Welcome to historic downtown Farmersville!

Known in the 1920s and 1930s as the Onion Capital of North Texas, with an active railroad shipping business, Farmersville was 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 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, who died in 1971. The current structure, a Greek revival-style church, was completed in 1926.

1. Post Office [105 McKinney St.] was built in 1908 by Austin, Matlock, and Company of Dallas. It is the oldest building still in use in downtown Farmersville. It was originally a post office and has since been used as a bank, a hardware store, and a restaurant.

2. Tony’s Mexican Restaurant [201 McKinney St.] housed in a converted 1930s filling station and formerly a filling station, now houses a Mexican restaurant.

3. Tom's Mexican Restaurant [200 McKinney St.] housed in a converted 1930s filling station, now houses a Mexican restaurant.

4. Fiber Circle [200 McKinney St.] was 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.] 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-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.


8. Tony’s Mexican Restaurant [201 McKinney St.] housed in a converted 1930s filling station and formerly a filling station, now houses a Mexican restaurant.

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.

10. First United Methodist Church [206 N. Main] was organized in 1856 in a schoolhouse on this site in 1875. The current structure is a Greek revival-style church, was completed in 1926.

11. Farmersville House Building [101 S. Main] Built in 1848 by the Farmersville Masonic Lodge, it was the first building in downtown Farmersville. It has since been used as a hotel, a bank, and a restaurant.

12. Ray’s Mexican Restaurant [200 McKinney St.] housed in a converted 1930s filling station, now houses a Mexican restaurant.

North side of square, 1956

The brick streets are original and date to the 1930s.

Historic view of 105 McKinney Street

Audie Murphy Day is celebrated in town every June. The town is also home to the Audie Murphy Museum, dedicated in 1991 as a memorial to Murphy. The museum houses a large collection of memorabilia related to Murphy’s life and career.
Historical Walking Tour

Produced by Farmersville Main Street Program, January 2008
205 S. Main
Farmersville, TX 75442
972-784-6846
www.farmersvilletx.com

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 Sweats.” 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.

13 Honaker-Holsnabake-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.

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 Bois d’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.