

Waco, Texas

History in Pictures

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Randall Scott, Editor
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The Schools of Bosqueville, Texas

In June of 2016, a Facebook group was formed to study the historical town of Bosqueville, Texas, which is just north of Waco. Members contributed memories and photos, and in 2021 a book was compiled called "The Schools of Bosqueville, Texas". The following is the introductory chapter and photos. In the actual book, there are 189 pages of photos and memories. The entire book can be found at www.wacotexashistoryinpictures.com under the "Magazines" tab. The pages that follow here reveal the rich history of the little village just across the Bosque!



The original Bosqueville log schoolhouse. This building was moved long ago, and still exists. This photo was contributed by Clint Detlefsen.

The Log Schoolhouse

The settlement of Bosqueville, first known as "Bosque Village", or sometimes "Bosque", was six miles north of Waco, across the Bosque River. The historical marker at Bosqueville Cemetery tells us that *"Burials began here as early as 1850 on 10 acres given by Little Berry White for a School and Cemetery. A log schoolhouse at this site in 1853-54 served the Methodist and Baptist Churches as a meeting place..."*. **The log schoolhouse was the first school at Bosque Village.** Littleberry (Little Berry) White (20 Aug 1822-1 Jan 1905), who was born in Tennessee, is buried in the China Spring Cemetery.

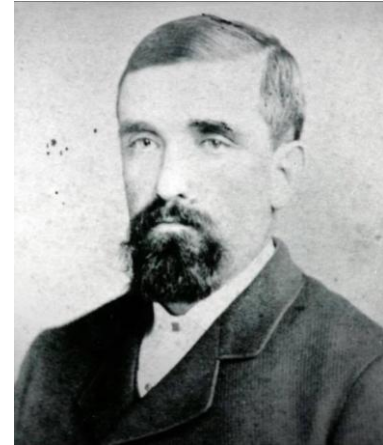
Bosqueville Academy for Boys and Seminary for Young Ladies

In Waco, there was a school called "Waco Female Seminary". A young minister and teacher from South Carolina by the name of John Collier, who had moved to McLennan County in the early 1850s, was

a teacher there. In 1854, he was approached by J. Hawks Sparks and William Cobbs, citizens of Bosque Village, to begin a new school there. He was persuaded, and agreed. The school in

Waco was sold, and they purchased 50 acres of land at Bosqueville.⁽¹⁾ This land was located near an area called “Cedar Branch”. In 1857, John Collier established the “Bosqueville Academy for Boys and Seminary for Young Ladies”.⁽²⁾ Mrs. D. L. (Ann) Rowe, who had also been a teacher at Waco Female Seminary, was a teacher and overseer of the Seminary for Young Ladies. The State of Texas chartered the Bosque College and Seminary in 1858.⁽¹⁾ We believe that “Cedar Branch” is what later came to be known as “Keys Creek,” which to this day is lined with cedar trees.

John Collier was ordained by the Little River Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1857, when he was twenty-three years old. That same year, he married Mary Ellen “Mollie” Fowler, an assistant at the school. Ann Rowe, who had been the overseer of the Seminary for Young Ladies, left the school in 1858, after serving for one year. Within a few years, a music conservatory was added, under the direction of Professor F. W. Krause. By 1860, 180 students were enrolled.⁽³⁾



Dr. John Collier
*Photo courtesy The Texas
Collection, Baylor University.*

The main building was a large, two-story white frame structure. A November 30, 1924 article in The Waco News Tribune describes the construction of the building. *“Those early Baptists built well, and it was not long after the church was founded that a Baptist College was built there. This was an imposing building for that day and time, and was about 60 feet square and two stories. Straight cedar poles were used for the studding for the walls and for the rafters, while lumber for the big building was hauled from East Texas on ox wagons. This lumber was dressed by hand, and after the building was completed it was nicely painted, being the pride of Baptists and others of the community. The college did a fine work, but later the building burned to the ground. Reverend J. L. Walker believes the building stood near the present schoolhouse of Bosqueville.”*⁽⁴⁾ Surrounding the main building were smaller buildings that served as dormitories for the students.⁽²⁾ The 1924 newspaper article says that this was a Baptist School, but it actually considered itself to be non-denominational, even though John Collier and other leaders were Cumberland Presbyterian. This article also says that the school was burned, but every other record says it was “demolished” or “razed.”

