

Welcome to historic downtown Farmersville!

Known in the 1920s and 1930s as the Onion Capital of North Texas, with an active railroad shipping business. Hometown of Audie Murphy, America's most decorated soldier of World War II. Home to long-time businesses, Farmersville Times (1885), First Bank (1885), Dyer Drug (1931), and Farmersville Grain & Hardware (1938). Two beautiful historic churches are also located downtown-First Baptist (founded 1865) and First United Methodist (founded 1856). Named a National Main Street City for 2007, with over 35 downtown building rehabilitations, two National Register listings, and numerous state historical markers.

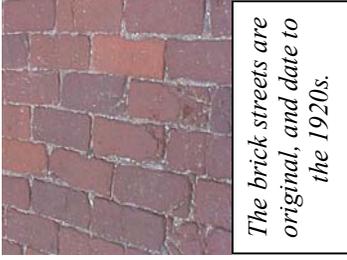
1 Post Office [213 McKinney St.] was built in 1939, and contains a mural painted by Jerry Bywaters of Dallas, in 1941 entitled, "A Panorama of Soil Conservation," representing cultivation of crops in strip-cropping terraces. Also shown are the raising of livestock, dairying, and truck farming.

2 Tony's Mexican Restaurant [201 McKinney St.] housed in a converted 1930s filling station

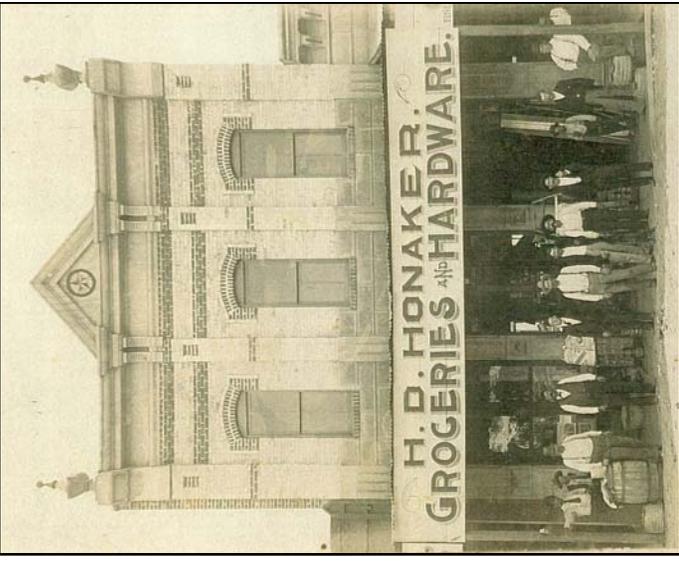
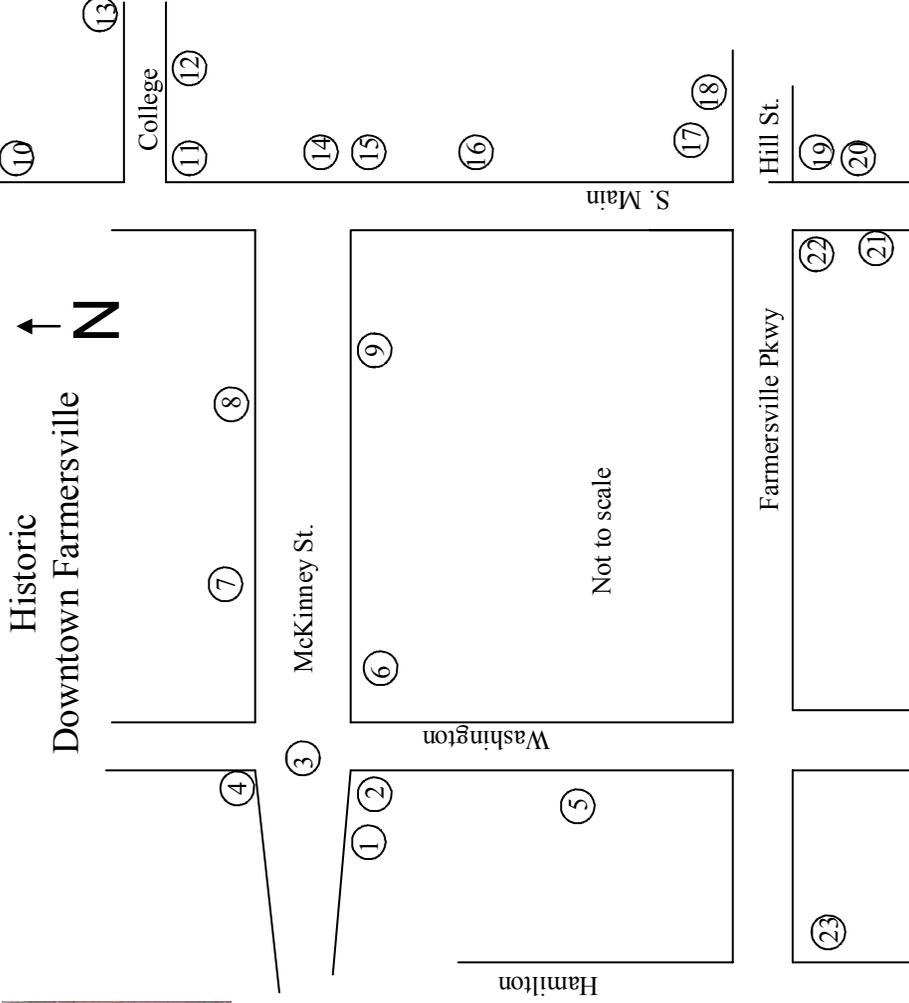


