



PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
ZONING CASE FINAL REPORT



DATE: May 16, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor & City Council

FROM: Planning & Zoning Commission

VIA: Eric Hill, AICP, Assistant Director of Planning acting as Secretary of the Planning & Zoning Commission 
Christina D. Day, AICP, Director of Planning 

SUBJECT: Results of Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting of May 15, 2023

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - ZONING CASE 2022-020
PETITIONER(S): TEXAS POOL FOUNDATION

Request to designate an individual Heritage Landmark on 0.5 acre located on the west side of Springbrook Drive, 960 feet south of Janwood Drive. Zoned Single-Family Residence-7. Project #ZC2022-020.

APPROVED: 7-0-1

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| Speaker Card(s) Received | Support: | <u>1</u> | Oppose: | <u>0</u> | Neutral: | <u>0</u> |
| Letters Received Within 200' Notice Area: | Support: | <u>2</u> | Oppose: | <u>1</u> | Neutral: | <u>0</u> |
| Petition Signatures Received: | Support: | <u>0</u> | Oppose: | <u>0</u> | Neutral: | <u>0</u> |
| Other Responses: | Support: | <u>62</u> | Oppose: | <u>3</u> | Neutral: | <u>4</u> |

RESULTS:

The Commission recommends approval as submitted.

To view the hearing, please click on the provided link:
<https://planotx.new.swagit.com/videos/230196?ts=132>

PM/kob

cc: Eric Hill, Assistant Director of Planning
Christina Sebastian, Land Records Planning Manager
Melissa Kleineck, Lead Planner
Cassidy Exum, GIS Technician
Jeanna Scott, Building Inspections Manager
Dorothy Alatorre, Sr. Administrative Assistant - Neighborhood Services

[Google Link](#)

Agenda Item No. 1

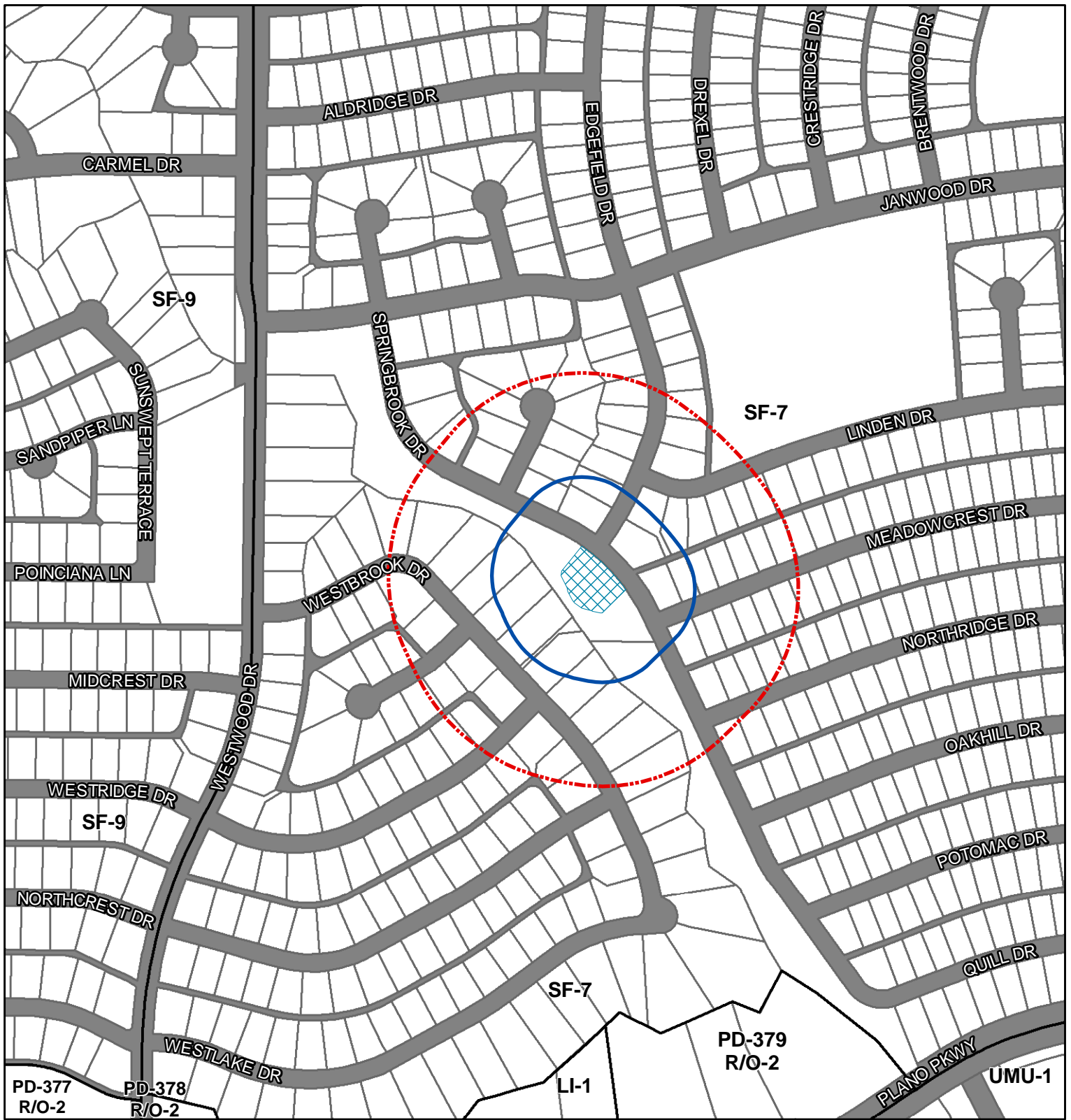
Public Hearing: Zoning Case 2022-020

Petitioner: The Texas Pool Foundation

DESCRIPTION: Request to designate an individual heritage landmark on 0.5 acre located on the west side of Springbrook Drive, 960 feet south of Janwood Drive. Zoned Single-Family Residence-7. Project #ZC2022-020.