In “Early History of Bosqueville”, an undated historic paper on file at Bosqueville School that was written by Bettie McCowan Scott, it is stated that “The main building was a large, two story white-frame building with a belfry. Dormitories were smaller houses placed in the background. The first floor was one big room where all students studied together. The teacher took one class at a time for recitation. The Masons, who were always interested in education, used the upstairs as their hall. Different church denominations also worshipped in the building. Students came from far and wide to attend the College. At one time, one-hundred and eighty were enrolled.” The paper later states that Miss Eleanor Scott and Miss Mary King were two known

graduates of the College. Bettie McCowan Scott was the grandmother of Maureen McNamara Johnson.

In her book *"The Culture of Bosqueville,"* Sarah A. Garner gives some amazing detail about the College. In it, she quotes from a booklet entitled *"Bosque College and Seminary"* that is at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History in Austin, Texas. *"The course of study prescribed for graduation is as extensive as that of any other Female Seminary or College in the United States."* She tells us that, *"The seminary had three departments: primary, preparatory, and collegiate. Students at the primary level took classes in reading, spelling, arithmetic, and geography. Once they reached the preparatory department, their coursework broadened to encompass penmanship, reading, spelling, vocabulary, arithmetic, geography, grammar, American History, botany and philosophy. In the collegiate department, students were classified as freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior, each level with a prescribed course of study. During their time at the seminary, all collegiate students studied English grammar, world history, composition, algebra, botany, chemistry, astrology, astronomy, geology, philosophy, and trigonometry. Latin, Greek, French, Spanish, German, and Italian were also offered, though not required. Similarly, students could take classes in piano, melodeon (a small organ), drawing, and painting, 'wax, fruit and flowers' or embroidery for additional fees. By 1858, the course offerings had expanded further to include Hebrew, guitar, violin, and flute."*⁽¹⁾ Sarah A. Garner's book is an amazing study in the life and history of Bosqueville, and should be read by anyone interested in the foundation of the community of Bosqueville.



Rev. Solomon G. O'Bryan
Photo courtesy The Texas
Collection, Baylor University.

John Collier was not only a teacher, but *"was also captain of Patrol District No. 5, which included the territory between the North Bosque and Brazos rivers below Rock Creek, in 1852."*⁽²⁾ When the Civil War began in 1861, John Collier and all of the males in the school enlisted in the Confederate Army.⁽³⁾ Dr. Collier later sold three acres of land upon which the school stood to trustees William Gill, Henry Rogers, J.H. Sparks, William Cobb, and B.F. Richey. He sold it for one dollar, and in the deed, Dr. Collier reserved the right to preach in the building.⁽⁵⁾

Bosqueville Male and Female College

With John Collier and all of the males of the school gone, *"Solomon G. O'Bryan, a former teacher at the academy, reorganized the Collier school into the "Bosqueville Male and Female College," the first coeducational institution in McLennan County. The college closed in about 1865, and on November 16, 1888, the old building was razed."* During the years after the College closed, a Baptist minister named T. F. Lockett operated a

school in the old college building for a few years. ⁽¹⁾ After the Civil War, the name of the community was officially changed from “Bosque Village” to “Bosqueville” a name which had evidently been in use previously, because The Bosqueville Academy for Boys and the Seminary for Young Ladies, had been named in 1857. *(For more information about Solomon G. O’Bryan, and the College at Bosqueville, see page 161.)*

The African-American School at Bosqueville

According to Sarah A. Garner’s book, there was also an African-American School at Bosqueville as early as the 1870s. The first African-American school burned in 1878, but the school survived and evidently found a new place to meet. In 1896, E. B. Weaver, J. A. Weaver, and W. H. F. Woods became trustees for the Black school.⁽¹⁾ The school eventually was located on Old Steinbeck Road, now called Logue Lane, about a block to the east of the Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church. The school met there until the two schools were integrated in 1965-66. The African-American School had an award-winning girls’ basketball team. According to Callie Watkins and Joyce Montgomery, two former students of the school, the building was demolished in 1983.