Audie Murphy

3 Freedom Plaza Audie Murphy, America's most decorated soldier of World War II, was a native of Farmersville. In 1973, Farmersville dedicated a memorial to Murphy, and in 1998, a second monument was dedicated to Farmersville veterans. Audie Murphy Day is celebrated in town every June.



The brick streets are original, and date to the 1920s.



Historic view of 105 McKinney Street

10 First United Methodist Church [206 N. Main] was organized in 1856 in a schoolhouse west of town. The first church structure built on this site in 1875 for \$4,000 was replaced in 1902 by a grand ornate building. In 1924, this structure was destroyed by fire. The current structure, a Greek revival style church, was completed in 1926.

11 Farmersville Times Building [101 S. Main] Built in 1888 by the Farmersville Masonic Lodge, and used by the Lodge until 1966. Named to the National Register in 2005, and restored in 2006 by owners Chad Engbrock and wife Sonia Duggan. Today it houses the offices of the Farmersville Times newspaper. Registered Texas Historic Landmark-2007

12 Bain-Honaker House [108 College St.] One of the oldest houses in Farmersville, built in 1865 by Anna Melissa Bain on six acres of land which included the east side of the square. Mrs. Bain's great-granddaughters gave the house to the Farmersville Historical Society in 1990, and it is now operated as a museum.

7 Daniel & Brown Building [118 McKinney St.] dating to the 1890s, was restored in 2001 by the owners of Daniel & Brown Consulting Engineers, who now office upstairs. At one time it was the cotton exchange building, and many other businesses resided in it over the years. Original cast iron columns have intricate detail.

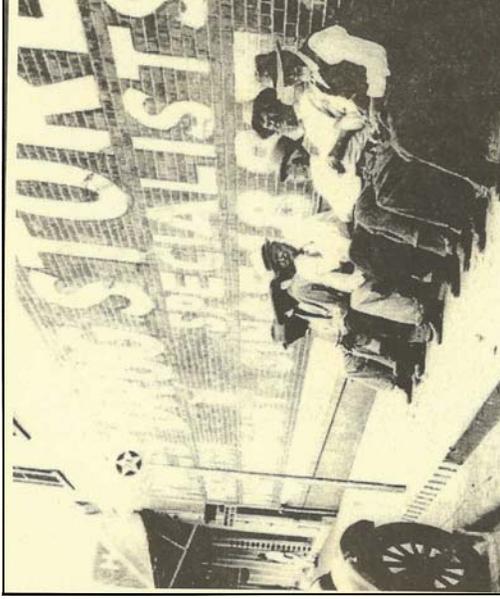
8 Remax (W. T. Cook Building) [108 McKinney St.] This restored 100 year old building is a prime example of an early 20th Century high-end department store. The original front display windows include displays by the Farmersville Historical Society. Post office was once housed here.

9 105 McKinney Street (formerly May's Appliances) Dating to the late 1800s, its restoration in 2005 won the Texas Downtown Association's award for "Best Physical Improvement." It has been a grocery and hardware store, a clothing store, and an appliance store. *(historic photo above right)*

4 Fiber Circle [200 McKinney St.] Built in 1899 by the Odd Fellows Lodge, it was many things including Farmersville Hardware & Furniture Store. It is in the process of being restored by owner Diane Piwko, and is home to Fiber Circle Gifts and Antiques.

5 First Baptist Church [124 S. Washington St.] of Farmersville was established in 1865 under a brush arbor on this site. In 1877, a simple frame church was built. Still in use is the 1900 building, which is a combination of several architectural styles and is topped by a pressed metal roof.

6 Worden-Dyer-Hickman Building [131 McKinney St.] The Worden Building started life as a bank, and the building still retains the original vaults. The building was restored in 2001 by the Hickmans, who operate Dyer Drug. Dyer Drug has been in Farmersville since 1933.



Locals resting at the southwest corner of Main and McKinney Streets in the 1920s.

13 Honaker-Holsonbake-Foy Home [211 College St.] Built in 1893 and extensively remodeled in 1910 to its current Neoclassical Revival exterior. Owned by only three families, all of whom have played prominent roles in the development of Farmersville. (*private residence; not open for tours*)

14 Sugar Hill Country Kitchen Restaurant [115 S. Main] Originally home to Neathery Hardware & Furniture Store. In addition to hardware, they also sold caskets and operated a funeral home business in their store. Replaced by J. C. Penney in 1929.

