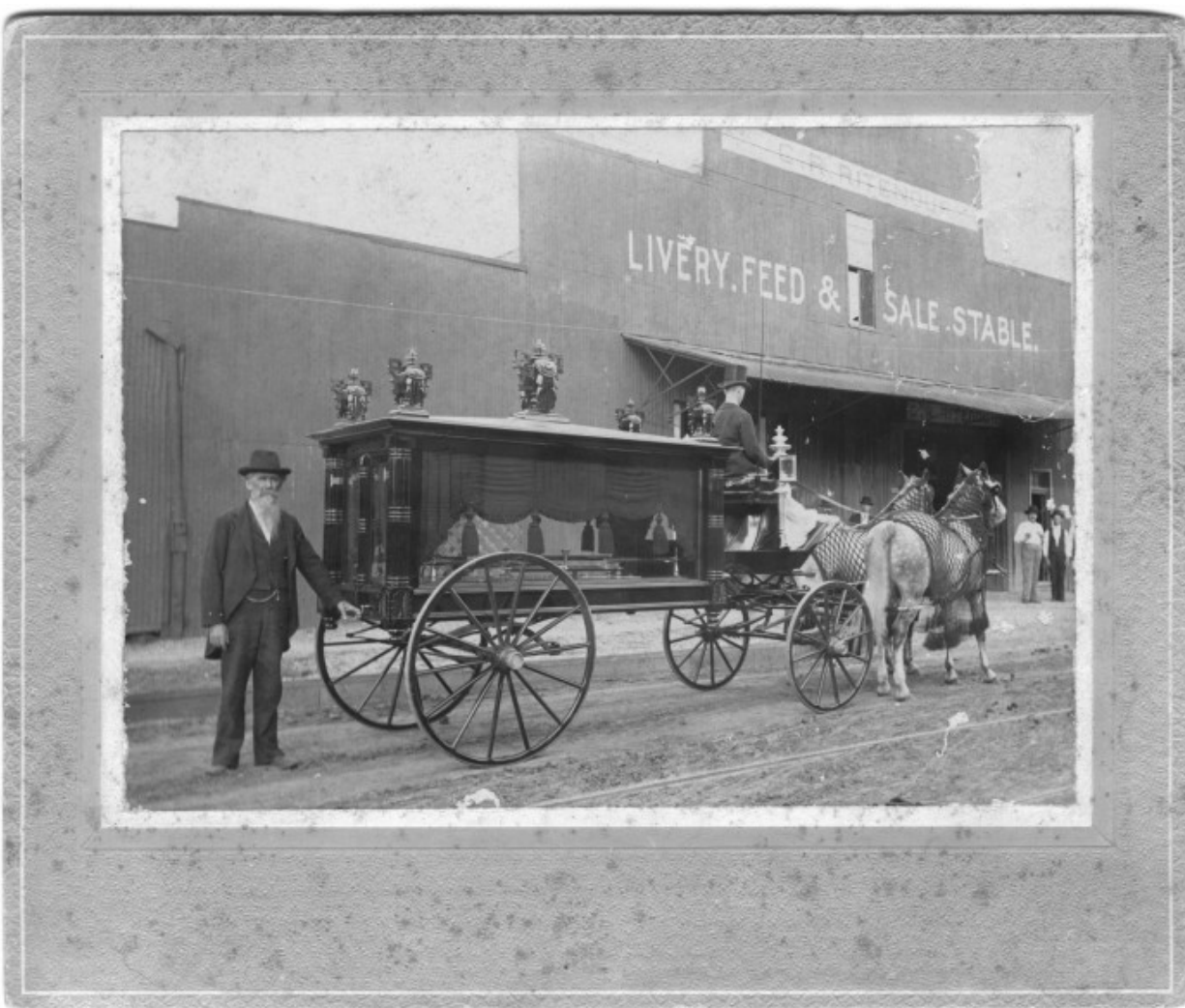
Unknown. "Regretfully the C-G Reports." *The Courier-Gazette*, 5 Oct. 1970, p. 1. *Newspapers.com*, Bedford Taylor. Accessed 10 Dec. 2022.

Additional Image

Image 26

JP Crouch purchased the land in 1882 from the Moores.

“Undertaker (perhaps J.P. Crouch) with horse drawn hearse, in front of C. R. Ritenour, Livery, Feed & Sale Store, Chestnut St, somewhere between 1880 and 1900. The undertaker is adjusting the gas lights on the carriage. The horses have fly netting on.”



Works Cited

- “Bungalow.” *Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP)*, 25 Sept. 2017,
<https://dahp.wa.gov/historic-preservation/historic-buildings/architectural-style-guide/bungalow#:~:text=Promotional%20literature%20in%20the%20early,in%20a%20two%2Dstory%20house.>
- Collin County Genealogical Society. *Collin Chronicles*, Volume 41, Number 2, 2020/2021, periodical, 2021~; Plano, Texas.
 (https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth1457265/m1/61/?q=davis%20survey: accessed March 29, 2023), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, https://texashistory.unt.edu; crediting Collin County Genealogical Society.
- David, Hodnefield. “FIMO - How to Interpret Sanborn Maps.” *Historical Information Gatherers*, 22 June 2017,
[http://www.historicalinfo.com/fimo-interpret-sanborn-maps/#RProperties.](http://www.historicalinfo.com/fimo-interpret-sanborn-maps/#RProperties)
- G, Laura. “Craftsman Style Guide - Glendale, California.” *The City of Glendale California*, 2 Jan. 2007, <https://www.glendaleca.gov/home/showdocument?id=12690>.
- Unknown. “J.P. Crouch with Hearse, at C. R. Ritenour, Livery, Feed & Sale Store.” *The Portal to Texas History*, UNT Library, Richardson, Texas, 21 July 2006,
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth15453/?q=J.%20P.%20Crouch%20>.
 Accessed 1 Nov. 2022.
- Walsh, W.C. “Collin County Texas.” *Texas General Land Office*, August Gast and Company, 1895, pp. 1–1. *Prairies and Lakes*.

Pearl Gibson: Ordinarily Extraordinary



*"Woman County Clerk of Collin ."
McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette,
5 Jan. 1933, p. 10. Newspapers.com*

Pearl Gibson Strother is a woman who defied the constraints of her time and created a life for herself that few women of the early 20th century could hope to achieve.

During her lifetime Pearl attended college, built her own home, and served as an elected county official. While these achievements may seem ubiquitous in 2023, in the early 1900's these undertakings were rarely attempted let alone achieved by a woman.

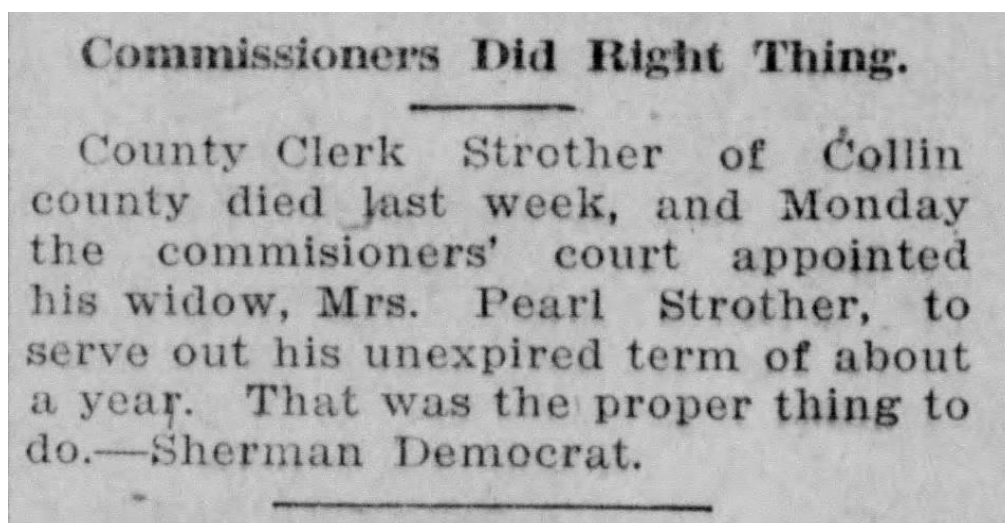
A lifelong resident of Collin County, Pearl was born in 1873 to John and Francis Gibson of Melissa, Texas. She attended the public schools offered in Melissa and after graduating she continued her studies in Sherman, Texas at Mary Nash College. While her specific focus of study is not known, the college is most well known for its emphasis on language and fine arts. Higher learning institutions like the Mary Nash College were an alternative for women seeking to further their education. During the late 1880's roughly 46% of US colleges and universities accepted female scholars. Colleges like Mary Nash afforded young women the opportunity to pursue scholastic endeavors otherwise inherently prohibited due to their gender.