Two School Districts: Bosqueville and Oakwood

After the College building was destroyed in 1888, a new two-room building was built on the same site. This was the Bosqueville Schoolhouse.⁽¹⁾

In 1896, the Bosqueville School District was divided and the Oakwood School District was created. Oakwood School was about two miles north of the Bosqueville School, close to the Wortham Branch on the Rock Creek Road. Their first teacher was Miss Polly Wells, and in about the third year of operation, Hallie Earle was the teacher.



Oakwood School, c.1902

This photo was contributed by both Clint Detlefsen and Ann Calvert Garner. Ann identified her grandmother, Maude Wortham, born in 1886, on the back row, third from left. Maude’s future husband, Morris Stewart, is fifth from left.



Bosqueville School, 1907

Photo contributed by Nancy Roberts Detlefsen.

REPORT CARD

REPORT OF
Pearl M. Daniels
 a pupil in the *5* Grade of
Bosqueville School
 State of *Texas* County of
McLennan District Number *26*
 for the school term beginning *Sept. 19*
1910 and ending *1911*

Promoted to *6* Grade. *Conditional*
 Retained in _____ Grade.
 Retained for special examination in

W. J. Porter Teacher

Pearl McDaniels'
Bosqueville School
Fifth Grade Report Card,
1910-11.

Photo contributed by
Patricia Carmody Hall.

Bosqueville School District Moves Forward Into the 20th Century

In 1915, Oakwood School consolidated with Bosqueville School.⁽¹⁾



Mrs. Barton Dear-Phelps, Principal of Bosqueville School 1922-23. The schoolhouse that was built after the old College Building was demolished stands behind her. In about 1929, this building was moved close to Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church to become the building for the African-American students. This photo was contributed to the Waco-McLennan County Public Library by Oma Laird Brown.

A 1986 cookbook produced by the Bosqueville PTA included historical notes about the school. We have been told that these notes were supplied by Mrs. Maureen Johnson. The following narrative from that book gives us a little more understanding of Bosqueville School in the early Twentieth Century: *"In 1926, Bosqueville and China Spring consolidated. That year, a private school was taught by Mrs. Rotan Johnson and Mrs. J. B. Johnson at Bosqueville. The consolidation lasted two years. In 1929, the new cement school was finished. The old three-room school building was moved to the present site on Old Steinbeck Bend Road, where it stands to this day."*⁽⁶⁾



Bosqueville School, May 22, 1952

We believe that this photo was taken by Loena Truitt Scott, and we believe she took it because she knew the new building was about to be built. Contributed by her daughter, Dianne Scott.

The "new cement school" was a southwestern mission-style building, a popular building style at the time. Other sources give the year of 1930 as the building completion date. The old wooden

Bosqueville School building was moved to Steinbeck Bend Road (now Logue Lane) about two blocks east of the Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church and became the school for African-American students.

According to personal memories of Joyce Koch Rowell and Dorothy Lindsey Scott, Bosqueville School offered Grades 1-10 by the late 1930s, and graduates would then transfer to the Waco School District to complete the last two grades. Most students attended the old Waco Technical High School, "Waco Tech," which became University High School in May, 1954. We believe the last year that Grade 10 was offered was 1947-48, after which only through Grade 8 was offered.

