

MOORE - SCOGGINS HOME GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK Site Medallion No. 22 130 Moore Avenue

The large white clapboard home at 130 Moore Avenue was built by J.A. Moore in the 1900-1910 era, along with other homes on the avenue named in his honor. Circa 1909 has been the designation for this structure. One after another, Mr. Moore continued constructing homes for members of his family until five were built. These homes were energy efficient for their time and were built with Mother Nature in mind. High ceilings and steep roofs allowed hot air to rise, keeping the house cooler in summer. Transoms over exterior doors and double-hung windows vented the heat through the entire house. All bedrooms were located on the east, to be protected from the afternoon sun and be cool by night.

Occupied by Miss Annie Moore, a well-known and beloved school teacher and sister of J.A. Moore, this residence is distinguished by a gallery which envelopes the front of the house and part of both sides. Eight square columns grace the front and support the steeply pitched roof. A second entrance leads to the middle bedroom.

The beveled glass front door and cone-shaped light fixture in the entry hall are original. The entry, living room and dining room are distinguished by extensive pine woodwork and hand-stripped floors. A search for the stained glass and antiques, which give the home an authentic period décor led Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Scoggins, the present owners, to estate sales and antique shops in Texas and Arkansas. They enjoyed refinishing as much as the buying, and spent the next few years in the antique business.

In the process of remodeling, several of the secrets of the house were uncovered. The house was apparently built without benefit of plumbing or closets. Later, part of the huge dining room was used to make hall closets. Two bedrooms yielded enough space between them to add a hallway, bath and bedroom closets. The back porch was enlarged and enclosed to make an extra bedroom and bath, which, according to a long-time Moore Avenue resident, was rented out during World War II. The original garage also served in the war to create extra housing and was designated as 130 ½ Moore Avenue.

"Miss Annie" heated and cooked with a wood-burning stove. The flue in the kitchen served the stove and the dining room heater. A heater in the front bedroom was vented out through the fireplace chimney in the middle bedroom. The living room fireplace also had a wood-burning stove.

Through the love, sweat, toil and tears of two hard-working individuals, the Scoggins, this home is a magnificent testimonial to the joy of modern living in a period restoration home.