

Rollin' Down the Highway

Summer Internship 2007:
What is a windshield survey,
anyway?



A Windshield Survey Is...

- A method of surveying towns or counties
- Used for architectural and historic field surveys
- Useful because it allows the surveyor to cover large areas and gather good initial data
- Important for identifying unique structures

Who are these people?

And why are they taking
pictures of my house?

Dr. Perky Beisel, SFA History Faculty-Internship Sponsor



Interns: Paul Maleski and Angela Henderson

- Paul and Angela are graduate students of history at SFA
- They are both graduate assistants for the department

Interns: Curtis Odom and Laura Williams

- Curtis is a current graduate student of history as well as a graduate assistant
- Laura is an SFA alum and is currently teaching history at Gilmer ISD

Chay Runnels

- Chay is a professor of human sciences at SFA
- Her specialty is heritage tourism

The Equipment



- GPS Units provided by the Columbia Center
- Filemaker Pro Database and printed forms
- Digital Cameras
- 11 X 17 inch grid maps

What We Found

- The most common domestic structures we found included:

- Small Bungalows



- Large and Small Ranches



- Local Vernacular Styles



More of What We Found

■ Agricultural

- Barns



- Chicken Houses



- Ranches



More of What We Found

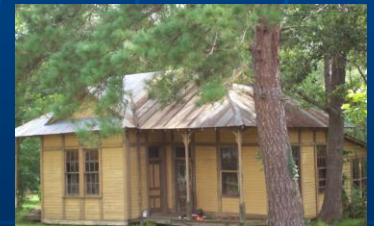
■ Cemeteries



■ Churches



Paul and Angela's Neat Houses



Curtis and Laura's Neat Houses



Chay's Neat Houses



Why Are We Doing This?

- Our first and primary goal is to identify structures that might be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- Nacogdoches County only has twenty such nominations, and most of those are in Historic Downtown Nacogdoches.

We Don't Want This To Happen...



More Reasons Why

- The first project to come out of this survey will be an architectural field guide to East Texas.
- We plan to start with Nacogdoches County, but we hope to eventually include all of Deep East Texas.

Even More Reasons Why

- We also hope to identify points of interest for tourists.
- One possibility is to publish a simple brochure.
- Another possibility includes using technology and media, such as podcasts and GPS to provide guided tours, possibly from their own cars.

Sometimes The Real History Isn't In The Textbooks

- You can find out some really neat stories that you wouldn't find in any official history:



This barn was built around an old schoolhouse, which is shown here.

This house was built by the high school shop class in the 1980's



This house belongs to a man who drives a school bus made into a soup kitchen. He was born in this house.

Where Do I Go To Sign Up??

- If you are interested in our project or simply want more information, contact the History Department at SFA:
 - Phone: (936) 468-3802
 - Email: pbeisel@sfasu.edu
 - Campus Mail: P.O. Box 13013
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- Music written and originally performed by Tom Cochrane. Remake performed by Rascal Flatts