

WELCOME TO THE TERRY COUNTY HERITAGE MUSEUM

Take a trip back in time and learn the history of early settlers to the West Texas area!



A.M. Brownfield

One of these early settlers to Terry County was A.M. Brownfield. He arrived in 1900 and quickly became a community leader when he helped establish the Brownfield State Bank in 1905. In fact, the City of Brownfield is named after this influential man.

According to his will, his home was donated to the City as a museum. In 1985, it was declared as a Texas Historic Landmark and currently hosts several story-telling exhibits of Brownfield, Terry County and West Texas.



land had been a hunting ground for Comanches and other Indians who preyed on the great herds of buffalo in the area until buffalo hunters depleted the herds during the early 1870s.

Terry County was demarked from Bexar County in 1876 and named for Col. Benjamin Franklin Terry, who commanded the Eighth Texas Cavalry (Terry's Texas Rangers) in the Civil War. It was attached to Young County until 1881 when Throckmorton County took over its judicial affairs. In 1883 administration was vested in Howard County and in 1889 it was transferred to Martin County.

The county began to be settled by whites in the 1890s, when the State offered ten-year leases on school lands for grazing cattle. Terry County was organized in 1904, with Brownfield as its seat of government.

Excerpt from the "Handbook of Texas Online" found at tsha.utexas.edu



HISTORY OF TERRY COUNTY

Terry County includes lands granted by Mexico to Stephen J. Wilson in 1826 and John Charles Beales in 1832, but the Texas Revolution prevented any settlement on grant lands of West Texas. The

AVAILABLE EXHIBITS

NATIVE AMERICANS

Room featuring North American Indian life and archeological artifacts. Display on Quanah Parker.

WEST TEXAS COWBOYS

Photos and artifacts of the typical cowboy during the formation of Terry County.

TERRY COUNTY WILDLIFE

Examples of animals seen in the West Texas area. Featuring a two-headed calf anomaly.

AGRICULTURE & FARMING

A look at the early crops of Terry County and the farming techniques of the era.

TERRY COUNTY'S FIRST JAIL

One-room jailhouse built in the early 1900s that once sat on the northwest corner of the courthouse.

TRAIN DEPOT

Moved to the museum in 1983 this original train depot now houses a vintage chuck wagon, Brownfield's first fire truck and several antique horse-drawn buggies.

Plus...many other exhibits of interest!

