



## Rededication: City's past, future meet



*City of Garland Photo.*

**Joan Nelson, right, vice-president of Garland Landmark Society, with President Janice Black, unveils historical marker noting relocation of Santa Fe depot, home of the Landmark Society museum, following ribbon cutting ceremonies at new Heritage Crossing pedestrian corridor, Sixth and Walnut. Next to Ms. Black is Debbie Goldin, Landmark secretary-treasurer, Mayor Doug Athas, and Michael Hayslip, museum curator and a founder of the Landmark Society.**

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## The past meets the future

The City of Garland took a fresh look at its history May 31 as it embarked on a significant new phase of expansion and renovation of its downtown core, inviting its citizens to inspect it all at a gigantic party focused on the old Santa Fe Depot.

The site was the new and innovative Heritage Crossing at Sixth Street and Walnut, and the celebration's centerpiece was the rededication of the 1901 depot building housing a museum operated by Garland Landmark Society and moved for the second time from its original location beside the railroad tracks at Main Street and Avenue A.

The park-like sliver of land is intended to serve as a new entranceway to downtown Garland with the opening of Sixth Street from Walnut. On its north side will be a landscaped area; on the south side of the DART tracks that split the site is the depot/museum and its accompanying vintage 1910 Pullman rail car which is to be repainted and patched this month. Later the historic Tinsley/Lyles House is to be moved to the opposite end of Heritage Crossing from the Santa Fe Depot.

After speeches and dedication ceremonies, the crowd was invited to inspect

the museum and take guided tours of historic spots in the downtown area. Musicians offered varied entertainment, food trucks stood by to feed the hungry and children rode a midget train or looked at model trains inside the Central Library adjacent to Heritage Crossing.

Just a couple of blocks away, City Hall is being redone, and a new parking garage is under construction at the abandoned Heritage Park, past home of the depot and the Tinsley/Lyles House.

Awaiting future rethinking in the downtown redevelopment is Garland's historic town center, the Square.

Mayor Doug Athas, noting the city's history in his address, said "This union of the old and the new may be the best way to tell Garland's story — revering our past as we embrace the opportunities of the future."

Michael Hayslip, who snipped the ribbon opening the renovated depot, is a founder of the Landmark Society and now the museum's curator. He promised that Landmark would continue to collect history and improve the museum exhibits it has organized and presided over for 40 years.

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# Celebrating Garland history at Heritage Crossing



***Landmark Society Photos.***

Mayor Doug Athas (top left) addresses crowd; Michael Hayslip (above) watches gathering; developer Norm Bjornnes (lower right) praises Garland enterprise, and visitors look over Depot Museum exhibits (below, left).



# *City creates first historic district*

A 2-block stretch of South 11th Street, part of one of Garland's earliest subdivisions, has been designated Garland's first historic district. To be known as the Travis College Hill Historic Area, it is located between West Avenues B and D.

Garland City Council approved a resolution on May 20 bestowing the "historically significant" designation. Owners of homes there have adopted voluntary guidelines endorsed by the council resolution designed to preserve the remaining homes. Six of the eleven homes date to 1915-1918 and five others were built between the 1930s and 2001.

Louis Moore and his wife, Kay, who live in the district, guided the effort to obtain the "historic district" designation, compiling a carefully researched history of the area and of the houses still remaining there. The Moores own four district homes.

They plan to move the Pace House, dating to around 1895, to the district when the City Council gives its approval, probably this



*Landmark Archives*

This house at 313 S. 11th St., shown in the 1940s, is a 1916 Prairie-style home originally built by James E. and Edith McCollum Beaver and now owned and occupied by Louis and Kay Moore, who have renovated it.

month, offering the house to the Moores, who will move and renovate it. The Pace House, owned by the City, formerly was located in Heritage Park near City Hall, along with the so called Tinsley/Lyles House, believed to be of early 19th Century vintage, and the 1901 Santa Fe Depot which houses the Landmark Society of Garland and its museum and historical documents. The two

houses earlier had been scheduled for demolition, but protests from a group of citizens stayed that order until other actions could be planned and approved.

