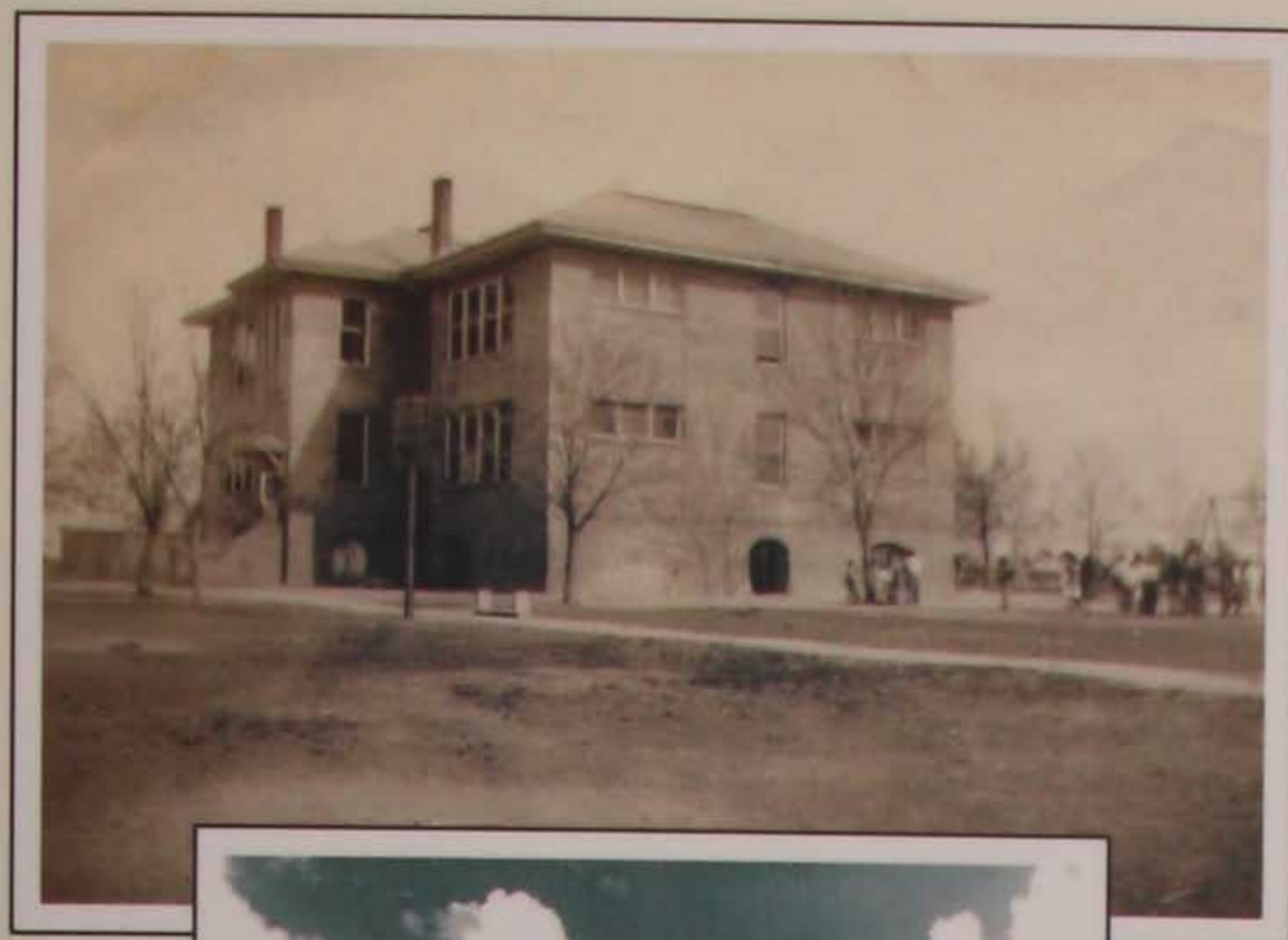


DICKINSON

SCHOOLS



The Dickinson school system began with the arrival of Minnie Witter Owens from Kansas. She held the first classes in the "Little Church on the Hill," destroyed by the 1900 storm. After the storm, classes were held temporarily in a partitioned-off area in one of the Fair Grounds buildings. By 1901, a new school building had been erected. The children could look out the windows of the school to see cowboys driving cattle across an old wooden bridge during round-up season. The school year lasted only six months but was increased to eight months when more teachers became available.

By 1903, Dickinson had a two-teacher school. Classes went to the seventh grade. After 1911, if students wished to continue their education, they commuted by Interurban, at their own expense, to Ball High School in Galveston to complete their final years.

In 1913, a new two-story brick high school went under construction. When it opened in the spring of 1914, the Dickinson Common School District #7 had 195 students.

In 1929, a large one-story, modern school building was erected on the site of the 1913-14 building. The old brick building was torn down.

In 1939, a new junior and senior high school was opened, serving grades 7 through 12. The new facility featured a large auditorium, gymnasium and football field.

In 1941, the Dickinson Independent School District was formed. The enrollment was 594 students.