15 Old Bank (Edward Jones) [117 S. Main] Originally built in 1905 to house the First Bank of Farmersville, after the previous building succumbed to fire. It was built to be fireproof, with a concrete roof, 2 vaults lined with fire brick, and 3 feet of sand over the vault. Completely renovated in 2005. (*photo at right*)

16 Aston Building [121 S. Main] Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and recognized for its architectural significance. Constructed for W. S. Aston in 1888, using massive blocks of native limestone. It is topped off by its original tin cornice. Completely renovated by owner Bob Heath in 2007, contains a unique interior stained glass dome.

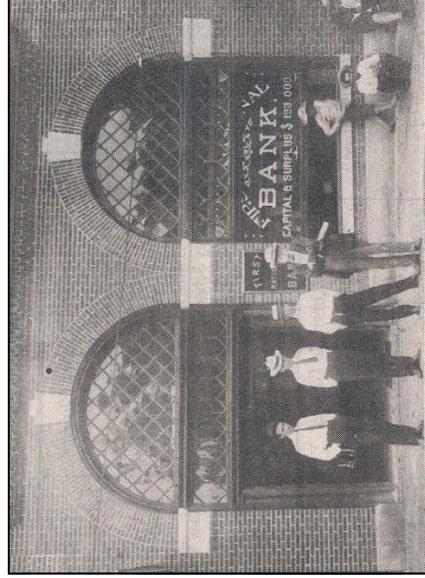
17 Onion Shed By 1900, Farmersville had six cotton gins and two railroad lines with six passenger trains per day. By 1930, Farmersville was well known as the “Onion Capital of North Texas,” annually shipping over 1,000 carloads of “East Collin Sweets.” The Onion Shed, built in 1935, was restored in 2002 by the Main Street Program. The restoration won the 2003 Community Spirit Award from the Texas Downtown Association. It is used for numerous activities, including the Farmers & Fleas Market held the first Saturday of each month. (*Historic photo at right*)

18 City Park The Civil War monument dates to 1917 when it was placed by the Daughters of the Confederacy. The original generator that provided Farmersville with electricity until 1933 was moved to the park in the late 1980s.

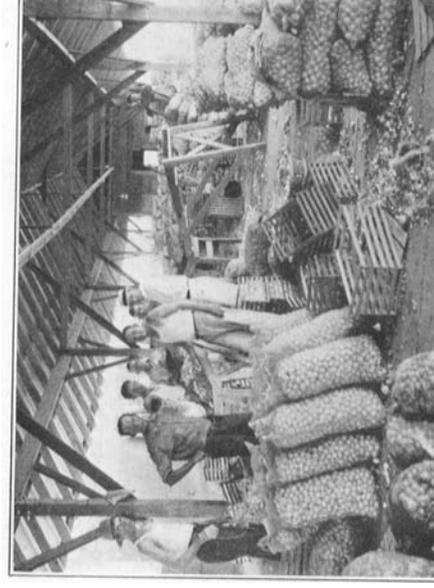
19 Visitors Center [201 S. Main] Served as the city’s police station for many years.

20 City Hall [205 S. Main] Originally the city’s power plant and jail, this structure was renovated for City offices.

21 Best Center [154 S. Main] Renovated in 2003 by the City for meeting rooms, this building was originally built as a railroad structure. For many years it was the meeting hall for the volunteer fire department as well as the community’s informal domino hall.



Historic view of First Bank of Farmersville



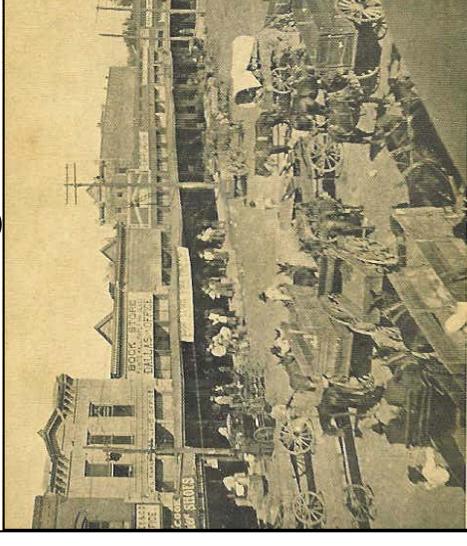
Historic photo of Onion Shed and workers

22 Grain & Hardware [210 S. Main] In business since 1938 at this location. It was originally a feed mill, located on the railroad line. Farmers would line the streets to bring in their bulk grain. Original Boisd’ arc beams can be seen inside, charred from a previous fire, but still strong enough to be serviceable.

Worth the drive:

23 Historic Cotton Gin [201 S. Hamilton] The Farmers Co-Op Gin closed its doors in 2005, the last of many cotton gins to operate in Collin County. The original shed was built in 1916.

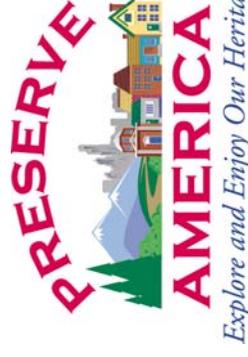
Historical Walking Tour ~



Downtown Farmersville



Farmersville
DISCOVER A TEXAS TREASURE



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