The records of Pearl's life from 1894 - 1909 are sparse at best and nonexistent at worst. County registries, census data, and birth records were used to sparse together a general timeline of what her life was like. On June 20th, 1894, at the age of 22 she married George Edgar "Bub" Strother. The pair had four daughters; Ailene, Verna, Inez, and Lena.

The census from 1910 indicates that the family lived on North Bradley Street in McKinney, Texas. Unfortunately, the census taker did not provide a house number to accompany the street name information, but it is noted that Pearl was a homemaker and husband George was a clerk. In fact, he was more than just a clerk; in 1910 George had won the election for Collin County Clerk.

Tragedy struck Pearl's young family on December 5, 1913 when her beloved husband George Edgar Strother unexpectedly died. While George had been ill for sometime, it was perceived to be an ailment he was coping with. The entire community was stunned by his death. A local newspaper noted that on the day of his passing George was working in his office and chatting with friends.

Pearl had little time to mourn her husband as just days after his death she would be appointed to fill the remaining one year term of his elected County Clerk position. This appointment, while convenient and not uncommon, was hotly debated in the conservative state of Texas with both sides of the aisle arguing whether or not women should be allowed to hold elected positions. Regardless, Pearl would now be thrust into a workforce where her value would be belied and conversely relied upon by the same faction of men who doubted her abilities.



Unknown. "Commissioner's Did the Right Thing." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 18 Dec. 1913, p. 10. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

To further understand the controversy surrounding Pearl's position as Collin County Clerk, it is important to remember that women in the United States were not permitted to vote until August of 1920. Pearl would be filling the position of an elected official 7 years prior to the day she herself could cast a vote. The collocation of the right to vote vs. the right to hold elected positions is bizarre by modern standards. How is that a woman, seen as unworthy to vote, could fill an elected position? None-the-less this contradiction was now the burden of Mrs. Pearl Strother.

Immediately following the death of her husband Pearl transitioned from a home-maker to a newly widowed woman raising four children, and fulfilling the duties of an elected county official. The irony in the expectation of women in 1913 vs. the reality that Pearl faced must have not been lost on her. Newspaper articles like one titled "Woman is Appointed Collin County Clerk" were juxtaposed next to advertisements titled, "Household Duties and Family Cares Severely Tax a Woman's Strength." Upon reflection, and from a 21st Century lens, the predicament society had placed Pearl in was playing out like a farce, yet this was the reality that she would fulfill with great success.

HOUSE HOLD DUTIES AND FAMILY CARES
severely tax a woman's strength
and when wife or mother complains of fatigue, nervousness, loss of appetite or energy, she needs rest, out-of-door exercise and building up.
The first thought should be Scott's Emulsion, which is medicinal food free from alcohol or narcotics. Its nourishing force quickly fills hollow cheeks, builds healthy tissue, enriches the blood, restores the healthy glow, overcomes languor and makes tranquil nerves.
Nothing equals or compares with Scott's Emulsion for just such conditions, but insist on SCOTT'S. At any drug store. 13-114

VERNON, Tex., Dec. 8.—A portion of the Frisco bridge across the Red River near Vernon, which was washed away Wednesday, it was stated today, would be sufficiently repaired probably by tonight to allow trains to pass.

WOMAN IS COUNTY CLERK.
MCKINNEY, Tex., Dec. 8.—The Commissioners' Court this morning appointed Mrs. Pearl Strother as clerk of Collin County to fill out the unexpired term of her husband, George E. Strother, deceased.

THEY RAISE FINE HOGS.
BRENNHAM, Tex., Dec. 8.—William Wehmeyer, a successful farmer of the Salem community, brought two hogs to Brenham that he sold to a local butcher for 8 cents a pound, netting him \$62. Farmers of Washington County are successful hog raisers and are only waiting for cold weather to slaughter the hogs and save the meat.

FIRSCO FREIGHT WRECKED.
PARIS, Tex., Dec. 8.—A Frisco freight train was wrecked near Hugo, Okla., this forenoon, causing considerable property damage.

FIRE DAMAGES RESIDENCE.
A small frame residence belonging to J. P. Schneider at the alley between First and Second Street near Guadalupe Street, was partly destroyed by fire shortly after 3 o'clock last night. The origin of the fire is unknown.

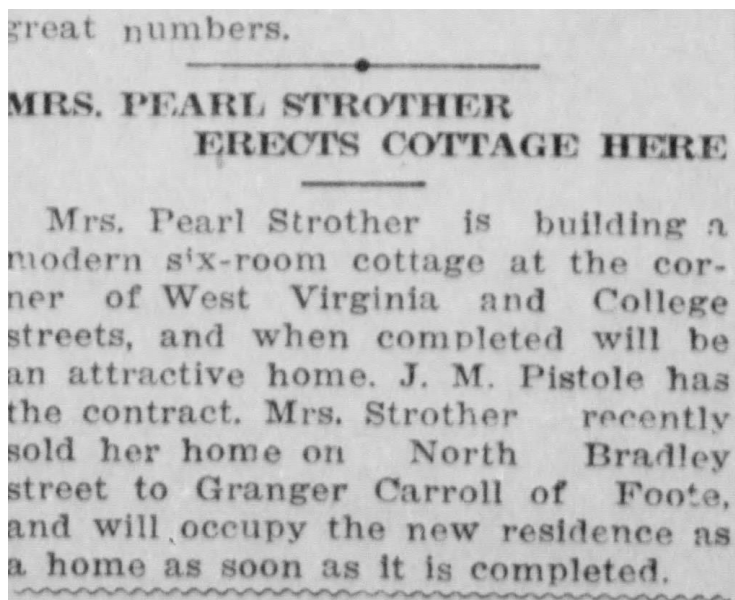
Austin American-Statesman, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3.

Newspapers.com, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

In 1914, upon completion of her husband's term as County Clerk, Pearl assumed the role of deputy clerk in the same office. She would dutifully serve the role of deputy county clerk for many years.

By 1917 the landscape of American life was changing nearly as quickly as Pearl's personal life. The United States entered World War I and the financial, social, and political ramifications would be felt across the nations. Despite the war and death of the family patriarch, life for the Strother women marched on. Verna and Aline were attending the North Texas Teachers College while Inez and Lena were finishing up highschool in McKinney. Later in life, all four Strother women would spend some time as educators for the McKinney Independent School District. Their successes are a true testament to their mother's perseverance and strong female example.

As 1919 came to a close, Pearl would set out on yet another journey unfamiliar to most of her sex. Pearl was going to not only move, but build her own modern bungalow within two blocks from the McKinney city center.



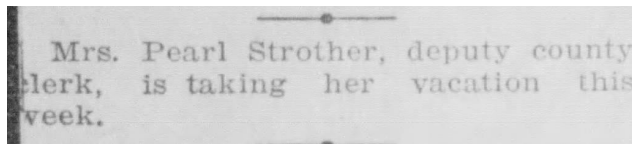
A newspaper clipping detailing Mrs. Pearl Strothers new home.

Source: Unknown. "Mrs. Pearl Strother Erects Cottage Here ." *The Courier-Gazette*, 20 Nov. 1919, p. 1, <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/115819642/pearl-builds-house/>. Accessed 11 Jan. 2023.

