



Allen Academy

TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION

May 21, 1998

"We are not ambitious to have a large school,
but we are ambitious to have a school as excellent
as money and labor and love can make it."

Allen Academy Catalog, 1905

*Celebrating a Century of Service
to Bryan/College Station*

Allen Academy

This school originated as Madison Academy, founded in 1886 in Madisonville by John Hodges Allen (1854-1920), an educator from Mississippi. When his brother Rivers O. Allen (1865-1925) joined him in 1896, the institution became Allen Academy, a private boarding school for boys. During the summer of 1899, the Allens moved the school to Bryan to the corner of 22nd and Ursuline Avenue.

In the early years of the 20th century, enrollment steadily increased. The campus was enlarged and new buildings were erected to accommodate the students. During World War I, military training was introduced. In 1925, John Allen's son Nat Burtis Allen (1892-1946) became director of the school. During his tenure, the Academy continued to grow and gained national recognition. When he died in 1946, the campus contained over 300 acres, including a farm and dairy. His son Nat Burtis Allen, Jr. (1919-1973) guided the institution until 1973 and led in establishing a broader curriculum.

Allen Academy, relocated here in 1988, is the oldest accredited, non-sectarian preparatory school for boys operating in Texas. Its graduates include leaders in government and business. Today the institution is co-educational and offers a broad range of scholastic programs for boarding and day students.

Texas Historical Marker Inscription, May 21, 1998

TEXAS PRIVATE SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.
ALLEN ACADEMY
HISTORICAL MARKER
DEDICATION

May 21, 1998 at 1:00 pm

Allen Academy Campus

Welcome Dr. Dan Saylak
Chairman of the Board, Allen Academy

Pledge Marvin Zeig

Recognition of Distinguished Guest Dr. Dan Saylak

Remarks Mayor Lonnie Stabler

Brief history of Allen Academy Mrs. Lynred Hoepfner
Headmaster

Unveiling of the Marker Mr. Charles Schultz
Chair, Brazos County Historical Commission

Acceptance of the Marker Mrs. Hoepfner
and Members of the Allen Academy Community

Benediction Reverend Jack Mitchell
Former Allen Academy Employee

The horizon for Allen Academy is bright as it embarks on its centennial year in Bryan-College Station. Today we will rededicate the historical marker attesting to our past. Fifteen years ago the school celebrated the placement of the first historical marker when the campus was located at 22nd and Ursuline Avenue. Today we celebrate our place in history as the school continues to serve the needs of young people in this community and around the world at our present location.

Allen Academy originated as Madison Academy, founded in 1886 by John Hodges Allen (1854-1920) in the community of Madisonville. His brother Rivers O. Allen (1865-1925) joined Mr. Allen, an educator from Mississippi, in 1896 and the institution became Allen Academy, a private boarding school for boys. In 1899, the Allen Brothers moved the school to Bryan, where it was located for ninety years at the corner of 22nd and Ursuline Avenue.

In the early years of the twentieth century, enrollment steadily increased and the campus was enlarged. During World War I military training was introduced. In 1925, John Allen's son Nat Burtis Allen (1892-1946) became head of the school. During his tenure, the Academy continued to grow and gained national recognition. When Allen died in 1946, the campus contained over 300 acres, including a farm and dairy. Allen's son, Nat Burtis, Jr., (1919-1973) guided the institution until 1973 and led in establishing a broader curriculum.

Allen Academy moved to this location in 1988, and holds the distinction of being the oldest accredited, non-sectarian preparatory school for boys operating in Texas. Its graduates include leaders in government and business. Today the institution is co-educational and offers a broad range of scholastic programs for day students and boarding boys. In 1999, Allen Academy will celebrate a century of service in the Bryan-College Station area.

We thank those who have gone before us and we pledge to continue the upward spiral of excellence as Allen Academy enters the new millennium.

Lynred Hoepfner, Head of School