

This information was compiled by Ardis Walter McMechan as a school projects in the mid-1940's

New Jerusilum and Guadalupe

About a mile south and one half mile east of Beaman on the place now occupied by Bill Rouse was the General Store of the town called New Jerusilum. Across the road on the hill stood a blacksmith shop of the small settlement. Directly south was the log cabin built by George and Elizabeth Walter when they arrived July 3, 1855. There was also a post office and a lumber mill near there.

About one fourth mile south of Beaman where Bruce Gard now lives was located a small store called Guadalupe. Then, when Beaman was incorporated in the 1870's by H.H. Beaman, these settlements disbanded. The main reason for this was the coming of the railroad through the area in 1876. There are none of the original buildings left; all that remains are the sites. The first railroad (the wooden rail) was built in 1876. The Northwestern was built to Beaman the same year. William Dayton was the first Chicago and Northwestern Railroad agent.

The Methodist church and parsonage were built in 1878 and 1880. The original parsonage was located where Jack Kale lives (Lot 35). Rev. W.F. Dove was the first circuit preacher and officiated at the dedication of the church. The presiding elder was John Bowman. The grounds where the parsonage now stands (Lot 32) used to be school grounds. The first school building was a 2 story, 2 room frame building. It was built about 1880. The present school building was built in 1917 with 12 grades whereas the other school had 10. Solomon S. Beaman contributed 10 acres of ground for school grounds.

Fires of 1889 and 1900 destroyed most of the buildings on the west side of main street.

Some of the early men and their businesses were: Abert Bisbee in lumbering and then in banking later. His original home is owned by Howard Ving (Lot 160). J.M. Ebright, a merchant lived where O.A. Jacobs (Lot) does now. E.C. Casson was a carpenter

and the McClains were the first doctors. Henry Eberhardt was the first blacksmith and one of the first pioneers. George W. Cowgill was one of the very first county Supt. Residente at one time was where John Hottopp lives east of Beaman. Later he was in the Hardware business in Beaman. MVB. Evans came in 1881 and was in lumber and banking. James C. Watt was a contractor and builder. F.M. Wheeler and Co. handled dry goods. M.L. Rogers was a grain buyer. J.A. Connell had a meat market. H.S. Beaman was the first postmaster and also had a general merchandise store. H.F. Middleton was a veterinarian.

The school board members at the time the school was built in 1917 were G.A. Hitchcock, President; C.A. Myers, W.S. Walter, E.G. Elloit, Secy.; D.R. Earl, Supt. of Schools; E. McMartin; W.R. Wallace; and D.R. Simms.

Description of Beaman as it was in the 1940's.

There are one hundred and fifty people in Beaman. (approximate) One hundred and three pupils are enrolled in the Consolidated school. There are 12 grades and a kindergarten. The Odd Fellows and Rebeckh Lodges are well attended for the size of the town. There is also a Girl Scout troop.

Main street has 2 general merchandise stores, an American Leigon hall, pool hall, park, 2 gas stations, a farm machinery building, post office, telephone office, city hall and a bank. The bank was one of only a few that did not close during the depression in the 1930's. There is also a Methodist church and parsonage. The Northwestern railroad runs through Beaman and there is a Cooperative Elevator. The school has 10 acres of school grounds. There are 2 basketball teams (boys and girls) and a boys baseball team.

I also have quite a lot of Walter pioneer information - what life was like etc. if that would be useful. Some of the spellings look a little strange but they do shange through the years, sometimes,

hit a whole string of wrong keys!
~~_____~~ Have seen *Guadalupe* *Seidslupe* and *Studeup* in old records. Let me know if you want the Beaman plat and lot owners list.

Sorry it has taken me so long to get this to you.

Sources: Town Records, W.S. Walter, Herman Bein and others.