It was not until the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 that women were granted the right to take out a home loan without the co-signature of a qualified male. Despite her many years serving in the County Clerk's office, Pearl, as with most Americans, did not have the fiduciary wherewithal to subsidize the purchase of her own home. As a work around to this archaic discrimination, Pearl's brother and sister in law, Mr. J. E. Gibson and Mrs. Clara Gibson purchased the home on W. Virginia from Mr. W.C. Gray. Then, Pearl Strother took a personal loan from a wealthy friend and neighbor, Mrs. Brannon of N. Bradley Street. She then used this loan to buy the home and property from her brother. All-in-all it was quite a convoluted process for anyone to go through, but the constraints of the time forced Pearl to make the necessary concessions.

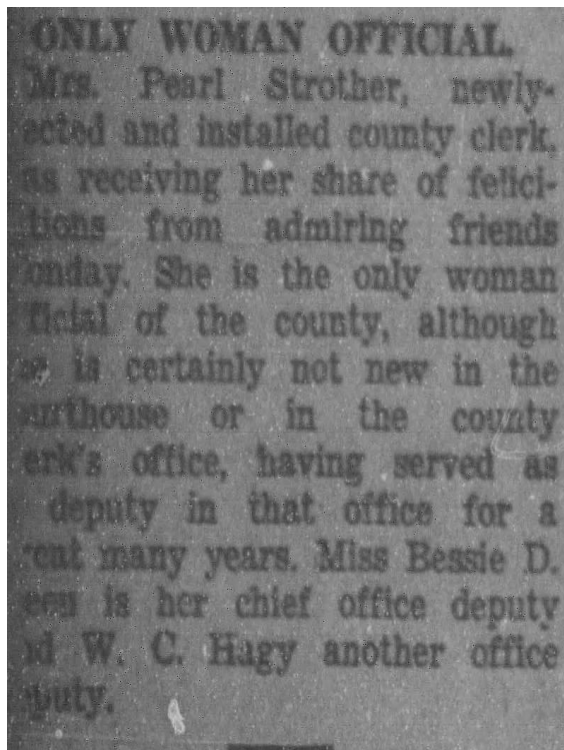
Pearl contracted with a popular local builder, JM Pistole and construction of her new modern bungalow began in late 1919. Again, like many facets of her life thus far, this undertaking would not be as cut and dry of a process as it is for many women today.

Newspapers from 1920-1930 documented her local travel, visitors, illness, and social goings-on. From this information it is safe to say Pearl was an active and appreciated member of the McKinney. This type of journalism was not uncommon for the era and served as a form of pseudo social media.



"Personals." *The Courier-Gazette*, 27 July 1920.

After serving her community as a deputy clerk for over 15 years she took the step to further her career. In mid September of 1932, Pearl won the Democratic National Committee primary election for Collin County Clerk. Her name would appear on the November ballot as an endorsed candidate. After thanking her constituents in the local paper for their support, Pearl embarked on a campaign endorsing her many qualifications for the elected position. Once again, Pearl was redefining the role of a woman in not only her community, but local government.



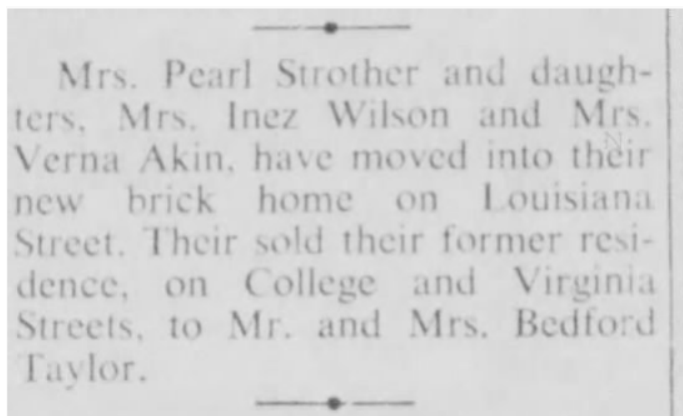
The local and national political nominations of 1933 were transformational for women serving in political leadership roles. Nationally, Minnie Davenport Craig (R-ND) became the first woman to hold the position of speaker of the House in a state legislature and Frances Perkins became the first woman ever to serve in a presidential cabinet. And locally, Pearl Strother won her bid for County Clerk. In early January of 1933 she officially became the only woman serving as an elected official in Collin County.

Pearl dutifully served the Collin County community for the next 4 consecutive terms. In 1936 she left the role of county clerk and resumed her prior position as deputy clerk. Pearl held this position until her retirement later in life.

"Only Woman Official."

McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette, 5 Jan. 1933, p. 10.
Newspapers.com, Pearl Strother. Accessed 10 Aug. 2022

The 1940's appears to have been filled with illness and heartache. Various newspaper sources list Pearl as in and out of the hospital several times. It is during this time that she lost two of her daughters. In 1944 her youngest daughter Lena passed on. Then, in 1947 her eldest daughter Aline died.



Unknown. *The Courier-Gazette*, 3 Oct. 1955.

The 1950's would ring in yet another change for Pearl. She along with her daughter Inez Wilson, and Mrs. Verna Akin would begin construction of another home in McKinney to be shared by all three parties. The home, a beautiful red-brick colonial revival, is located at 407 W. Louisiana St. in McKinney, Texas.

Sadly, Pearl was only able to enjoy her new home for about a year. On July 30th, 1956 the city of McKinney lost Pearl Strother.

Pearl Gibson Strother lived the most ordinarily extraordinary life. It is the memory of the everyday whose story is often lost in the sepia of faded images and packed away in the back of dusty attics.

It is my hope that by reading this story, the reader may be able to uncover stories of their own packed away in plastic bins waiting to be retold.

Images & Newspaper Clippings

Lena Strother Chapman



North Texas State Teachers College, *Yucca* (Denton, Texas: 1922), U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1265/images/1265_b926601-00100?pId=1383447333, accessed on 10 Dec. 2022

Inez Strother McKinney



Unknown. *Inez Strother Wilson* . <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/33209765/inez-wilson>.

WOMAN IS COUNTY CLERK.
 McKINNEY, Tex., Dec. 8.—The Commissioners' Court this morning appointed Mrs. Pearl Strother as clerk of Collin County to fill out the unexpired term of her husband, George E. Strother, deceased.

Unknown. "Woman Is County Clerk ." *Austin American-Statesman*, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Widow Succeeds Husband.
 McKinney, Texas.—At the regular monthly meeting of the commissioners' court, held here Monday, Mrs. Pearl Strother was unanimously chosen county clerk to succeed her husband, who died last week. She will serve out his unexpired term of about one year. Mrs. Strother will take charge of the office at once.

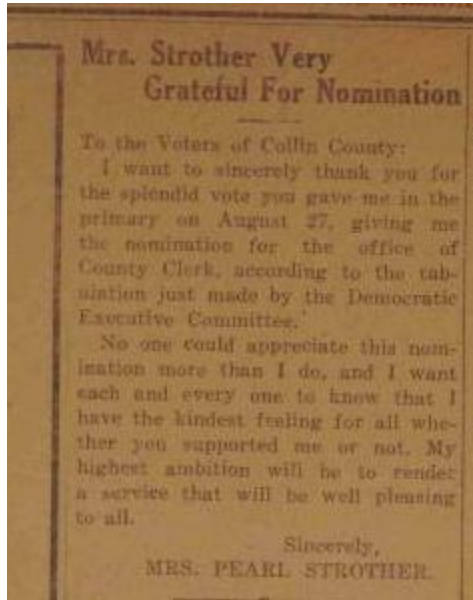
Unknown. "Widow Succeeds Husband." *The Granbury News*, 13 Dec. 1913, p. 2. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