SUMMARY:

The applicant is requesting to designate an individual heritage landmark ("H") for the Texas Pool. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2019 and is included as a Potential Heritage Resource (PHR) in the City of Plano [Heritage Preservation Plan](#). The Heritage Preservation Commission recommended approval of the landmark designation at their April 25, 2023, meeting. The request is consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan and meets the criteria for designation within the City Code of Ordinances. For these reasons, staff recommends approval of the heritage landmark designation.

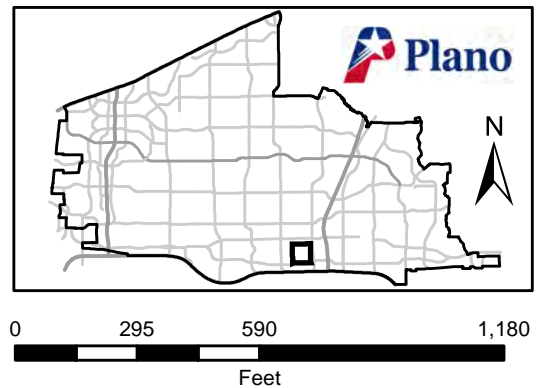


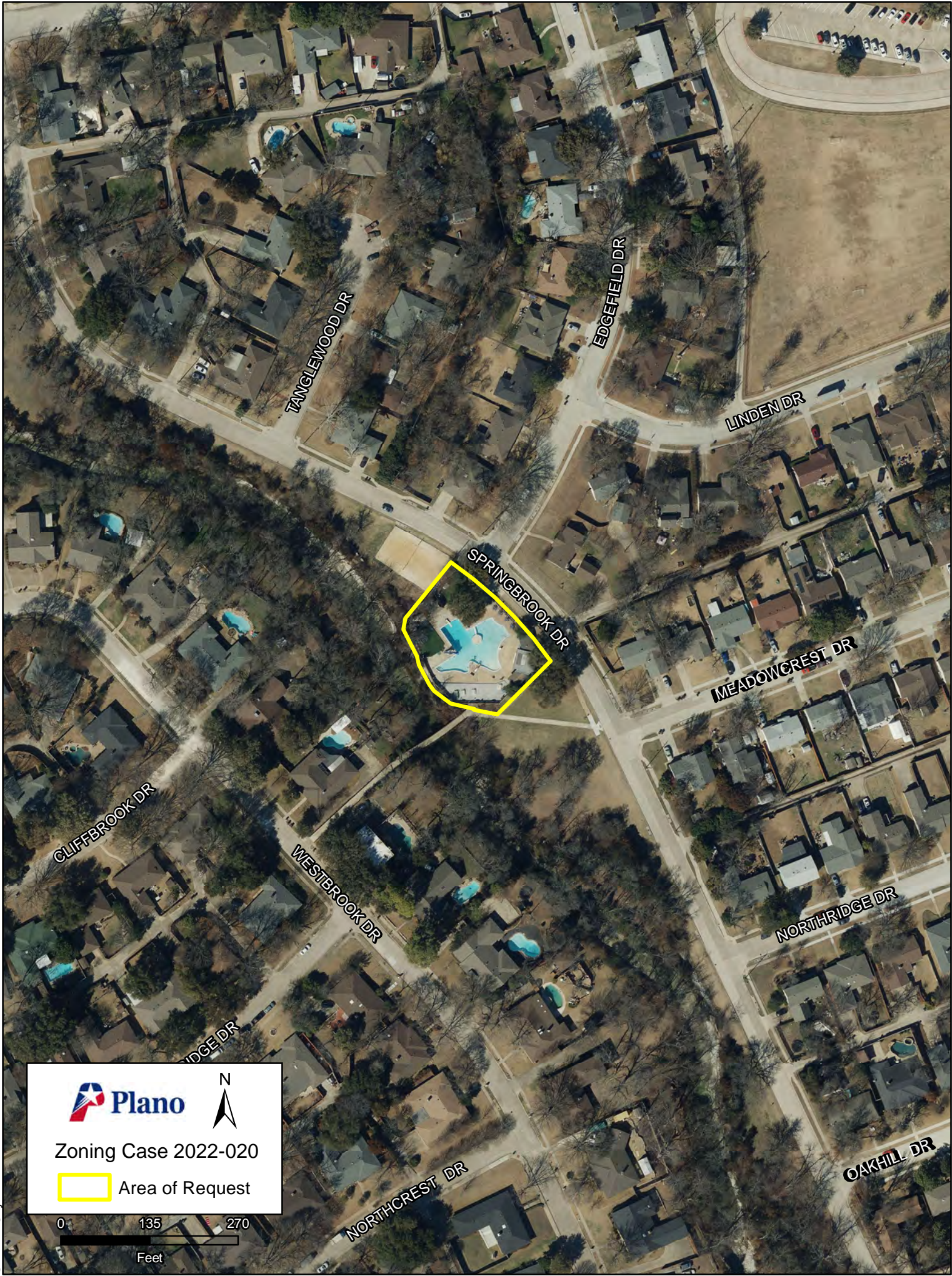
Zoning Case: 2022-020

Existing Zoning: Single-Family Residence-7 (SF-7)

Proposed Zoning: Heritage Landmark

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| nopoolparcel | Subject Property | Zoning Boundary Change/SUP |
| 500' Courtesy Notification Buffer | Streets | Zoning Boundary |
| 200' Notification Buffer | Municipal Boundaries | Specific Use Permit |





STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT - INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The applicant is requesting a Heritage Landmark (H) designation for the Texas Pool. The purpose of an H designation is to provide for the preservation of those areas, places, buildings, structures, works of art, and other objects having significant historical, archaeological, or cultural interests and values which reflect the heritage of the City of Plano. Currently, there are 34 locally designated Heritage Resources in Plano, including 32 individual buildings and two cemeteries. The Saigling House, located at 902 E. 16th Street, was the last H property designated in 2018.

Since FY2018-19, the Texas Pool Foundation (TPF) has received approximately \$228,000 from the Heritage Preservation Grant funds for projects such as pool restoration, plumbing upgrades, patio decking renovation, pool-side furnishings, and marketing. For the current grant year (FY2022-23), the Heritage Commission encouraged TPF to pursue a local landmark designation for the Texas Pool to strengthen the justification for funding a requested seating project. Designation would also help protect the city's investment in the site's restoration, preventing the demolition of the site without prior approval by the Heritage Commission.

