

# History Hunt



## Seventh & Eighth Grade Railroad Ties

In 1872, the Houston and Central Texas Railroad chugged into Dallas for the first time. In 1873, the Texas and Pacific Railroad made Dallas the first rail crossroads in Texas—the crossing was just south of Dallas Heritage Village. With these two railroads, the city grew rapidly, more than tripling in population in less than 10 years. How did the railroad affect daily life? Would Dallas be the city it is today without the railroad?



[www.DallasHeritageVillage.org](http://www.DallasHeritageVillage.org)



## 1860s Farmstead Map #21

The Farmstead was almost completely self-sufficient. Here, families could grow and prepare all of their food, go from sheep to shawl for clothing, and create almost any tools needed. They would have ventured into town rarely for supplies, most likely only buying sugar, flour and coffee. The stores in town would have limited goods, as transportation costs from the nearest port (Jefferson, Texas—about 150 miles from Dallas) were very high.

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What animals live at the **Farmstead**? How would each have been useful to pioneers?

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The original **Farmstead** house was just the two front rooms, with the two back rooms added years later. What is the key difference between the two halves?

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Before the railroad came to the Dallas area, how did this family get goods and supplies?

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Do you think this family grew crops primarily for their own use or to sell? Why or why not?

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# General Store

## Map # 10

You could find almost anything you imagined in the General Store. With the arrival of trains, shopkeepers could keep a wider variety of goods—and sell them more cheaply. There was something for every member of the family here—what would be on your wish list?

Describe the color of the exterior of the **General Store**. Why do you think it was so brightly painted?

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Many brand names have been in existence for over 100 years. What brand names can you find on the store's shelves that you're familiar with?

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Examine the prices in the General Store. Are there any surprises? If you had \$1, what would you buy?

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Stores like these were often more than just a store. What other activities are featured in this space?

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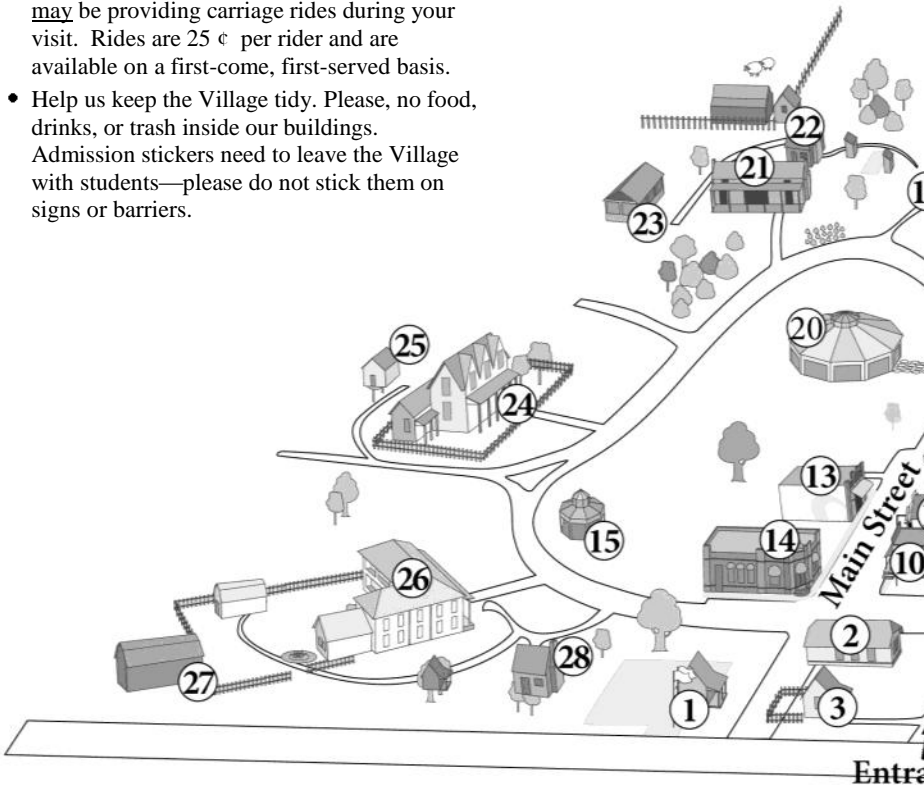
Look at some of the labels and signs in the **General Store**. Where do these products come from? How do you think they got to Texas?

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- Nip and Tuck, our Mammoth Jack Donkeys, may be providing carriage rides during your visit. Rides are 25 ¢ per rider and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Help us keep the Village tidy. Please, no food, drinks, or trash inside our buildings. Admission stickers need to leave the Village with students—please do not stick them on signs or barriers.