ANOTHER TEXAS WOMAN HAS PUBLIC RECOGNITION

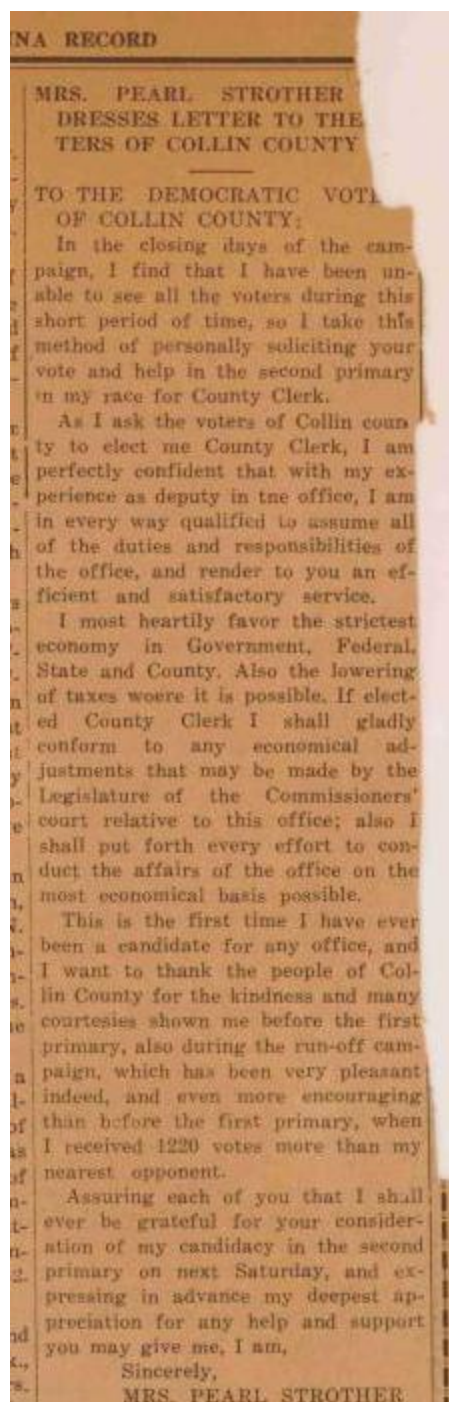
Almost daily the state press gives notice of some Texas woman who has appointment to public office. One of the last to be placed in responsible position is Mrs. Anderson, whose husband died last month while at the head of one of the girls' schools in Sherman. Immediately the board decided that Mrs. Anderson should assume the responsibility.

Almost the next day it was heard from McKinney that the county clerk having died, his wife, Mrs. Pearl Strother, is appointed by the county commissioners to fill his unexpired term. One by one, and in various channels, the ability of the Texas woman in business receives endorsement.

Unknown. "Another Texas Woman Receives Public Recognition." *Waco Morning News*, 14 Dec. 1913, p. 14. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.



Strother, Pearl. "Mrs. Strother Grateful For Splendid Vote." *The Celina Record*, 8 Sept. 1932, p. 10. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapht773916/m1/3/?q=strother>. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.



Strother, Pearl. "Mrs. Strother Grateful For Splendid Vote." *The Celina Record*, 4 Aug. 1932, p. 10. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph773499/m1/2/?q=strother>. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.



Unknown. "Woman County Clerk of Collin ." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 5 Jan. 1933, p. 10. *Newspapers.com* , Pearl Strother County Clerk .

**Candidate
Second Term**



MRS. PEARL STROTHER
County Clerk of Collin County

For Second Term

Mrs. Pearl Strother Announces For Re-election As County Clerk

Mrs. Pearl Strother places her announcement in the Daily Courier-Gazette and Weekly Democrat-Gazette for re-election to the County Clerkship of this county for her second term.

It is unnecessary for this paper to say anything at length by way of introduction concerning this native born Collin lady and popular county official. But, suffice it to say that she is the daughter of the late John F. and Fannie Gibson and a granddaughter of the late J. M. Graves, all revered pioneer Melissa citizens of the highest type.

Mrs. Strother attended public schools at Melissa, graduated from Mary Nash college, Sherman, and taught school up until the time of her marriage to the late George E. Strother, former County Clerk who died in office about twenty years ago.

Mrs. Strother applied herself, as a business and office woman, to the responsibility of rearing and educating her fatherless children.

She served as Deputy County Clerk with diligence that the voters of the county elected her to that post of honor in 1932. She has therefore just commenced on her second year in the office to which she has given her entire time and most diligent and courteous attention, getting to the office early and remaining to the latest closing moment.

She and her deputies spare no effort or labor in discharging her official duties with utmost celerity, accuracy and thoroughness and with unfailing courtesy towards every taxpayer or person having business of any nature with and in the County Clerk's office. She knows every detail of her official duty, its routine and procedure required of its incumbent. She enjoys serving the public and always takes pleasure in meeting those coming into her office in the courthouse and assisting them in a cheerful, obliging and efficient way in meeting their requirements.

Mrs. Strother respectfully asks your support for a second term on the basis of her record for proven competency and satisfactory service already demonstrated in the place.

She is most grateful to each and all voters who cast their ballots for her for the first term and has nothing but the kindest of feelings towards even those who exercised their undeniable right of voting for another. Partiality or special favors have never been shown by her to anyone above another regardless of station in life or previous political alignment, but each and all have shared alike on an equal basis to her utmost official service.

She takes this method of thanking all for the honor conferred upon her in nominating and electing her to her present term and she has striven to express that appreciation in the most efficient and satisfactory service of which she is capable.

She hopes to have your endorsement and support in the time honored Democratic custom of re-election to a second term where the official has demonstrated his or her capability and worthiness. On these tests, she confidently rests her claims for the office with you in the primary election to be held on July 28, next.

She intends this newspaper announcement to convey both her gratitude for her former election and a solicitation for your influence and continued friendship in the present race.

We commend, without reservation whatever, Mrs. Strother to you as worthy of your confidence as a public servant and your earnest consideration when you come to vote for county clerk.

Unknown. "For Second Term ." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette* , 8 Feb. 1934, p. 4. *The Portal to Texas History*,
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph191373/m1/4/?q=pearl%20strother>. Accessed 10 Aug. 2022.

Mrs. Pearl Strother Passes Away Early Monday Morning

Mrs. Pearl Strother, 83, passed away at 6 o'clock Monday morning in the City-County Hospital after several days illness. Funeral services were held at 4 p. m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church, of which she was a member, conducted by Dr. Charles E. Myers, pastor, with burial in Pecan Grove Cemetery. Crouch-Moore Funeral Home had charge of arrangements.

She was born April 5, 1873 in Melissa Collin County the daughter of John F. and Frances Graves Gibson. She attended public school in Melissa and Mary Nash College, in Sherman. Mrs. Strother served as County Clerk of Collin County from 1932 to 1936. She had formerly served the unexpired term of her husband, George E. Strother, who died while in that office, and for many years she was also a deputy in the office.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Inez Wilson and Mrs. Verna Akin, both of McKinney; a sister, Mrs. Aurel Belden of McKinney; a brother, W. M. Gibson, of Melissa and a number of other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, two daughters, Mrs. Aline McKinney and Mrs. Lena Chapman; three sisters and four brothers.

Mrs. Strother was one of McKinney's most beloved women. Her enhancing smile, kindly disposition and charming personality won for her a friend of every acquaintance, both in public and private life, and she was faithful in the activities of her church.

Pallbearers will be nephews of Mrs. Strother as follows: L. R. Gibson, John R. Gibson, John E. Webb, W. M. Gibson Jr., John W. Gibson, Raymond G. Belden, Dow Rattan and James H. Strother.

Unknown. "Mrs. Pearl Strother Passes Away Early Monday Morning." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 2 Aug. 1956, p. 4. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 3 Feb. 2023.

L 21-NOTE-With Vendor's Lien-(Series)

MARTIN STATIONERY CO., DALLAS. CLASS 2.