In Fall 2022, TPF submitted the request for Heritage Landmark designation. While reviewing the request, staff found complications with the Texas Pool property survey, which shares a boundary on three sides with the City of Plano Overland Trail Park, resulting in the petition being placed on hold temporarily. Since that time, the TPF has diligently worked with City of Plano staff to consider adjustments to property lines and prepare a plat for the Texas Pool and adjacent Overland Trail Park properties.

History

The Texas Pool is well recognized for its historic significance, as demonstrated by its listing on the National Register of Historic Places and classification as a Potential Heritage Resource in the City of Plano *Heritage Preservation Plan*. The following is a brief summary of the history of the Texas Pool:

- The pool opened on May 29, 1961, and was constructed as part of the Dallas North Estates residential neighborhood. It was envisioned by notable Texan, Herbert Hunt, with the "Texas size and Texas-shaped" pool as a key selling point for the neighborhood.
- In 1962, the Hunt Family Trust sold the pool to the nonprofit Dallas North Community Club for \$1.00, with a stipulation that it remain open as a recreational facility. In 1963, non-resident memberships were sold for \$30 per household, equivalent to \$295 in 2023. A competition was held to estimate its 168,000-gallon capacity, with the winner receiving a 10-foot boat, trailer, and motor from Lone Star Boat Company located in Plano.
- Membership peaked in the 1990s, with families seeking the use of one of the 325 memberships available. In the 2000s, membership numbers plummeted, and the pool was in danger of closing.
- In 2006, the Texas Pool was converted from a chlorinated reservoir to a saltwater system, making it unique once more.
- In 2013, the 501(c)3 Texas Pool Foundation was established.

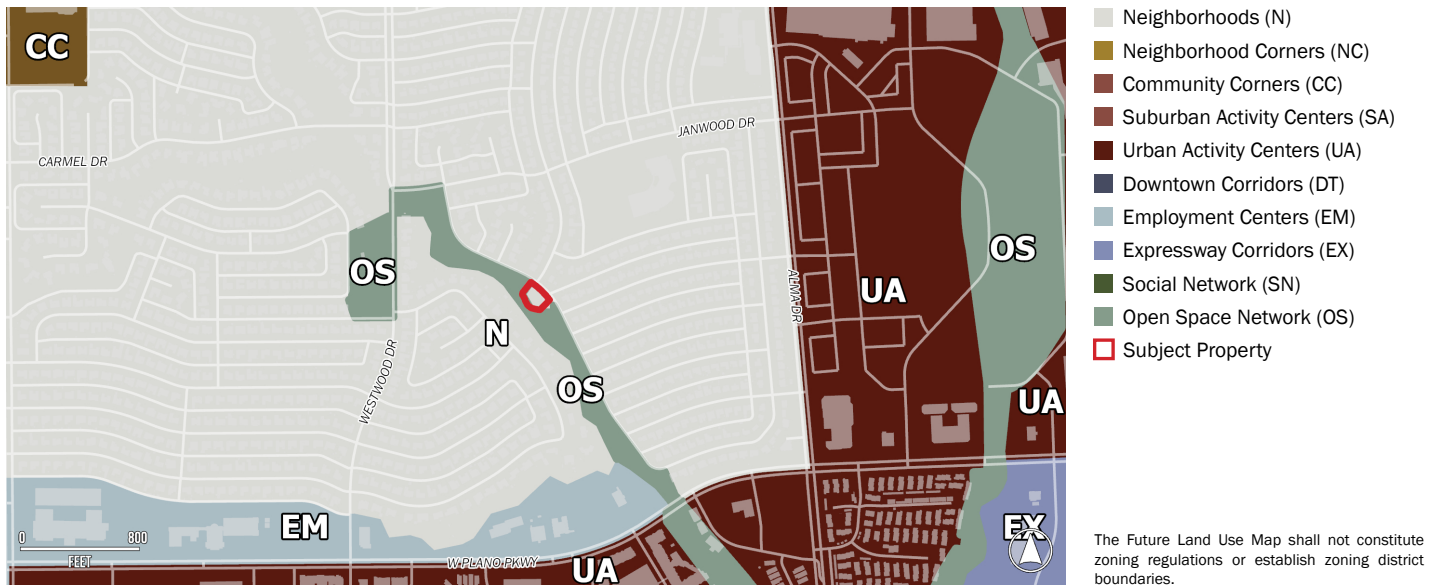
- In 2017, ownership of the pool transferred from the Dallas North Community Club, which had managed the pool since 1962, to the Texas Pool Foundation.
- In 2018, the Texas Pool Foundation started restoration/renovation of the pool with the assistance of Heritage Preservation Grants. The overall project was phased out over the course of five years and consisted of the overall pool restoration, new pavement, and several other upgrades. The pool restoration included the removal of the fiberglass bottom, re-plastering the entire pool, re-adding historically accurate city tiles originally found on the bottom of the pool, and plumbing upgrades. The renovation work included updating the entire patio decking around the pool, updating safe pool-side furniture, addressing safety concerns, and bringing the overall site up to standard with the required safety codes.
- In 2019, the site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Surrounding Land Use and Zoning

| | |
|-------|---|
| North | The properties are zoned Single-Family Residence-7 (SF-7) and include Overland Park Trail park land, and across Springbrook Drive, single-family homes. |
| East | Across Springbrook Drive, the properties are zoned SF-7 and developed with single-family homes. |
| South | The property is zoned SF-7 and is developed as Overland Park Trail park land. |
| West | The properties are zoned SF-7 and developed with single-family homes. |

VISION: "Plano is a global leader, excelling in exceptional education, abounding with world class businesses and vibrant neighborhoods"
GUIDING PRINCIPLES: Plano Today. Plano 2050. Plano Together.

1 | Future Land Use Map



Neighborhoods (N)

PRIORITIES

The Neighborhoods future land use category consists primarily of residential areas focused on sustaining a high quality of life through well-maintained infrastructure, housing, open space, schools, and limited service/institutional uses.

