

The NEW HANDBOOK *of* TEXAS

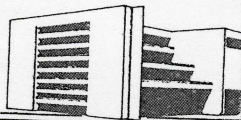
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operations; unlicensed activities are prohibited. Amendments allow public hearings in affected areas, and public elections may be held where a permit is requested for hail suppression. For all its increasingly complex provisions, the act does not mention the question of public and private rights to atmospheric moisture in Texas. Uncertainties as to both the direct and side effects of weather modification continue to impede it.

Conjunctive management of water resources in various phases of the interconnected hydrologic cycle is often recommended and is viewed as a desirable objective in both the original (1969) and revised (1984) Texas water plans. Omitting consideration of atmospheric moisture and diffused surface water, it is evident that coordinated use and management of surface water and groundwater in a state like Texas, where different doctrines apply to each, would be almost impossible to achieve. Water in streams, the property of the state, can be managed in the general public interest, whereas groundwater is not subject to such control. The absolute ownership rule applied to groundwater provides no basis for correlating rights in an interconnected supply. Even this brief overview of Texas water law should make it evident that the fragmented institutional structure governing water rights constitutes a formidable obstacle to achieving comprehensive and efficient water-resource management. In some areas, such as the ongoing adjudication of surface-water rights, great progress has been made. In others, the relative lack of control over groundwater and diffused surface-water use continues to cause problems. As the population of Texas grows and the demands on the state's limited water supplies increase, so do the difficulties of managing this essential resource.

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Otis W. Templer

WATERLOO, TEXAS (Grayson County). Waterloo was in the area of present Denison in north central Grayson County. It probably began after 1856 as a stop on the Butterfield Overland Mail^{qv} route across northeastern Texas. It was on a bluff overlooking a small lake, which may have been called Waterloo Lake. Waterloo must have become part of Denison when that city was established in 1872.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Kathleen E. and Clifton R. St. Clair, eds., *Little Towns of Texas* (Jacksonville, Texas: Jayroe Graphic Arts, 1982).

Brian Hart

WATERLOO, TEXAS (Travis County). Waterloo, on the north bank of the Colorado River approximately at the site of the Congress Avenue Bridge in Austin, was settled by Joseph Harrell, a hunter who erected a tent on the river bank in 1835. He was visited in 1837 or 1838

by Mirabeau B. Lamar,^{qv} who decided that the spot was an appropriate site for the capital city of the Republic of Texas.^{qv} The five-man commission appointed in January 1939 to select the capital location was instructed by President Lamar to visit Harrell's split-log stockade. The commission found four families living near the stockade and named the site Waterloo, the name under which it was incorporated when it was chosen to be the capital site. Congress had designated the name of Austin for the new city, and the name of Waterloo was dropped. The land adjacent was relinquished by Logan Vandever,^{qv} James Rogers, J. D. Hancock, J. W. Harrell, and Aaron B. Burleson.^{qv} The most desirable spot in the 7,735-acre site was chosen for the capitol building. The new town was surveyed, and the first lots were sold in August 1839.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Mary Starr Barkley, *History of Travis County and Austin, 1839-1899* (Waco: Texian Press, 1963). Claudia Hazlewood

WATERLOO, TEXAS (Williamson County). Waterloo is on Pecan Creek and Farm Road 619, four miles northeast of Taylor in eastern Williamson County. Though there were settlers in the area by the 1880s, the community really took shape after Josiah W. Rainwater built a store on the site about 1890. When a post office was opened in 1893, the office and the community were named Waterloo, after Rainwater's hometown in Kentucky. At different times in the 1890s the community had two churches, a gin, a drugstore, and a blacksmith shop. The Waterloo school was the eighth largest district school in Williamson County in 1903. Waterloo declined in the early decades of the twentieth century, losing its post office in 1904 and shrinking to a population of ten in 1933. Though the Waterloo school was consolidated with that of Thrall in 1949, the community revived somewhat in the 1940s, and had an estimated population of sixty in 1949 and 1990.

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Mark Odintz

WATERMAN, TEXAS. Waterman is near the Attoyac River fourteen miles southeast of Center in southern Shelby County. It was founded about 1905 as a sawmill town and named for the owner of the Waterman Lumber Company. In 1906 the community received a post office; William M. Waterman was postmaster. A spur of the Santa Fe Railroad was constructed to the town, and by 1914 Waterman had a population of 476. Gradually, however, the timber owned by the company began to play out, and Waterman Mill closed abruptly in 1912 or 1913. Mill owners left for Wascom, where a new mill was built. Waterman Mill and all its land was sold to Frost Lumbering Industries in 1920. Most mill people were gone by the end of World War I.^{qv} The post office was closed in 1926, and by 1938 Waterman was a small church and school community that served a scholastic population of fifty-seven. The school district was consolidated with the Center school district by 1955, and in 1990 Waterman had a population of fifty-three.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Patricia R. McCoy, *Shelby County Sampler* (Lufkin, Texas, 1982).

Cecil Harper, Jr.

WATER POWER. Water power has never been an important source of industrial power in Texas because of the irregular and frequently insufficient flow of Texas rivers. As early as 1822, however, James Bryan contemplated building a gristmill on the Colorado River, and a few years later Jared E. Groce^{qv} was granted land over and above his headright for constructing a gristmill and sawmill on the Brazos. About 1825 George Huff and others obtained land from the Mexican government to locate a saw and grist mill on the San Bernard, but the contract was voided in May 1825. A few mills using water power were probably built, although most of the early gristmills, sawmills, and cotton gins were powered either by steam or by oxen. Various types