\$2,000.00 *No.* One, McKinney, Texas Nov. 17th A.D. 1919
 Three Years after date I promise to pay to
 Mrs. Lou Brannon, of McKinney, Texas or Order the sum of
 Two Thousand— Dollars
 with interest thereon from Date until paid at the rate of
 Eight per centum per annum the interest payable Annually
 as it accrues, both principal and interest payable at McKinney, Texas
 for value received. This Note is given in
 part payment for a certain lot or parcel of land situated in
 County of Collin, State of Texas, within the city of McKinney, being
 part of the William Davis Survey, Beginning in the W. Line thereof at the
 intersection of the North line of Virginia St. with the west line of the
 Davis Survey; Thence North 100 ft a Boisdore stake; Thence East 75 ft a
 Boisdore stake; thence south 100 ft a stake on the North line of Virginia
 St; Thence West 75 ft to the place of beginning.

this day conveyed to Pearl Strother
 by J. E. Gibson and wife and to
 secure the payment of same according to the tenor hereof a Vendor's Lien is
 retained in said conveyance, and is hereby acknowledged.
 All past due interest on this Note shall bear interest at the rate of Eight
 per centum per annum after the annual maturity thereof.

This Note is one of a series of One similar notes this day given
 by Pearl Strother as part of the
 purchase price for said above mentioned property, and it is understood and
 agreed that failure to pay this Note, or any installment of interest hereon
 when due, shall at the election of the holder of all of said series of Notes, or
 of any one of them, mature all the said Notes and they shall become at once
 due and payable, and the Vendor's Lien herein mentioned shall become
 subject to foreclosure proceedings as the holder may elect.

And it is hereby specially agreed that if this Note is placed in the hands of
 an Attorney for collection, or if collected by suit or through the Probate Court
 I agree to pay ten per cent. additional on the principal and interest
 then due thereon, as Attorney's fees.

It is hereby agreed and understood that all
 or any part of this note may be paid on any
 interest paying date.

Consideration		When Due	
Cash \$		Month	Day Year
500	00	Nov.	1922
Note No. 1 \$	2000	00	
Note No. 2 \$			
Note No. 3 \$			
Note No. 4 \$			
Note No. 5 \$			
Note No. 6 \$			
Total \$	2500	00	

Pearl Strother
 J. E. Gibson

Loan documentation detailing the personal loan from Mrs. Brannon.

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Strother, Pearl. “Mrs. Strother Grateful For Splendid Vote.” *The Celina Record*, 8 Sept. 1932, p. 10. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapht773916/m1/3/?q=strother>. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Texas, U.S., Select County Marriage Records, 1837-1965, Ancestry.com, subscription service, Marriage certificate for “Pearl Gibson and G E Strather.”

Unknown. *Austin American-Statesman*, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Unknown. “Commissioner's Did the Right Thing.” *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 18 Dec. 1913, p. 10. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Unknown. “For Second Term .” *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 8 Feb. 1934, p. 4. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapht191373/m1/4/?q=pearl%20strother>. Accessed 10 Aug. 2022.

Unknown. “Geo E. Strother Called By Death .” *The Courier-Gazette*, 11 Dec. 1913, p. 9.

Unknown. *Inez Strother Wilson*. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/33209765/inez-wilson>.

Unknown. “Mrs. Pearl Strother Erects Cottage Here .” *The Courier-Gazette*, 20 Nov. 1919, p. 1, <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/115819642/pearl-builds-house/>. Accessed 11 Jan. 2023.

Unknown. “Mrs. Pearl Strother Passes Away Early Monday Morning.” *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 2 Aug. 1956, p. 4. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 3 Feb. 2023.

Unknown. *The Courier-Gazette*, 3 Oct. 1955.

Unknown. "Woman County Clerk of Collin ." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 5 Jan. 1933, p. 10. *Newspapers.com*

Unknown. "Woman Is County Clerk ." *Austin American-Statesman*, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Pearl Gibson: Ordinarily Extraordinary



*"Woman County Clerk of Collin ."
McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette,
5 Jan. 1933, p. 10. Newspapers.com*

Pearl Gibson Strother is a woman who defied the constraints of her time and created a life for herself that few women of the early 20th century could hope to achieve.

During her lifetime Pearl attended college, built her own home, and served as an elected county official. While these achievements may seem ubiquitous in 2023, in the early 1900's these undertakings were rarely attempted let alone achieved by a woman.

A lifelong resident of Collin County, Pearl was born in 1873 to John and Francis Gibson of Melissa, Texas. She attended the public schools offered in Melissa and after graduating she continued her studies in Sherman, Texas at Mary Nash College. While her specific focus of study is not known, the college is most well known for its emphasis on language and fine arts. Higher learning institutions like the Mary Nash College were an alternative for women seeking to further their education. During the late 1880's roughly 46% of US colleges and universities accepted female scholars. Colleges like Mary Nash afforded young women the opportunity to pursue scholastic endeavors otherwise inherently prohibited due to their gender.

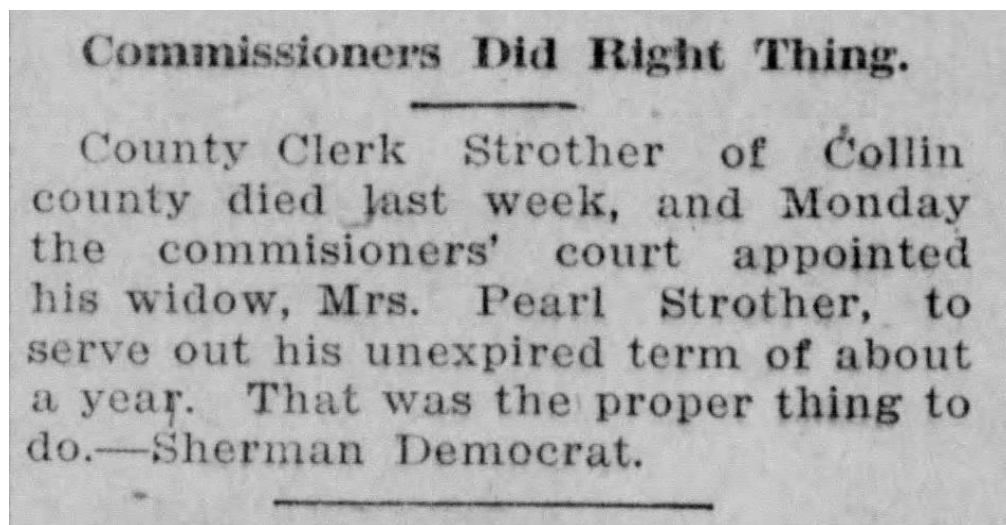
The records of Pearl's life from 1894 - 1909 are sparse at best and nonexistent at worst. County registries, census data, and birth records were used to sparse together a general timeline of what her life was like. On June 20th, 1894, at the age of 22 she married George Edgar "Bub" Strother. The pair had four daughters; Ailene, Verna, Inez, and Lena.

The census from 1910 indicates that the family lived on North Bradley Street in McKinney, Texas. Unfortunately, the census taker did not provide a house number to accompany the street name information, but it is noted that Pearl was a homemaker and husband George was a clerk. In fact, he was more than just a clerk; in 1910 George had won the election for Collin County Clerk.

Tragedy struck Pearl's young family on December 5, 1913 when her beloved husband George Edgar Strother unexpectedly died. While George had been ill for sometime, it was perceived to be an ailment he was coping with. The entire community was stunned by his death. A local

newspaper noted that on the day of his passing George was working in his office and chatting with friends.

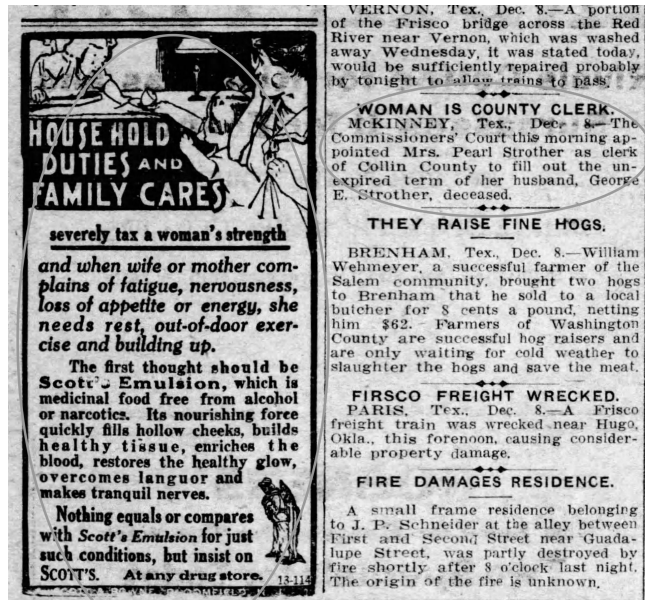
Pearl had little time to mourn her husband as just days after his death she would be appointed to fill the remaining one year term of his elected County Clerk position. This appointment, while convenient and not uncommon, was hotly debated in the conservative state of Texas with both sides of the aisle arguing whether or not women should be allowed to hold elected positions. Regardless, Pearl would now be thrust into a workforce where her value would be belied and conversely relied upon by the same faction of men who doubted her abilities.