Residential Areas - Single-family residential should remain the primary use within neighborhoods. It is the intention to preserve and enhance these uses and to regulate the design of new residential infill products to be within the context of the surrounding environment. Existing multifamily developments, which function as transitions from moderate and high intensity commercial areas, should be well maintained to preserve neighborhood character. With few large tracts left for residential development, some infill and redevelopment opportunities may not fit the typical neighborhood design.

Non-Residential Areas - Institutional, light office, and service uses are considered secondary uses and may be located along the frontage of arterial streets and intersections.

Residential Adjacency Standards - Adequate transitions in building setbacks and height must be provided when development is proposed near established neighborhoods.

1. Preserving neighborhood character and quality of life
2. Upkeep of existing housing stock
3. Requiring adjacent commercial land uses to provide adequate transitions
4. Variety of housing heights, sizes, and types



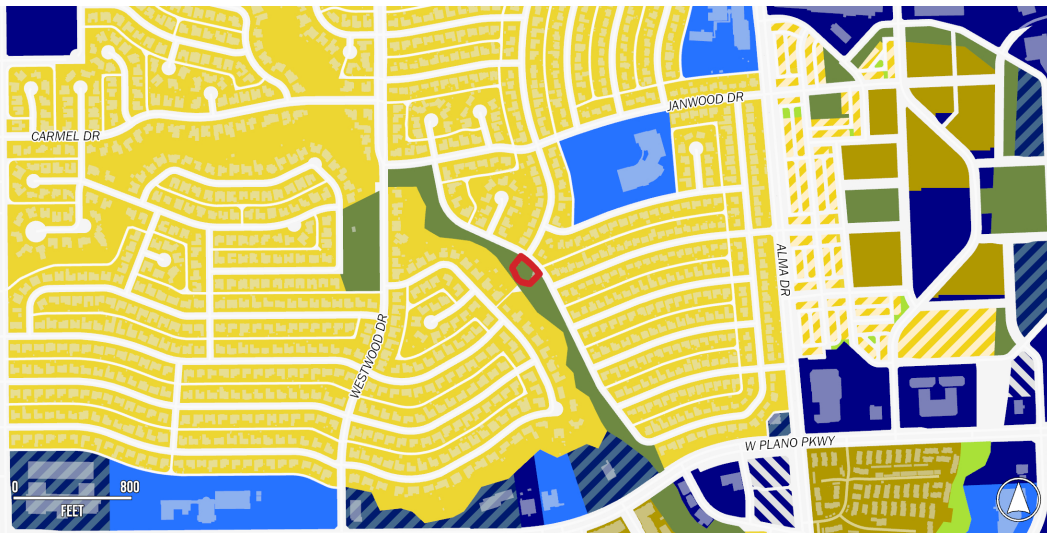
Click here to view the
Neighborhoods
Dashboard

2 | Mix of Uses



Click here for
"How to Read
The Dashboards"

If approved, the request would result in the following Mix of Uses:

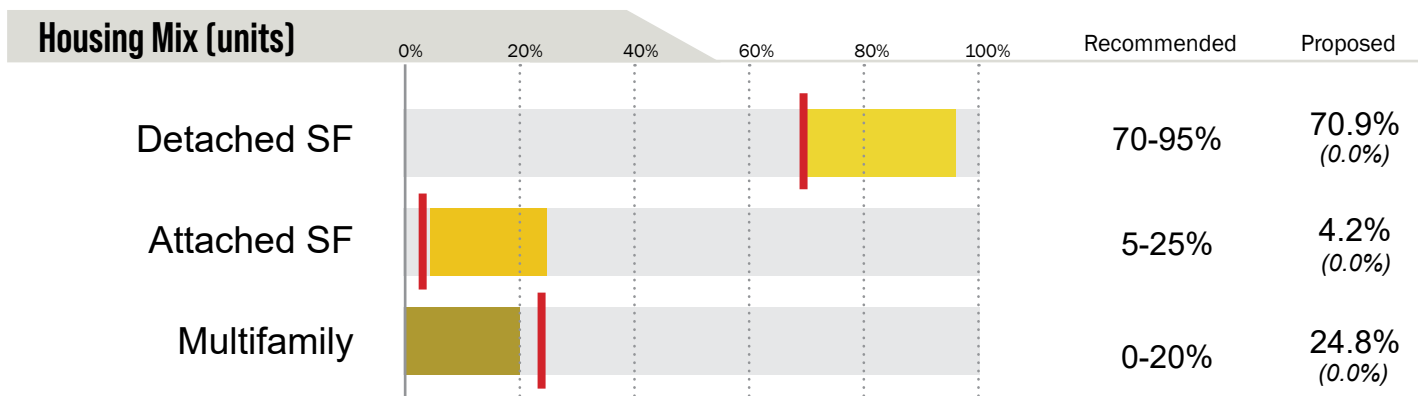
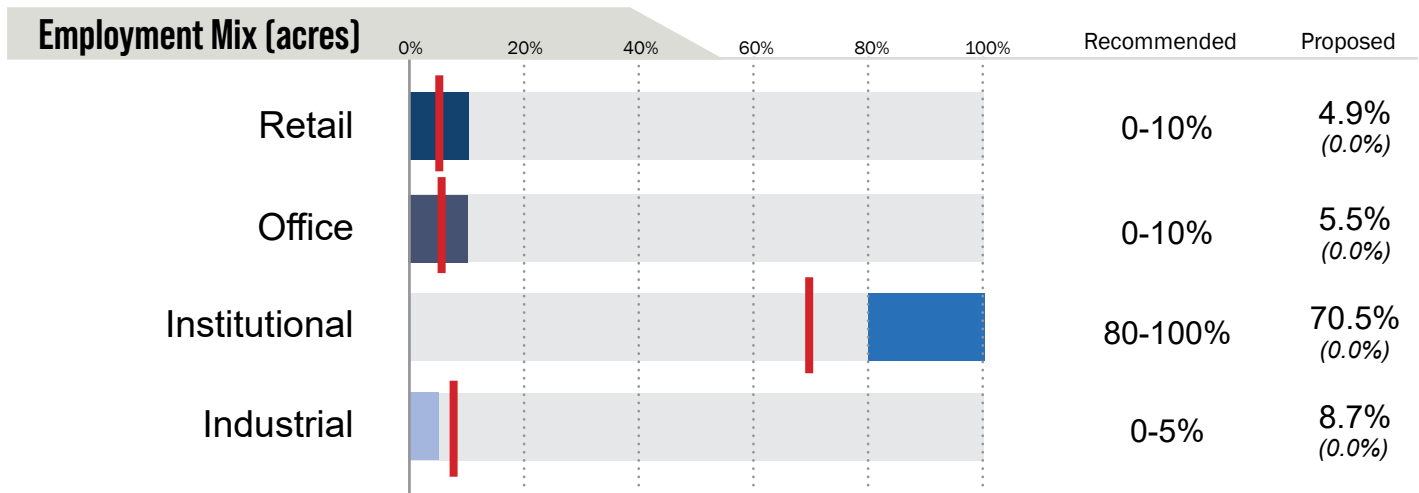
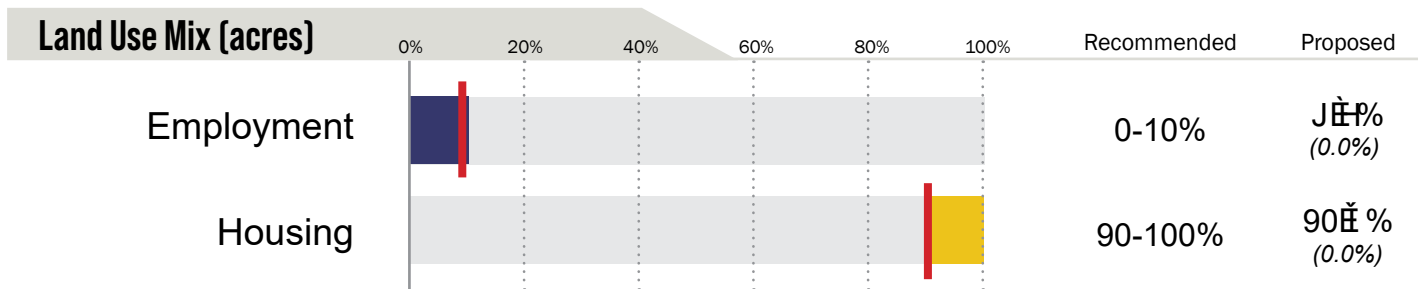


