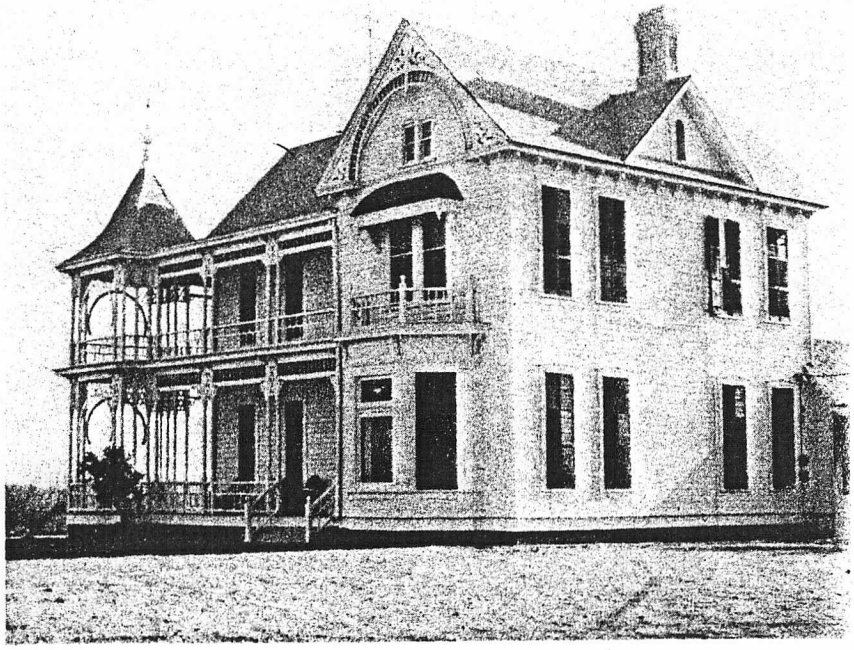
Sprinkle, Texas

A Little Town Austin Has Taken Over

As Austin greedily extends its boundaries the small towns of Travis County are gobbled up by the encroaching city. Proud, thriving communities have lost their identity as they have become suburbs of metropolitan Austin. One such town is Sprinkle, the first station north of Austin on the Katy railroad. Of course, the Texas Special did not stop there but passengers used always to look out to the left to see the big white frame house with its intricate Victorian gingerbread trimming. Today Sprinkle is right on the edge of Austin, but when it was settled in 1881 it was a truly rural community. Capt. Eramus Frederick Sprinkle, his daughter Cremora, and four grandchildren came from Virginia to make a new home in Central Texas. One of the grandchildren, William Braxton Barr, bought considerable acreage and wrote to Washington to ask for a township grant and that the little town be named Sprinkle in honor of his grandfather. A Post Office was authorized, and soon a general merchandising store, a blacksmith shop, a gin, etc. appeared to service the booming cotton production of the fertile fields. Ironically, Barr died just before the railroad, which he had worked long to obtain and for which he had donated the station site, came to Sprinkle. For a while the town of Sprinkle flourished, but soon, too soon, it went the way of many small rural communities. The price of cotton fell, the depression came, the cotton gin and barn were destroyed by fire. The young folks found they could make better money in the bigger cities. They left the farms and the little community became in time a ghost town. Today Sprinkle is no longer a town but a precinct. But the big white house, a splendid example of a Victorian country mansion, was restored and lived in by a great granddaughter of Capt. Sprinkle and her children. It is worth the short drive out the Cameron Road to see the house, although the Katy no longer goes along the railroad track beside it. At least the house was there the last time we looked!



The big white house that was the landmark at Sprinkle, Texas.

Austin History Center

Austin History Center

Sprinkle





V. M. GRISWELL
TRUSTEE



G. L. HELTON
TRUSTEE

SPRINKLE GRADES



FRONT – MARIE HENNING
ELLA MAE HELTON
ELLA NORA SUNDBECK
HOWARD PAYTON
OBERT SUNDBECK

MIDDLE– DORIS GREESON
ESTELLA PAYTON
LILIE MAE EDIE
THOMAS HELTON

BOB WAGNER
R. D. PAYTON
HOWARD ROGAS
BANNIE SUNDBECK
GERALD HAGOOD

BACK – RUBY HELTON
ELDON SUNDBECK
DALE HENNIG
HUBERT HAGOOD
MILTON SUNDBECK
ROBERT HELTON



MRS. IRIS CAHILL
TEACHER





MISS TURA STEPHENS
TEACHER