Unknown. "Commissioner's Did the Right Thing." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 18 Dec. 1913, p. 10. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

To further understand the controversy surrounding Pearl's position as Collin County Clerk, it is important to remember that women in the United States were not permitted to vote until August of 1920. Pearl would be filling the position of an elected official 7 years prior to the day she herself could cast a vote. The collocation of the right to vote vs. the right to hold elected positions is bizarre by modern standards. How is that a woman, seen as unworthy to vote, could fill an elected position? None-the-less this contradiction was now the burden of Mrs. Pearl Strother.

Immediately following the death of her husband Pearl transitioned from a home-maker to a newly widowed woman raising four children, and fulfilling the duties of an elected county official. The irony in the expectation of women in 1913 vs. the reality that Pearl faced must have not been lost on her. Newspaper articles like one titled “Woman is Appointed Collin County Clerk” were juxtaposed next to advertisements titled, “Household Duties and Family Cares Severely Tax a Woman’s Strength.” Upon reflection, and from a 21st Century lens, the predicament society had placed Pearl in was playing out like a farce, yet this was the reality that she would fulfill with great success.



HOUSEHOLD DUTIES AND FAMILY CARES
severely tax a woman's strength
and when wife or mother complains of fatigue, nervousness, loss of appetite or energy, she needs rest, out-of-door exercise and building up.
The first thought should be Scott's Emulsion, which is medicinal food free from alcohol or narcotics. Its nourishing force quickly fills hollow cheeks, builds healthy tissue, enriches the blood, restores the healthy glow, overcomes languor and makes tranquil nerves.
Nothing equals or compares with Scott's Emulsion for just such conditions, but insist on SCOTT'S. At any drug store.

VERNON, Tex., Dec. 8.—A portion of the Frisco bridge across the Red River near Vernon, which was washed away Wednesday, it was stated today, would be sufficiently repaired probably by tonight to allow trains to pass.

WOMAN IS COUNTY CLERK.
MCKINNEY, Tex., Dec. 8.—The Commissioners' Court this morning appointed Mrs. Pearl Strother as clerk of Collin County to fill out the unexpired term of her husband, George E. Strother, deceased.

THEY RAISE FINE HOGS.
BRENHAM, Tex., Dec. 8.—William Wehmeyer, a successful farmer of the Salem community, brought two hogs to Brenham that he sold to a local butcher for 8 cents a pound, netting him \$62. Farmers of Washington County are successful hog raisers and are only waiting for cold weather to slaughter the hogs and save the meat.

FRISCO FREIGHT WRECKED.
PARIS, Tex., Dec. 8.—A Frisco freight train was wrecked near Hugo, Okla., this forenoon, causing considerable property damage.

FIRE DAMAGES RESIDENCE.
A small frame residence belonging to J. P. Schneider at the alley between First and Second Street near Guadalupe Street, was partly destroyed by fire shortly after 8 o'clock last night. The origin of the fire is unknown.

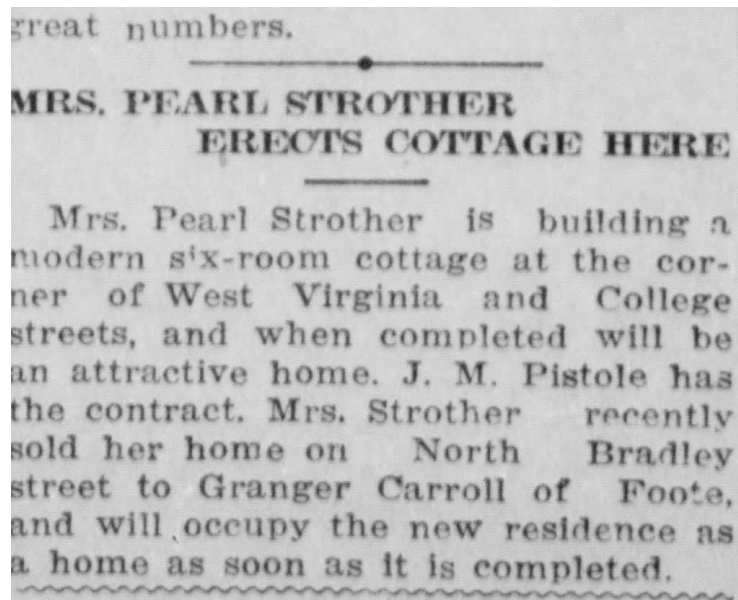
Austin American-Statesman, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3.

Newspapers.com, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

In 1914, upon completion of her husband's term as County Clerk, Pearl assumed the role of deputy clerk in the same office. She would dutifully serve the role of deputy county clerk for many years.

By 1917 the landscape of American life was changing nearly as quickly as Pearl's personal life. The United States entered World War I and the financial, social, and political ramifications would be felt across the nations. Despite the war and death of the family patriarch, life for the Strother women marched on. Verna and Aline were attending the North Texas Teachers College while Inez and Lena were finishing up highschool in McKinney. Later in life, all four Strother women would spend some time as educators for the McKinney Independent School District. Their successes are a true testament to their mother's perseverance and strong female example.

As 1919 came to a close, Pearl would set out on yet another journey unfamiliar to most of her sex. Pearl was going to not only move, but build her own modern bungalow within two blocks from the McKinney city center.



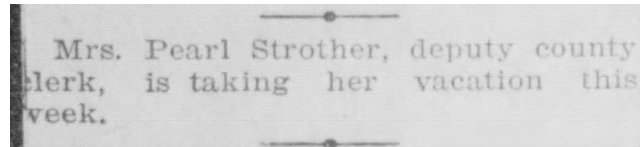
A newspaper clipping detailing Mrs. Pearl Strothers new home.

*Source: Unknown. "Mrs. Pearl Strother Erects Cottage Here ."
The Courier-Gazette, 20 Nov. 1919, p. 1,
<https://www.newspapers.com/clip/115819642/pearl-builds-house/>.
Accessed 11 Jan. 2023.*

It was not until the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974 that women were granted the right to take out a home loan without the co-signature of a qualified male. Despite her many years serving in the County Clerk's office, Pearl, as with most Americans, did not have the fiduciary wherewithal to subsidize the purchase of her own home. As a work around to this archaic discrimination, Pearl's brother and sister in law, Mr. J. E. Gibson and Mrs. Clara Gibson purchased the home on W. Virginia from Mr. W.C. Gray. Then, Pearl Strother took a personal loan from a wealthy friend and neighbor, Mrs. Brannon of N. Bradley Street. She then used this loan to buy the home and property from her brother. All-in-all it was quite a convoluted process for anyone to go through, but the constraints of the time forced Pearl to make the necessary concessions.