Land Use & Housing Inventory (LUHI)

- Employment, Retail Types
- Employment, Office Types
- Employment, Institutional Types
- Employment, Industrial Types
- Housing, Detached SF Types
- Housing, Attached SF Types
- Housing, Multifamily Types
- Housing, Open Space
- Employment, Undeveloped
- Housing, Undeveloped
- General Open Space
- Subject Property

LUHI Snapshot Date: 1/1/2023

Measurement Area: All properties within the EX Category along US 75



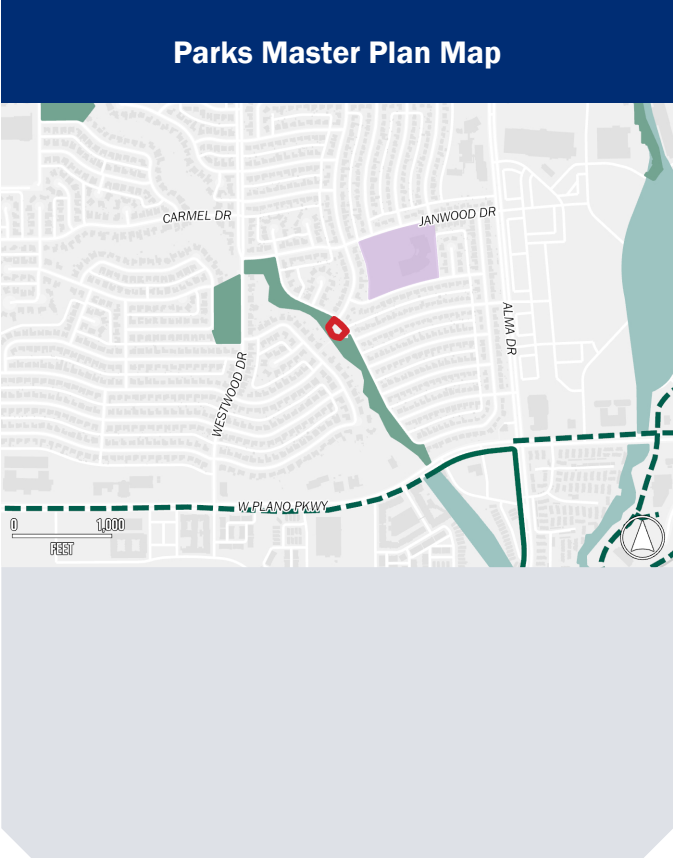
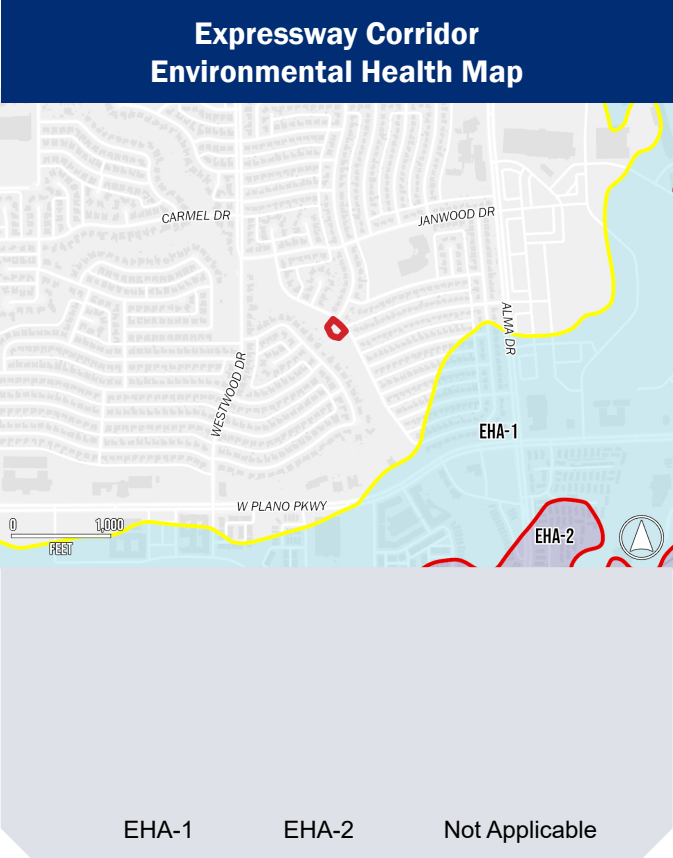
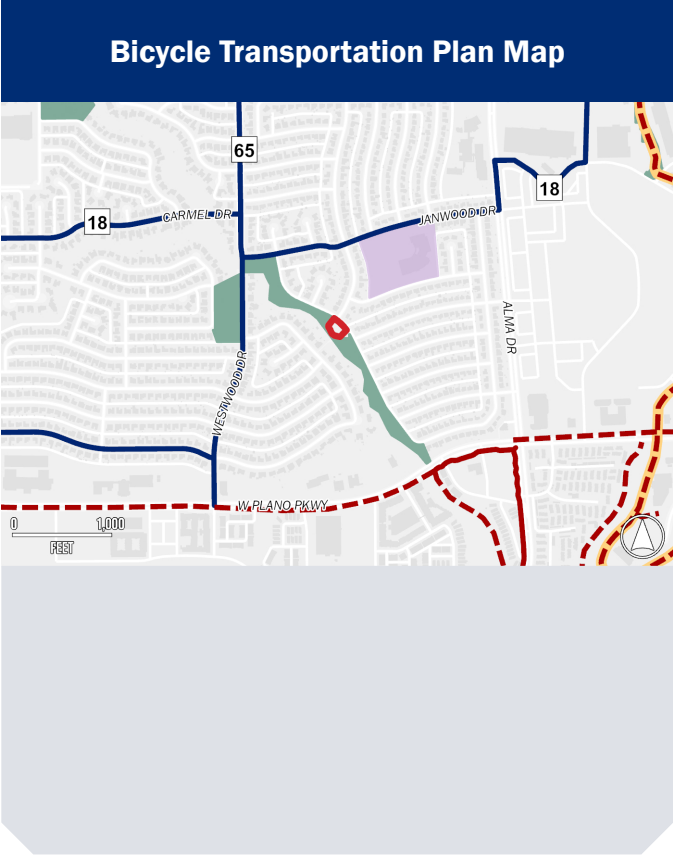
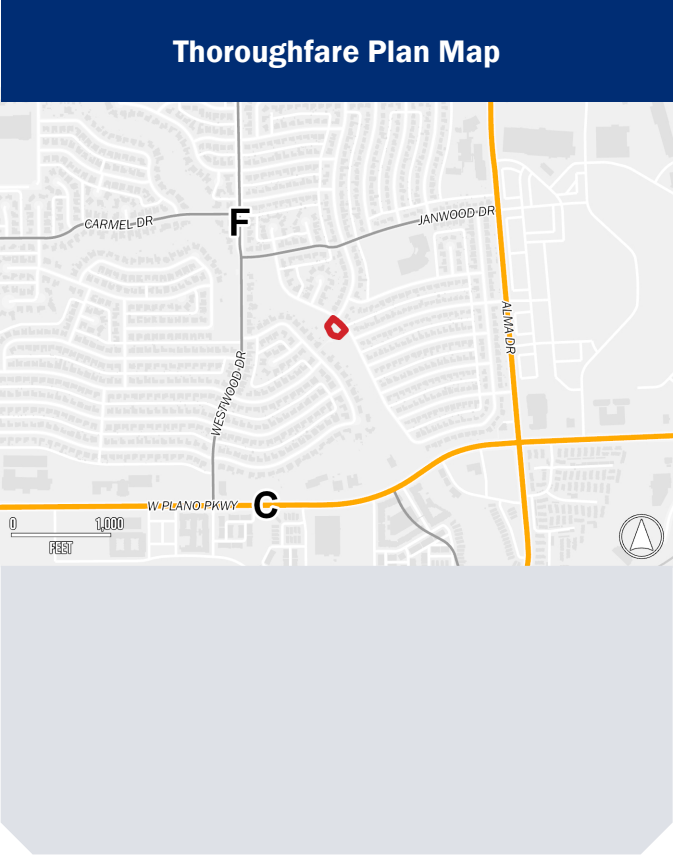
3 | Desirable Character Defining Elements



Click here for
"How to Read
The Dashboards"

| DESIRABLE CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENT | RECOMMENDED BY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN | APPLICANT PROPOSAL |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Building Heights | 1 to 2 stories | |
| Density | SF: 0.5 to 10 DUA MF: 10 to 22 DUA | |
| Intensity | Low (0 to 50% Lot Coverage) | |
| Open Space | 10% to 50% Passive Open Space | |
| Parking Orientation | <i>Res:</i> garages with driveways <i>Non-res:</i> surface lots | |
| Block Pattern & Streetscape | Gridded or curvilinear blocks Traditional Residential Streets | |
| Multimodal Access | | |
| 1. Automobiles | HIGH: Direct access from local streets | |
| 2. Transit | MEDIUM: Served by bus on pe- rimeter arterial streets | |
| 3. Micromobility | HIGH: Connected to trails and bike routes | |
| 4. Pedestrians | HIGH: Walkable to parks and schools | |

4 | Other Comprehensive Plan Maps



5 | Comprehensive Plan Policies & Actions

CORE POLICIES: The following policies are applicable to all zoning cases. No specific analysis of these policies are provided in the staff report as these serve as the fundamental basis for all staff recommendations.



Land Use: Plano will support a system of organized land use to provide housing and employment choices aligned with the market, where new and redevelopment areas respect the viability and quality of life for existing neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions.



Redevelopment & Growth Management: Plano will protect and preserve the well-established built environment of Plano and prevent overcrowding by requiring new growth and redevelopment to respect the unique development patterns, suburban character, housing needs, infrastructure capacity considerations, and fiscal constraints of our community.

LAND USE-RELATED POLICIES: The following policies are applicable on a case-by-case basis depending upon the type, location, and general nature of the request. Refer to the staff report for analysis of these policies with the respect to the proposed zoning change, where applicable.