From discussions we have had with people that are still living who were at Bosqueville in the 1940s and 1950s, we have learned that in 1952-53, a new building was built in front of the 1930 one. This building had three classrooms-two on the southern end, and a third one on the northern end, separated by a hallway. That hallway led to a covered sidewalk that continued to the old building. There was an open space to the right, and restrooms to the left. The restrooms were a part of the new building, replacing two "outhouses" that students had used previously. There was a small space between the old and new buildings. According to the "Bosqueville's Best" historical notes, Bosqueville Independent School District consolidated with the China Spring Independent School District in 1958 and this consolidation lasted until 1964-65.⁽⁶⁾

On Sunday morning, June 7, 1959, the old school burned. In March 1960, a new building was completed on the site of the old one. The new building contained three classrooms and a "cafetorium" with a stage, and was connected to the 1953 building with no space between the restrooms and the addition. An identical building was built at China Spring simultaneously. These two buildings at Bosqueville are still standing, surrounded by newer buildings that make up the present school. At some point, an additional building was built in the open space between the 1960 building and the 1953 building.



The 1953 building (l) and the 1960 building (r), c.1961

This photo is from the 1961 China Spring Yearbook.

Beginning in 1959-60, Bosqueville had only Grades 1-6. Beginning with Grade 7, Bosqueville students were bused to China Spring.

In 1969-70, the Bosqueville School closed and most Bosqueville students attended China Spring. The following year, 1970-71, Bosqueville reopened and has steadily grown. According to Rachel Donaldson Carter, who attended Bosqueville School and presently is employed there, Grades 7 and 8 were added in 1980-81. In 1984-85, Grade 9 was added, and the first 12th Grade graduation was May, 1988. The campus continues to grow.

Memories of Robbie Cobbs

On a “Memories” page of the “Bosqueville’s Best” book, the descendants of Robbie Cobbs, a former student and former PTA President, shared some of her memories:

“There was a big green schoolhouse that is now located on Old Steinbeck Bend Road. It was around 1926, and there are many memories of cold, winter days and warm, spring days. The winter was cold and icy, and there was ice-skating where our football field is now located. The children would run inside to warm up and dry off. The building was heated with coal in an old pot-belly stove. The children would place their feet up near the side of the hot stove. Many shoe soles were scorched but very few feet were warmed. Another treat on a cold day or on someone’s birthday was popping popcorn on the pot-belly stove. The teacher at this time was Maureen Johnson. She taught school for many years, and will forever be remembered for her dedication and love for Bosqueville.”⁽⁶⁾

Gratitude...

In addition to numerous personal interviews and comments from the members of “Historical Bosqueville”, we gratefully acknowledge the following sources that helped us prepare this brief history:

- (1) “The Culture of Bosqueville” (2002) by Sarah A. Garner.
- (2) “Handbook of Waco and McLennan County” (1972) by Dayton Kelley, editor.
- (3) “McLennan County Before 1980” (1981) by W.R. “Bob” Poage.
- (4) “Founder of Seventy Year Old Baptist Church at Bosqueville Was Blacksmith, and Good One, Too,” The Waco News Tribune, November 30, 1924.
- (5) “Early History of Bosqueville School” by Bettie McCowan Scott. This is an undated document.
- (6) “Bosqueville’s Best” (1986) by Bosqueville PTA.

*Dear old Bosqueville School, you have
stood the storms of many years.
Where girls and boys have parted,
some in joy and some in tears.
The memory of you to us old students
time alone will sever.
On us you left your stamp of usefulness
we hope will last forever.*