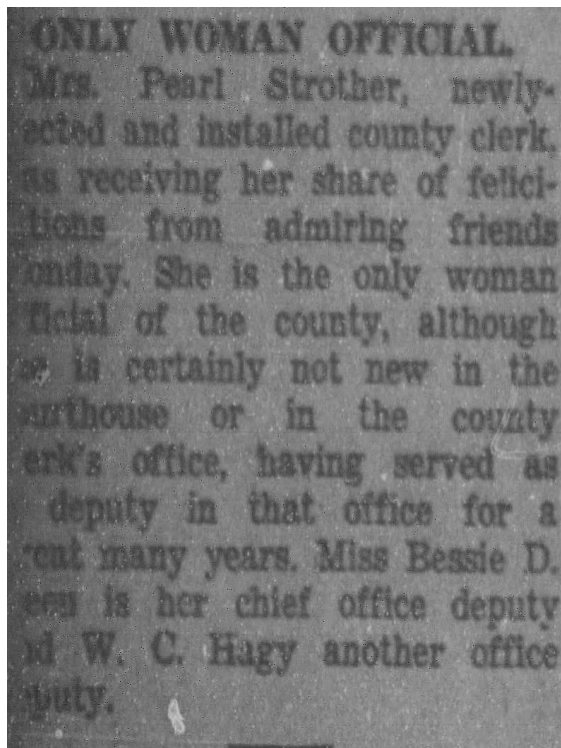
Pearl contracted with a popular local builder, JM Pistole and construction of her new modern bungalow began in late 1919. Again, like many facets of her life thus far, this undertaking would not be as cut and dry of a process as it is for many women today.

Newspapers from 1920-1930 documented her local travel, visitors, illness, and social goings-on. From this information it is safe to say Pearl was an active and appreciated member of the McKinney. This type of journalism was not uncommon for the era and served as a form of pseudo social media.



“Personals.” *The Courier-Gazette*, 27 July 1920.

After serving her community as a deputy clerk for over 15 years she took the step to further her career. In mid September of 1932, Pearl won the Democratic National Committee primary election for Collin County Clerk. Her name would appear on the November ballot as an endorsed candidate. After thanking her constituents in the local paper for their support, Pearl embarked on a campaign endorsing her many qualifications for the elected position. Once again, Pearl was redefining the role of a woman in not only her community, but local government.



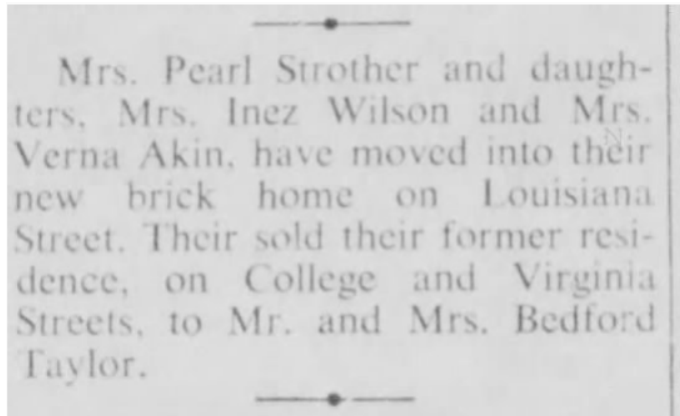
The local and national political nominations of 1933 were transformational for women serving in political leadership roles. Nationally, Minnie Davenport Craig (R-ND) became the first woman to hold the position of speaker of the House in a state legislature and Frances Perkins became the first woman ever to serve in a presidential cabinet. And locally, Pearl Strother won her bid for County Clerk. In early January of 1933 she officially became the only woman serving as an elected official in Collin County.

Pearl dutifully served the Collin County community for the next 4 consecutive terms. In 1936 she left the role of county clerk and resumed her prior position as deputy clerk. Pearl held this position until her retirement later in life.

“Only Woman Official .”

McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette , 5 Jan. 1933, p. 10.
Newspapers.com, Pearl Strother. Accessed 10 Aug. 2022

The 1940's appears to have been filled with illness and heartache. Various newspaper sources list Pearl as in and out of the hospital several times. It is during this time that she lost two of her daughters. In 1944 her youngest daughter Lena passed on. Then, in 1947 her eldest daughter Aline died.



Unknown. *The Courier-Gazette*, 3 Oct. 1955.

The 1950's would ring in yet another change for Pearl. She along with her daughter Inez Wilson, and Mrs. Verna Akin would begin construction of another home in McKinney to be shared by all three parties. The home, a beautiful red-brick colonial revival, is located at 407 W. Louisiana St. in McKinney, Texas.

Sadly, Pearl was only able to enjoy her new home for about a year. On July 30th, 1956 the city of McKinney lost Pearl Strother.

Pearl Gibson Strother lived the most ordinarily extraordinary life. It is the memory of the everyday whose story is often lost in the sepia of faded images and packed away in the back of dusty attics.

It is my hope that by reading this story, the reader may be able to uncover stories of their own packed away in plastic bins waiting to be retold.

Supplemental Images & Newspaper Clippings

Lena Strother Chapman



North Texas State Teachers College, *Yucca* (Denton, Texas: 1922), U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900-2016,
https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1265/images/1265_b926601-00100?pId=1383447333, accessed on 10 Dec. 2022

Inez Strother McKinney



Unknown. *Inez Strother Wilson* . <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/33209765/inez-wilson>.

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Unknown. "Woman Is County Clerk ." *Austin American-Statesman*, 9 Dec. 1913, p. 3. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Widow Succeeds Husband.
McKinney, Texas.—At the regular monthly meeting of the commissioners' court, held here Monday, Mrs. Pearl Strother was unanimously chosen county clerk to succeed her husband, who died last week. She will serve out his unexpired term of about one year. Mrs. Strother will take charge of the office at once.

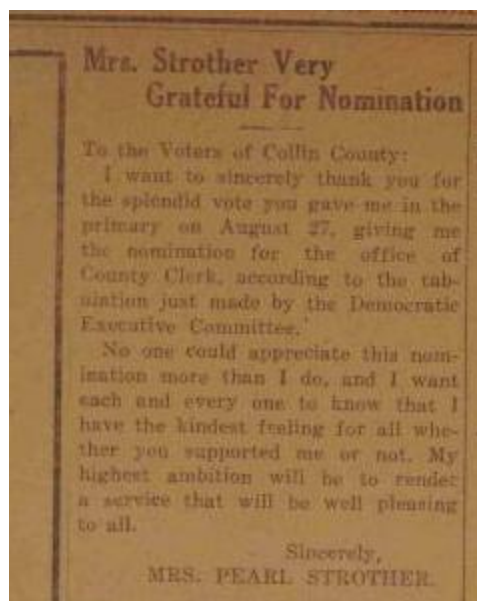
Unknown. "Widow Succeeds Husband." *The Granbury News*, 13 Dec. 1913, p. 2. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

ANOTHER TEXAS WOMAN HAS PUBLIC RECOGNITION

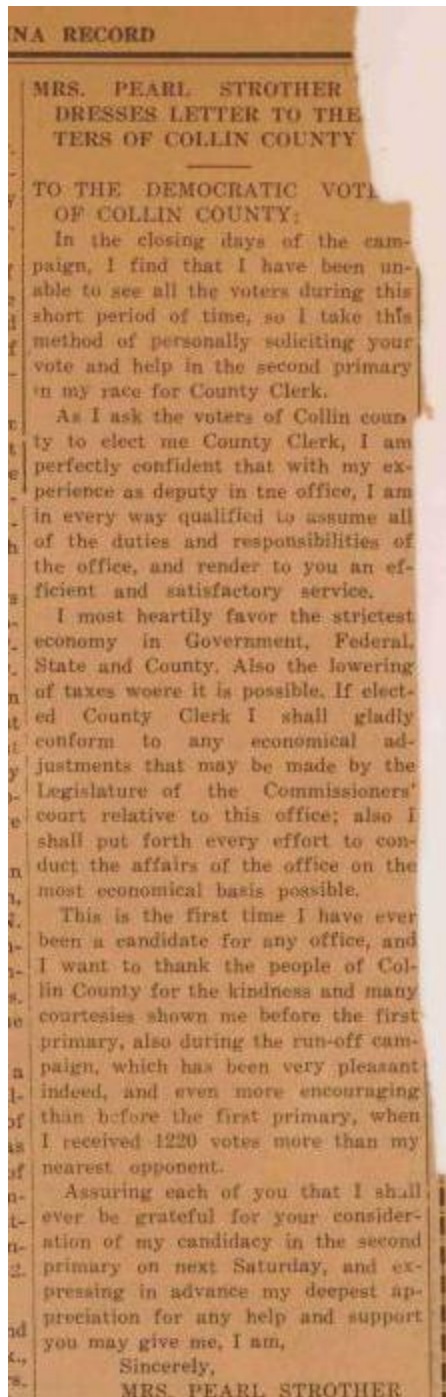
Almost daily the state press gives notice of some Texas woman who has appointment to public office. One of the last to be placed in responsible position is Mrs. Anderson, whose husband died last month while at the head of one of the girls' schools in Sherman. Immediately the board decided that Mrs. Anderson should assume the responsibility.