Redevelopment of Regional Transportation Corridors: Plano will encourage reinvestment and redevelopment of identified regional transportation corridors to create cohesive developments that incorporate well-designed commercial, retail, and housing opportunities, where those uses are appropriate according to the Future Land Use Map and other related Comprehensive Plan standards.

Applicable
Not Applicable



Revitalization of Retail Shopping Centers: Plano will encourage reinvestment, revitalization, and redevelopment of underperforming neighborhood retail corners to accommodate a viable combination of local commercial, retail, and entertainment uses. Where appropriate transitions can be maintained, redevelopment may present opportunities to introduce residential uses and improve access.

Applicable
Not Applicable



Special Housing Needs: Plano will support the special housing needs or residents including seniors, people with disabilities, and low- to moderate-income households through inclusive regulations and programs and actions furthering the goals stated in the Consolidated Plan. Proposed locations for special housing needs should be afforded the same health and safety considerations as other housing.

Applicable
Not Applicable



Transit-Oriented Development: Plano will proactively encourage development within walking distance of existing and planned transit stations to create an integrated mix of uses including residential, employment, retail, and civic spaces.

Applicable
Not Applicable



Undeveloped Land: Plano will reserve its remaining undeveloped land for high quality development with distinctive character, prioritizing businesses offering skilled employment. New housing in these areas will only be considered appropriate where it is consistent with the Future Land Use Map and other related Comprehensive Plan standards.

Applicable
Not Applicable

OTHER POLICIES/DOCUMENTS: Additional policies may apply where applicable:

- Envision Oak Point (2018)
- Downtown Vision & Strategy Update (2019)
- Spring Creekwalk Master Plan (1990)
- Preservation Plano 150 (2018)

FOR RESIDENTIAL AND MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS ONLY: The following actions from the Redevelopment & Growth Management (RGM) Policy are applicable to requests for mixed-use developments:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| RGM5: Ensure that any rezoning requests for multiuse development include: | Applicable |
| A) No more than 50% square footage for residential uses. Requests should also conform with other identifying elements (density, building heights, etc.) in the applicable Dashboard descriptions. | Not Applicable |
| B) Phasing requirements that prevent the disproportionate completion of residential uses prior to nonresidential uses within the development. Nonresidential square footage must constitute a minimum of 33% of all square footage approved for occupancy during development (e.g., every 2 square feet of residential development requires at least 1 square foot of nonresidential development; and | |
| C) Key design features provided prior to, or concurrent with, the construction of any residential uses. These include elements of the development supporting the long-term value to the overall community, and specifically any new residents, such as open/green space, amenities, street enhancements, and trails. | |
| RGM8: Limit new residential development to areas that are appropriate based on individual site considerations and consistency with the Future Land Use Map and Dashboards. Multifamily developments should also meet a housing diversification or economic development need of the city, including transit-oriented development, special housing needs (as defined by the city's Consolated Plan), or be constructed as part of a high-rise 10 stories or greater. | Applicable |
| | Not Applicable |

6 | Findings Policy

RGM1: Mix of Uses, Density, & Building Height

In accordance with the Redevelopment and Growth Management (RGM) Policy Action 1, zoning change requests that do not conform to the mix of uses, density, and building heights as described in the Dashboards are **disfavored**. Requests that do not conform to these criteria may be occasionally allowed when found:

- ▶ Consistent with the Guiding Principles of the Comprehensive Plan; and
- ▶ Substantially beneficial to the immediate neighbors, surrounding community, and general public interest.

RGM5: Mixed-Use Developments

In addition, the Redevelopment and Growth Management (RGM) Policy Action 2 requires findings when approving a mixed-use development that exceeds 50% square footage for residential uses and/or does not conform to other identifying elements (density, height, etc.) in the applicable Dashboard.

| Are Findings Required? | |
|---|--|
| Yes, because the request does not comply with the Mix of Uses of the associated Dashboard. | |
| Yes, because the request does not comply with the Building Heights of the associated Dashboard. | |
| Yes, because the request does not comply with the Maximum Density of the associated Dashboard. | |
| Yes, because the request is inconsistent with Action RGM5 (for mixed-use developments). | |
| No, findings are not required. | |

STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT - CONFORMANCE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The proposed request has been reviewed for conformance with the Comprehensive Plan. Major factors included in the analysis are provided below, but the Comprehensive Plan Fact Sheet has more specific details about the request.

Guiding Principles

The [Guiding Principles](#) of the Comprehensive Plan establish overarching themes that apply to all policies and actions and express values for Plano Today, Plano 2050, and Plano Together. Since the principles do not stand alone but are used in concert with one another and carry across the Plan as a whole, each principle must be judged through a lens that incorporates all of the other principles to be fully and accurately understood. As such, the Commission is encouraged to review the full list of Guiding Principles and judge zoning requests through the lens of all principles.

Future Land Use Map Category & Dashboard

[Future Land Use Category](#) – The subject property is located in the [Neighborhoods \(N\)](#) category of the Future Land Use Map (FLUM). This category consists primarily of residential areas focused on sustaining a high quality of life through well-maintained infrastructure, housing, open space, schools, and limited service/institutional uses. A priority of the N category is to preserve neighborhood character and preserve quality of life. Designation of the Texas Pool as a Heritage Landmark would help achieve this goal by protecting an important cultural and historical resource of the Dallas North Estates neighborhood and the city.

| FLUM - N Description and Priorities | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Priorities | Preserving neighborhood character and quality of life | Meets |
| | Upkeep of existing housing stock | Not Applicable |
| | Requiring adjacent commercial land uses to provide adequate transitions | Not Applicable |
| | Variety of housing heights, sizes, and types | Not Applicable |

[Mix of Uses](#) – No changes to the Mix of Uses would result as part of this request.

| FLUM – N Mix of Uses | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Land Use Mix | No Change |
| Employment Mix | No Change |
| Housing Mix | No Change |

[Desirable Character Defining Elements](#) – No changes to the site are proposed as part of this request.

| FLUM – N Desirable Character Defining Elements | | | |
|--|-----------|---|--|
| Building Height | No Change | Multimodal Access • Automobiles • Transit • Micromobility • Pedestrians | No Change No Change No Change No Change |
| Maximum Density | No Change | | |
| Intensity | No Change | | |
| Open Space | No Change | | |
| Parking Orientation | No Change | | |
| Block Pattern & Streetscape | No Change | | |

