

LENNOX HOUSE GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK Site Medallion No. 53 110 N.W. Second Street

Opening in fall 1951, the Lennox Hotel, located just off Main Street at 110 N.W. Second St., stood as a prestigious hotspot in the City of Grand Prairie. The three-story, yellow-brick building built by Dallas real estate magnate Leo Corrigan featured more than 110 rooms, a coffee shop, banquet/ballroom and air conditioning.

The hotel's dining area offered an ideal meeting place for local service clubs, company dinners and social events such as weddings and birthdays. Serving as the first home of the Grand Prairie Family YMCA, which operated until 1958, the Lennox Hotel also became the birthplace of Inglewood United Methodist Church.

In March 1965, Corrigan sold the building to W.A. "Buster" Standifer, a lawyer who added in a first-class restaurant. However, as motels became more abundant along Interstate 30, Lennox drew fewer out-of-town guests, and the hotel fell into disrepair, closing in 1985.

Rumors of famous guests at the Lennox Hotel include basketball star Wilt Chamberlain, Martin Luther King Jr. and Johnny Crawford, who played Chuck Connors' character's son, Mark McCain, on the TV series *The Rifleman*.

In 1992, the building was donated to the city, which leased it to National Church Residences (NCR), a not-for-profit corporation committed to serving older adults' housing, social and human needs, in a 99-year, \$1-per-year agreement.

NCR renovated the facility, providing 40 federally subsidized apartments for indigent senior citizens. Each apartment consists of a living room, bedroom, small kitchen, bathroom and walkin closet. Planters, trees and a large fenced-in side garden beautify the outdoors for the residents. Residents use the former dining area as a community activity room. The front desk is set up just the way it was when it was a hotel.

From functioning as a hotel, church, YMCA and now the current Lennox House retirement complex, the building continues to stand as a significant piece of Grand Prairie history.