Almost the next day it was heard from McKinney that the county clerk having died, his wife, Mrs. Pearl Strother, is appointed by the county commissioners to fill his unexpired term. One by one, and in various channels, the ability of the Texas woman in business receives endorsement.

Unknown. "Another Texas Woman Receives Public Recognition." *Waco Morning News*, 14 Dec. 1913, p. 14. *Newspapers.com*, Pearl Strother. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.



Strother, Pearl. "Mrs. Strother Grateful For Splendid Vote." *The Celina Record*, 8 Sept. 1932, p. 10. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapht773916/m1/3/?q=strother>. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.



Strother, Pearl. "Mrs. Strother Grateful For Splendid Vote." *The Celina Record*, 4 Aug. 1932, p. 10. *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph773499/m1/2/?q=strother>. Accessed 8 Aug. 2022.

Woman County Clerk of Collin



MRS. PEARL STROTHER.

Assumed position as county clerk of Collin county on Jan. 1, 1933, for her first term. Her husband, the late George E. Strother, was serving in the same capacity when he died several years ago.

Unknown. "Woman County Clerk of Collin ." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette*, 5 Jan. 1933, p. 10. *Newspapers.com* , Pearl Strother County Clerk .

**Candidate
Second Term**



MRS. PEARL STROTHER
County Clerk of Collin County

For Second Term

Mrs. Pearl Strother Announces For Re-election As County Clerk

Mrs. Pearl Strother places her announcement in the Daily Courier-Gazette and Weekly Democrat-Gazette for re-election to the County Clerkship of this county for her second term.

It is unnecessary for this paper to say anything at length by way of introduction concerning this native born Collin lady and popular county official. But, suffice it to say that she is the daughter of the late John F. and Fannie Gibson and a granddaughter of the late J. M. Graves, all revered pioneer Melissa citizens of the highest type.

Mrs. Strother attended public schools at Melissa, graduated from Mary Nash college, Sherman, and taught school up until the time of her marriage to the late George E. Strother, former County Clerk who died in office about twenty years ago.

Mrs. Strother applied herself, as a business and office woman, to the responsibility of rearing and educating her fatherless children.

She served as Deputy County Clerk with diligence that the voters of the county elected her to that post of honor in 1932. She has therefore just commenced on her second year in the office to which she has given her entire time and most diligent and courteous attention, getting to the office early and remaining to the latest closing moment.

She and her deputies spare no effort or labor in discharging her official duties with utmost celerity, accuracy and thoroughness and with unfailing courtesy towards every taxpayer or person having business of any nature with and in the County Clerk's office. She knows every detail of her official duty, its routine and procedure required of its incumbent. She enjoys serving the public and always takes pleasure in meeting those coming into her office in the courthouse and assisting them in a cheerful, obliging and efficient way in meeting their requirements.

Mrs. Strother respectfully asks your support for a second term on the basis of her record for proven competency and satisfactory service already demonstrated in the place.

She is most grateful to each and all voters who cast their ballots for her for the first term and has nothing but the kindest of feelings towards even those who exercised their undeniable right of voting for another. Partiality or special favors have never been shown by her to anyone above another regardless of station in life or previous political alignment, but each and all have shared alike on an equal basis to her utmost official service.

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She hopes to have your endorsement and support in the time honored Democratic custom of re-election to a second term where the official has demonstrated his or her capability and worthiness. On these tests, she confidently rests her claims for the office with you in the primary election to be held on July 28, next.

She intends this newspaper announcement to convey both her gratitude for her former election and a solicitation for your influence and continued friendship in the present race.

We commend, without reservation whatever, Mrs. Strother to you as worthy of your confidence as a public servant and your earnest consideration when you come to vote for county clerk.

Unknown. "For Second Term ." *McKinney Weekly Democrat-Gazette* , 8 Feb. 1934, p. 4. *The Portal to Texas History*,
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph191373/m1/4/?q=pearl%20strother>. Accessed 10 Aug. 2022.

Mrs. Pearl Strother Passes Away Early Monday Morning

Mrs. Pearl Strother, 83, passed away at 6 o'clock Monday morning in the City-County Hospital after several days illness. Funeral services were held at 4 p. m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church, of which she was a member, conducted by Dr. Charles E. Myers, pastor, with burial in Pecan Grove Cemetery. Crouch-Moore Funeral Home had charge of arrangements.

She was born April 5, 1873 in Melissa Collin County the daughter of John F. and Frances Graves Gibson. She attended public school in Melissa and Mary Nash College, in Sherman. Mrs. Strother served as County Clerk of Collin County from 1932 to 1936. She had formerly served the unexpired term of her husband, George E. Strother, who died while in that office, and for many years she was also a deputy in the office.

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Mrs. Strother was one of McKinney's most beloved women. Her enhancing smile, kindly disposition and charming personality won for her a friend of every acquaintance, both in public and private life, and she was faithful in the activities of her church.

Pallbearers will be nephews of Mrs. Strother as follows: L. R. Gibson, John R. Gibson, John E. Webb, W. M. Gibson Jr., John W. Gibson, Raymond G. Belden, Dow Rattan and James H. Strother.

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 Three Years after date I promise to pay to
 Mrs. Lou Brannon, of McKinney, Texas or Order the sum of
 Two Thousand—Dollars
 with interest thereon from Date until paid at the rate of
 Eight per centum per annum the interest payable Annually
 as it accrues, both principal and interest payable at McKinney, Texas
 for value received. This Note is given in
 part payment for a certain lot or parcel of land situated in
 County of Collin, State of Texas, within the city of McKinney, being
 part of the William Davis Survey, Beginning in the W. Line thereof at the
 intersection of the North line of Virginia St. with the west line of the
 Davis Survey; Thence North 100 ft a Boisdaro stake; Thence East 75 ft a
 Boisdaro stake; thence south 100 ft a stake on the North line of Virginia
 St; Thence West 75 ft to the place of beginning.

this day conveyed to Pearl Strother
 by J. E. Gibson and wife and to
 secure the payment of same according to the tenor hereof a Vendor's Lien is
 retained in said conveyance, and is hereby acknowledged.
 All past due interest on this Note shall bear interest at the rate of Eight
 per centum per annum after the annual maturity thereof.

This Note is one of a series of One similar notes this day given
 by Pearl Strother as part of the
 purchase price for said above mentioned property, and it is understood and
 agreed that failure to pay this Note, or any installment of interest hereon
 when due, shall at the election of the holder of all of said series of Notes, or
 of any one of them, mature all the said Notes and they shall become at once
 due and payable, and the Vendor's Lien herein mentioned shall become
 subject to foreclosure proceedings as the holder may elect.

And it is hereby specially agreed that if this Note is placed in the hands of
 an Attorney for collection, or if collected by suit or through the Probate Court
 I agree to pay ten per cent. additional on the principal and interest
 then due thereon, as Attorney's fees.

Consideration	When Due
Cash \$	Month Day Year
Note No. 1 \$ 2000 00	Nov. 1922
Note No. 2 \$	
Note No. 3 \$	
Note No. 4 \$	
Note No. 5 \$	
Note No. 6 \$	
Total \$ 2500 00	

It is hereby agreed and understood that all
 or any part of this note may be paid on any
 interest paying date.



Pearl Strother
 J. E. Gibson



Loan documentation detailing the personal loan from Mrs. Brannon.

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