by Bettie McCowan Scott
Grandmother of Maureen McNamara Johnson

The Schools of Bosqueville Timeline

| | |
|---------|--|
| 1850 | McLennan County Organized |
| 1850 | First burial at Bosqueville Cemetery |
| 1853-54 | The first schoolhouse, a log schoolhouse, is built. |
| 1854 | Bosqueville is placed in McLennan County District No. 2. |
| 1857 | Bosqueville Academy for Boys and Seminary for Young Ladies is established by John Collier. Students of all ages attended school here until 1888. |
| 1861 | Bosqueville Male and Female College is established by Rev. Solomon G. O'Bryan. |
| 1865 | Bosqueville Male and Female College closes. |
| 1870 | By the 1870s, the African- American School is established. |
| 1878 | The first African-American schoolhouse burns, but the school continues. |
| 1888 | The old College Building is razed and a new two-room schoolhouse is built. |
| 1888 | The Bosqueville School District is established. |
| 1896 | The Bosqueville School District divides to create the Oakwood School District. |
| 1915 | The Bosqueville and Oakwood School Districts consolidate. |
| 1926 | Bosqueville School and China Spring School Districts consolidate. |
| 1926 | A private school in Bosqueville is opened by Mrs. Maureen Johnson. |
| 1928 | Bosqueville and China Spring School Districts dissolve their consolidation after two years. |
| 1929-30 | The old Bosqueville School building is moved to Steinbeck Bend Road to become the African-American School.* |
| 1929-30 | A new cement school building is built at the site of the old Bosqueville School.* |
| 1947-48 | The last year that Bosqueville offers High School through Grade 10. Grade 8 would be offered until the 1959-60 school year, after which only up to Grade 6 would be offered until 1980-81. |
| 1952-53 | A new building is built in front of the old 1930 building with three classrooms. |
| 1958 | Bosqueville and China Spring School Districts consolidate. |
| 1959 | The 1930 Bosqueville School building burns on Sunday morning, June 7. |
| 1960 | A new classroom building is completed to replace the 1930 building. |
| 1964-65 | The first Bosqueville African-American students attend China Spring High School. |
| 1965 | Bosqueville and China Spring dissolve their consolidation after seven years. |
| 1965-66 | First year of integration at Bosqueville School. |
| 1969-70 | Bosqueville School closes and all students are bused to China Spring. |
| 1970-71 | Bosqueville School reopens, never to close again. |
| 1980-81 | Grades Seven and Eight are added. |
| 1983 | The Bosqueville African-American School is demolished. |
| 1984-85 | Grade Nine is added. |
| 1988 | The first-ever Twelfth Grade Graduation held at Bosqueville School. |

*According to a September 20, 1929 Waco News Tribune article, Bosqueville voters were going to the polls that day to vote on a proposed tax increase to build a "new brick or concrete school building." This is the only reference we can find to the new school. It passed, because the following year the new building was standing at Bosqueville.

Bosqueville School Today...Moving the Legacy Forward!

In 1969-70, the Bosqueville School closed and all Bosqueville students attended China Spring School. The following year, 1970-71, Bosqueville reopened and has steadily grown since then. According to Rachel Donaldson Carter, who attended Bosqueville School and is presently employed there, Grades Seven and Eight were added in 1980-81. In 1984-85, Grade Nine was added, and the first Twelfth Grade graduation was in May, 1988. The campus continues to grow. Unless otherwise noted, all photos are from Google Earth.



Bosqueville School Campuses

The main campus is located at the approximate site of the old "Bosqueville Academy for Boys and the Seminary for Young Ladies" at 7636 Rock Creek Road. The Elementary School Campus is located nearby at 1000 Washington Lane, with roads on the property connecting the campuses.



Bosqueville School, 7636 Rock Creek Road

1953 Building

1960 Building

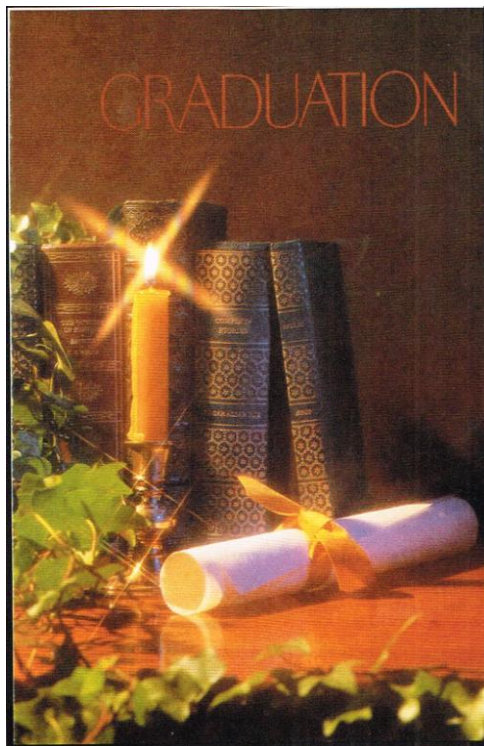


The diagram to the left shows the location of the 1953 and 1960 buildings, now surrounded by new buildings that make up the main campus.

