



**LIBERTY BELL – CITY HALL PLAZA  
GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK  
Site Medallion No. 50  
Near NW 3<sup>rd</sup> St and Church Street**

A replica of the original Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, our Grand Prairie Liberty Bell project was exciting and most successful. To raise funds for a bell to be cast in France as a Bi-Centennial project was an ambitious program for the Texas Bluebonnet Chapter of the D.A.R. and their friends.

Seeking donations from each school child, and each adult who wished to participate was a big endeavor, but the dimes, quarters and dollars came in...thanks to those special few who cared about involving as many citizens as possible. The funds came in...the order was placed and we waited, ...patiently except for the Regent Mrs. Lloyd (Estelle) Smith and a blue ribbon committee.

Finally the completed bell and all parts arrived and Mrs. Smith was on hand to help with the uncrating.

Smith and Warder Architects designed a most appropriate overhang that enhances the bell as well as being a protection for this giant beauty.

The dedication ceremony was one of the highlights of the Bicentennial celebration period, with students and adults joining in the celebration.

On July 4, 1981, this site received the Grand Prairie Significant Landmark #50 with Commission Chairman Ruthe Jackson presiding and the Honorable Mayor Weems accepting the marker formally.

A time capsule was buried at the July 4, 1976 dedication, with many items of interest including a copy of the G.P. Daily News...capsule was opened in the year 2000 A.D.

Many ceremonies are held at this inspiring site and we are most grateful to the D.A.R. and friends who have made this remarkable Landmark a part of Grand Prairie's past, present, and future.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Bell received:	August 1974
Bell dedicated:	January 19, 1975
Bell Bicentennial Special Celebration	July 4, 1976