Plans now are for the city to move the Tinsley/Lyles House to its new Heritage Crossing. Preservationists have pledged to restore the building after the city prepares the site and moves the structure at an estimated cost of almost \$180,000.

For more information on the Pace House and Travis College Hill Historic Area, see:

<http://louismooreofgarland.blogspot.com>

## *Downtown Garland: An ideal place for development*

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"Historic awareness promotes civic pride, so Landmark remains in the education business. Our lessons illustrate change — how Garland promotes and responds to change. . . . But we also value delights from our own discovery and the legacy of lessons learned from our past."

Norm Bjornnes, head of Oak Properties, which is building apartments and retail structures downtown, extolled Garland's attractiveness to his company, and explained why he saw the downtown area as an excellent place to build. "World class cities have fine transit systems, and DART is one of the best. And Garland has surrounded rail with amenities — its city hall, a college, this museum, a library, entertainment. It's a terrific base on which to grow."

# Thomas Daniel: A man for all seasons

**Note: Thomas Milton Daniel, a lifelong resident of Garland, died April 26 from injuries sustained in a car accident. In this essay, Garland City Surveyor Glenn Breysacher, a close friend and colleague of Daniel's, remembers this remarkable man.**

## By Glenn Breysacher

Tom, as he was known to most of us, was born December 21, 1927 in Dallas. Until he was about four or five, he lived in Reinhardt, a community near Buckner Blvd. and Garland Road that has long since been absorbed by Dallas. Tom was a 1945 graduate of Garland High School, and earned his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A & M in 1949.

A veteran of both WWII and the Korean War, he attended engineering and surveying school at Fort Belvoir, Va. A high security clearance allowed him to be one of the first persons ashore at Bikini Atoll in the South Pacific after nuclear bomb tests there following World War II.

Returning to civilian life, Tom became a professional civil engineer and in 1959, began his own company, Garland Engineering & Construction, Inc., with offices in the Cooper Realty building (now Farmers Insurance) at 615 Main St. I worked there for Tom from 1983-1998. He was my mentor and became a sort of second father. He shared his knowledge easily, instructing me in all facets of the business and enabling me to grow as a professional. He patiently forgave my naïve gaffes and those of other high school and

college students he regularly hired for part time work.

His ethics were impeccable, and Tom was generous to a fault, often doing work pro bono or at the behest of clients who were very hard to deal with. An intelligent man, he was also very pragmatic, preferring to run his business as simply and modestly as he could, reflecting the farm life and hard times he'd known growing up.

Tom imparted a great deal of local history to me, whether it was about a site where a cotton gin once had stood or where he had helped farm hemp for rope during the war at the northeast corner of present Kingsley Road and South Garland Avenue. His maternal lineage (Clara Axe Daniel) is through the notable Axe family of Garland. His mother's home is still on Kingsley Road, between Glenbrook Drive and Saturn Road, adjacent to land the family once farmed now in the Parkmont Addition. There, Daniel Street is named after his paternal forebears.

Tom was a man who liked to get things done in a timely fashion — “Type A,” but with the gift of patience and understanding. I remember once being the object of one of his quips while we were field surveying. He had come to “help,” to show us youngsters how it should be done. When I failed to keep his pace, he drawled “Grandma's slow, but she's old!”

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## Integrity, passion for life inspired all who knew him

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He expected no more from others than he expected of himself. His memory for projects, details, people and places was superlative, recalling details of almost every place and project where he'd worked. Over the years, he designed and completed numerous developments around Garland and neighboring municipalities, including residential and commercial subdivisions, and many projects for GISD. Tom's personal and professional contributions to the development of Garland from the time it was a quaint community to a municipality of 50-square miles is immense.

Tom's distinctive laugh was infectious, reflecting a broad sense of humor. His even temper made it difficult for him to speak negatively about most anything. He remained active all his life, expertly tending his garden, and playing tennis weekly until the accident that took his life. He reveled in the companionship of his friends in the daily coffee gatherings, and with fellow members of the Garland Lions Club and First Christian Church, where he served as an elder and deacon.

His integrity, compassion, humility, diligence, and indefatigable passion for life inspired all who knew him. I feel richer for that pleasure, and will never forget him.



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