The photo below shows the 1953 building, still visible from the street. The 1960 building is surrounded by newer buildings. The space between the 1953 and 1960 buildings was originally an open courtyard.



The 1953 Building



1988
GRADUATES
BOSQUEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

PHIL A. BEATTY
TERESA C. BROWN
DIONEA F. BRUNER
DAYNA L. COOPER
MELISSA J. HATFIELD
KEITH A. HARLESS
LARRY P. HOLLINGSWORTH
WILLIAM D. KOSAR
MELISSA L. LINDSEY
LARRY G. PLEMONS
TERRY L. SOHNS
FRED A. STELTER
ROBERT A. STEPP
BARRY B. WATKINS
LESLIE S. WHITNEY
ROBERT C. WOODS
RICHARD L. ZIRPS

THE FIRST GRADUATING
CLASS OF
BOSQUEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



GRADUATION EXERCISES

BOSQUEVILLE
HIGH SCHOOL

Saturday, May 28, 1988
8:00 P.M.

McLennan Community College
Performing Arts Center



COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

ProcessionalCindy Queen
Music Teacher, Bosqueville High School
InvocationPenny Allison
Trustee, Bosqueville I.S.D.
Salutatory AddressDionea Bruner
Valedictory AddressMelissa Jan Hatfield
Special AddressRichard L. Zirps
Foreign Exchange Student
Special Awards.....Roy H. Trussell
Superintendent, Bosqueville I.S.D.
Introduction of Speaker.....Roy H. Trussell
Superintendent, Bosqueville I.S.D.
Class Address.....M. A. TAYLOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Introduction of President
of Board of Trustees.....Roy H. Trussell
Superintendent, Bosqueville I.S.D.
Introduction of Board MembersLane Donaldson
President, Board of Education
Certification of ClassC. L. Hammond
Principal, Bosqueville I.S.D.
Presentation of Diplomas.....Lane Donaldson
Benediction.....Roy H. Trussell
Recessional.....Cindy Queen

HONOR USHERS

Russell Brown
Lucio Olvera

Jana Helleson
Tanya Pagan

The First Twelfth-Grade Graduating Class of Bosqueville High School, 1988
From the 2018 Bosqueville ISD Yearbook. Contributed by Rachel Donaldson Carter.



Bosqueville High School



Bosqueville High School Football Field



Bosqueville High School Baseball Field. Drone photo by Mike Finnell.

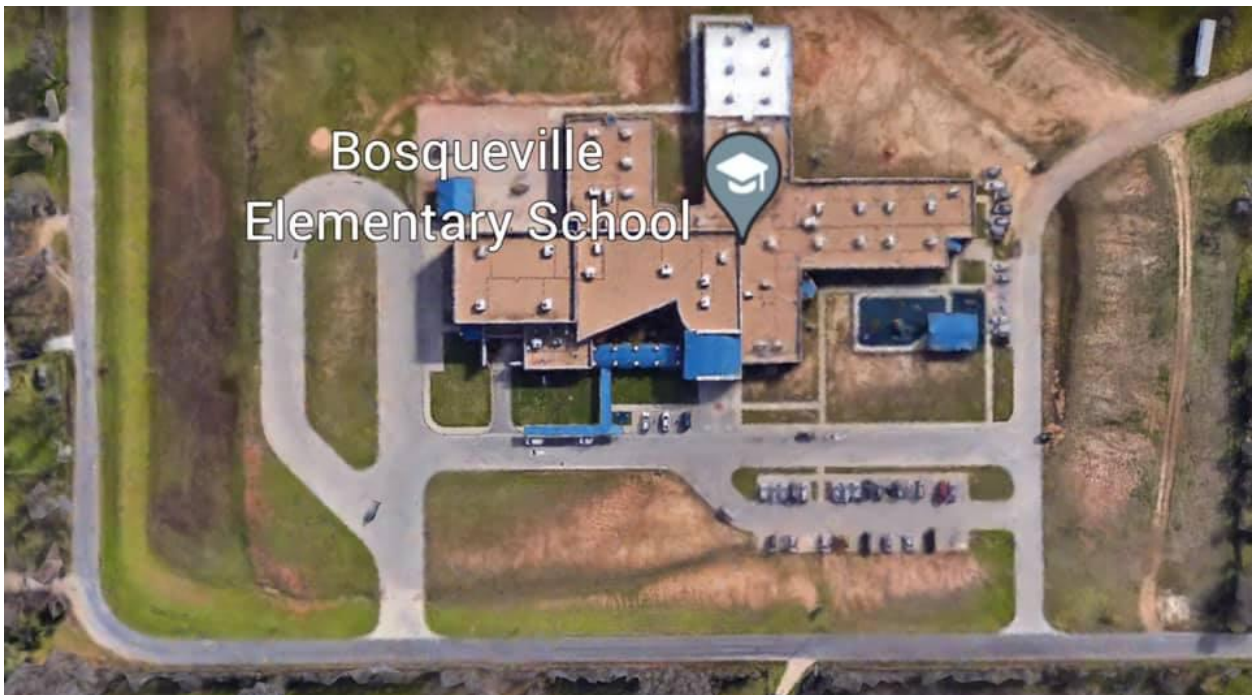
Drone photos by Mike Finnell.