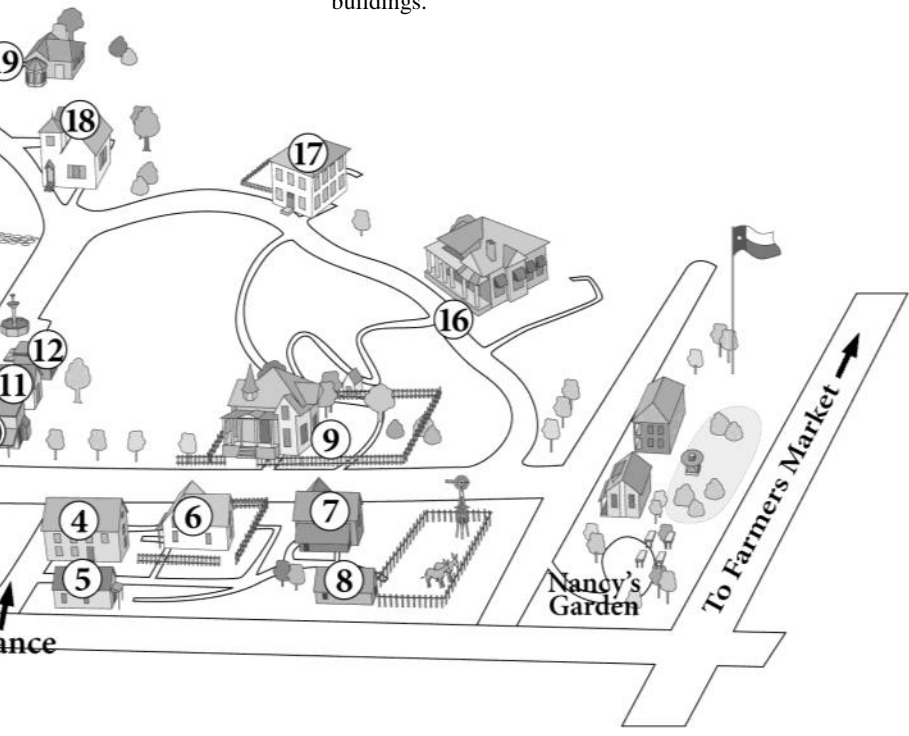


1. GUEST SERVICES/  
MUSEUM STORE
2. DEPOT
3. DELÉON HOUSE
4. HOTEL
5. SHOTGUN HOUSE
6. RESTROOMS

7. DOCTOR'S OFFICE
8. CARRIAGE HOUSE
9. BLUM HOUSE
10. GENERAL STORE
11. ALAMO SALOON
12. LAW OFFICE
13. PRINT SHOP

14. BANK AND  
DENTIST
15. BANDSTAND
16. SULLIVAN HOUSE
17. RENNER HOUSE
18. PILOT HOUSE
19. RESTRO BUILDING

- Please do not allow students to tour buildings unattended.
- Though we certainly look like a park, please do not run through the grounds.
- Please help us preserve our buildings by not touching artifacts behind barriers or hanging or jumping on our buildings.



ID  
 'S OFFICE  
 AND  
 N HOUSE  
 SCHOOL  
 ROVE CHURCH  
 MS

20. PAVILION  
 21. 1860s FARMSTEAD  
 22. LOG KITCHEN  
 23. BLACKSMITH'S SHED  
 24. LEARNING LOUNGE  
 25. POTTER'S SHED  
 26. MILLERMORE

27. BARN  
 28. MILLER LOG HOUSE



## Depot Map # 2

The railroad changed life on almost every level. People could travel more easily. Farmers could ship their crops to market and order goods cheaply. News could travel lightning fast across the telegraph lines. The country became much smaller. Can you think of a modern equivalent?

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What railroad company did this Depot serve? And which direction did the trains travel?

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What kinds of notices are posted in the Depot waiting room?

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Imagine that the railroad had just come to your town. How might that change your daily life?

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What other functions did the Depot serve?

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Why might there be two doors in the freight room?

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What is the large green object in the freight room? Why would it be an important tool in that room?

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## de León House Map #3

The de León house was built by the railroad for their section managers. A section manager was in charge of maintaining 8-10 miles of track. Mrs. de León was responsible for cooking meals for the entire crew. Many Tejanos moved to North Texas in order to work for the railroad.

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Why do the colors of this home match the **Depot**?

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How did the de León family stay warm?  
How did they get light?

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In the kitchen, what do you see that reflects the de León family's Hispanic culture?

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What labor-saving device can be found in the bedroom window? Why do you think it was placed there?

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How does Mrs. DeLeon use her backyard at the **Section House**?

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On laundry day, after washing clothes, how are clothes dried at the **Blum House** and the **de León House**?

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## Worth Hotel Map #4

This hotel primarily served traveling salesman. They needed a place to stay near the railroad and near potential customers. Some salesmen were nicknamed “drummers” because they would literally walk through town, beating a drum to attract attention for their products.

How many guests were served breakfast? What did they eat?

Compare the furniture in the downstairs bedroom to upstairs. Why are they different?

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Look at the stove in the parlor. What kind of fuel does it use? Why might it be convenient to use that kind of fuel?

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Who stayed at the Worth Hotel? What can you guess about the guests based on their luggage upstairs?

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How would the arrival of the train change hotels? Do you think they would become more profitable? Why or why not?

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