The 1953 Building at right, and the 1960 Building at the top middle of the photo.
The 1960 Building is surrounded by a newer building. The taller building just behind the 1953 Building sits where an empty courtyard once stood.



Bosqueville Elementary at 1000 Washington Lane
The Elementary School is connected to the original school campus by roads on their property.



EARLY HISTORY OF BOSQUEVILLE SCHOOL

by Bettie McCown Scott (16 April 1858-23 November 1931).

(This document was discovered after the book was published and is not a part of the book.)

When McLennan County was organized in 1850, the well-known settlements in the vicinity of Waco were Bosqueville, White Rock, and South Bosque. Of these, Bosqueville emerged as the principle one.

The Bosqueville community began about 1850 for at that time along with Waco, it was considered as a place for the county seat.

In 1854, a school district was created with J. H. Sparks, J. T. Eubanks, and William Gill as trustees. A log school house to be used as a school for small children was built where the cemetery now is.

In the fall of 1853, J.H. Sparks and family had come to Bosqueville from Nacogdoches. They came in ox carts, wagons, and carriages, and drove pigs and cattle because they were scarce in this country. They came across the Brazos and settled on seven hundred acres of land, two miles north of the village.

Upon arriving, Mr. Sparks sent his daughter, Mattie, to Waco to a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher, who was teaching school there.

(Page 2 of letter)

He was Dr. John Collier, whose teaching was so well-liked that Mr. Sparks and others prevailed upon him to come to Bosqueville and erect a college.

About 1856, he and Mrs. Dr. Rowe established a college which became a chartered institution. Dr. Collier and Dr. Rowe were heads of the teaching force. There were two separate institutions, the "Bosqueville Academy for Boys" and the "Seminary for Young Ladies".

Before very long, Mrs. Rowe sold her interest to Dr. Collier but continued in the work.

The main building was a large, two story white frame with a belfry. Dormitories were smaller houses placed in the background. The first floor was one big room where all the students studied together. The teacher took one class at a time for recitation. The Masons, who were always interested in education, used the upstairs as their hall. Different church denominations also worshipped in this building.

Students came from far and near to attend the college. At one time, one-hundred eighty were enrolled.

(Page 3 of letter)

The Civil War broke up the college. All the boys had to go to war. Dr. Collier went, too. Before going, he sold for one dollar to trustees William Gill, Henry Rodgers, J. H. Sparks, William Cobbs, and B. F. Richey three acres of land upon which the college building stood. In the deed, Collier reserved the right of preaching in the building.

The only two known graduates of the Collier school were Miss Eleanora Scott, who later married Robert Wortham, and Miss Mary King, who later married Joseph Giles. Miss Scott received her diploma (July 4, --). Miss Scott's sheepskin diploma is in The Texas Collection at Baylor. Miss King's was given to a young kinsman. (Ben Gorham failed to take it and it burned when the Giles house burned in 1969.)

A teacher in the academy was Rev. Solomon G. O'Bryan, a native of North Carolina, who came to Texas in 1852 and taught at Baylor at Independence, Texas. Later, he came to Waco and was employed as teacher at Bosqueville. The Bosqueville Baptist Church was constituted by Elder O'Bryan on the fifth Sabbath in November, 1854.

(Page 4 of letter)

He reorganized the school into the "Bosqueville Male and Female College", the first co-educational institution in McLennan County.

From these two schools, the foundation of some of the best business men were laid, such men as John and Walter Baker, Richard Harrison, Lem Black, Charles Eichelberger, Turner Hubby, John H. Rose and others too numerous to mention.

In those days, teachers were scarce and hard to secure. T. F. Lockett, Mrs. Mattie Taliaferro, and Miss Celia Thomas were employed after the war. The first graduates from these were Mollie Riddle, Gussie Edmonson, and Mollie Lockett. This was in 1869.

The school had made such progress that it was necessary to have a conservatory of music, which was taught by Professor T. W. Krause, a noted musician of his day.

For a while after the Civil War, it was necessary to teach the young children in private schools.

(Page 5 of letter)

Bosqueville School for over one-hundred years has dispensed instruction and has played an important part in the education of untold numbers of boys and girls.

“Dear old Bosqueville School,
you have stood the storms of many years
Where girls and boys have parted,
some in joy and some in tears.
The memory of you to us old students
time alone will sever
On us you left your stamp of usefulness
we hope will last forever.”

-Bettie McCown Scott (16 April 1858-23 November 1931)
(Maureen McNamara Johnson’s grandmother)

Notes:

- This document is in the possession of Lane Donaldson, who allowed us to transcribe and share it. It is not dated, but would have had to have been written before her death in 1931. On the original letter there are several later additions written by another person with another pen, such as the reference to the Giles’ house burning in 1969 on Page 3 of the letter. **We have neither added to nor deleted anything from the original letter.**
- On Page 2 of the letter, there is reference made to “Mrs. Dr. Rowe”. This is Dr. Ann Rowe.
- On Page 3 of the letter, a later note has been added to the letter that Eleanora Scott received her diploma on July 4, --. The two-digit year is illegible, but it appears to be 61, as in 1861. She would have only been 15 at that time.
- On Page 3 of the letter, Mrs. Scott tells us that Dr. Collier sold three acres to the trustees, which was the land upon which the college building stood. In her book, “The Culture of Bosqueville”, Sarah Garner states that Dr. Collier initially bought 50 acres for the school.
- There is a discrepancy here from other accounts in that Mrs. Scott says on Page 4 of the letter that the music conservatory (taught by Professor T. W. Krause) came with the second school, the “Bosqueville Male and Female College”. This was under the direction of Rev. Solomon G. O’Bryan. All other accounts we have read say that it was a part of the first school, the “Bosqueville Academy for Boys” and the “Seminary for Young Ladies.” She also states that his name was Professor T. W. Krause, but it was actually Ernest W. Krause. Those are the only two discrepancies we find in this letter.

Elizabeth Fortson “Bettie” McCown Scott (16 April 1858-23 November 1931) was born in Marshall, Texas (Harrison County) and died in Bosqueville, Texas (McLennan County). She is buried at Bosqueville Cemetery. Her father was David Conroe McCown (1833-1880) and her mother was Margaret Jane Williams McCown (1835-1886). Her sister was Virginia Gregg McCown Lawson (1862-1943) and her brother was David Conroe McCown (1872-1918). Her husband was Thomas Quincy Scott. Her children were Cecil Conroe Scott (1878-1962), Vada Greer Scott Wortham (1881-1979), Ina Rose Scott McNamara (1884-1954), and Fortson McCown Scott (1902-1976). Ina Rose Scott McNamara was the mother of Maureen McNamara Johnson (1902-1983), who was a teacher and Bosqueville historian.