Other Comprehensive Plan Maps

[Thoroughfare Plan](#), [Bicycle Transportation Plan](#), and [Parks Master Plan](#) Maps – No roadway, bicycle facility, or parks improvements are required to the site as part of a Heritage Landmark designation.

| Other Comprehensive Plan Maps | |
|--|-------|
| Thoroughfare Plan Map | Meets |
| Bicycle Transportation Plan Map | Meets |
| Parks Master Plan Map | Meets |
| Expressway Corridor Environmental Health Map | N/A |

Policies & Actions of the Comprehensive Plan and Other Studies

[Heritage Preservation Policy](#) and [Heritage Preservation Plan](#) – The purpose of this policy is to promote and protect Plano's historical and cultural resources. Consistent with Action HP1, this is primarily accomplished through the implementation of the Heritage Preservation Plan and the city's Heritage Preservation Program. Designation of heritage landmarks and districts at the local level is a key preservation goal of the city, as only local designation provides protection from incompatible alterations and/or demolition (e.g., a historical marker from the State of Texas or listing on the National Register of Historic Places is mostly ceremonial). Once designated, exterior alterations to these properties are subject to review by the Heritage Commission for consistency with applicable design standards. They may also be eligible for heritage tax exemptions and other benefits.

Preservation Plano 150 (2018), the city's current Heritage Preservation Plan, identifies the Texas Pool as a Potential Heritage Resource (PHR). PHRs are properties that, according to preliminary research, may have historical, cultural, archaeological, or architectural importance, either as an individual property or as part of a larger district. A PHR has not received designation but has the potential to become designated with further historic research, restoration, or property owner interest. Designation of the Texas Pool is consistent with Preservation Plano 150 and the Heritage Preservation Policy of the Comprehensive Plan.

| Other Studies and Comprehensive Plan Policies | |
|---|-------|
| Heritage Preservation Policy | Meets |
| Preservation Plano 150 | Meets |

Comprehensive Plan Summary

| Policy or Study | Analysis |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Future Land Use Map and Dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none">Description & PrioritiesMix of UsesCharacter Defining Elements | Meets No Change No Change |
| Thoroughfare Plan Map | Meets |
| Bicycle Transportation Plan Map | Meets |
| Parks Master Plan Map | Meets |
| Expressway Corridor Environmental Health Map | Not Applicable |
| Heritage Preservation Policy | Meets |
| Heritage Preservation Plan | Meets |

STAFF PRELIMINARY REPORT - ANALYSIS & RECOMMENDATION

Heritage Resource Designations

To be designated as a local heritage landmark, any building, structure, site, or object, must be at least 50 years old and substantially comply with two or more of the eight criteria listed under Section 16-110 (Designation of heritage resources - Criteria) of the City Code of Ordinances. Staff believes the Texas Pool meets the following criteria:

1. *Possesses significance in history, architecture, archeology, or culture.*

The Texas Pool is considered to be the earliest known example of a Texas-shaped swimming pool. This unique recreational feature was built to allow the Dallas North Estates neighborhood to stand out from other residential communities in the rapidly developing Dallas suburbs in the 1960s. Its cultural and historical value is recognized by its listing on the National Register under Criterion A in the category of Entertainment and Recreation at the state level of significance. The pool's construction represented a new phase in the marketing trend of incorporating the Texas shape into larger structures and everyday objects alike. It was also significant to the culture of Plano, as evidenced by it serving as the annual location of The Miss Plano contest by the Chamber of Commerce.

2. *Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local, regional, state, or national history.*

The Texas Pool reflects an important period in Plano's history, serving as an attraction to encourage families to visit, enjoy, and ultimately buy a new home in Plano as it began its transition from a rural community to a growing suburb. This "Texas-shaped and Texas-sized pool" marked the start of a rapid growth phase that began in Plano during the early 1960s and continued for several decades. In 1960, Plano was the "fastest-growing city" in Collin County and the third in per capita building, with Dallas North Estates being credited as a major contributing factor.

The Texas Pool was also significant in establishing Plano on the west side of US Highway 75 (west Plano at the time). It served a major recreational purpose for residents and members, as the city's first public pool did not open until 1971. Texas Pool's unique shape stands out as a brand or logo that is instantly recognizable to people worldwide, perhaps more than any other state.

3. *Is associated with events that have made a significant impact in the city's past.*

This request does not meet this criterion.

4. *Represents the work of a master designer, builder, or craftsman.*

This request does not meet this criterion.

5. *Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.*

This request does not meet this criterion.

6. *Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the city.*

The Texas Pool is an established and familiar visual feature of the city. The distinctive shape of the pool and its significance is discussed further in Criterion #8 below.

7. *Is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city.*

The Texas Pool was the vision of notable Texan, Herbert Hunt, son of the well-known oil tycoon, H.L. Hunt. Herbert Hunt envisioned the pool as the anchor for Plano's Dallas North Estates, the city's first master-planned community.

8. *Is a unique location of singular physical characteristics representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community, or the city.*

The Texas-shaped Texas Pool is the first of its kind and is a preeminent example of the use of the shape of Texas as a unique symbol and brand that is recognizable worldwide. The earliest-known state-shaped pool was in Florida, built for the 1953 film "Easy to Love," and since then, several other states have constructed similar pools, such as the Alabama pool at the Alabama Governor's Mansion and the Oklahoma pool at the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion, both constructed in the 1970s.

The Texas-shaped pool brings unique recognition to both the Dallas North Estates neighborhood and Plano as demonstrated by marketing efforts such as "The Texas-Shaped World" article featured in *New York Times*; "The Mermaids and the Texas Pool" featured in *American Airlines' American Way* magazine; and other related articles in *Dallas Observer* and *National Geographic Kids* (citations in the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, attached). The Texas Pool is a neighborhood, community, and travel destination for individuals and families, neighbors and visitors to meet, swim, exercise, learn, enjoy, and share life's journey and serves as a vital link between Plano's past, present, and future.

Additionally, a citywide survey of potential historic assets conducted by HHM & Associates recommended the Texas Pool to be eligible for a local landmark designation and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Based on their survey findings and research, the pool was listed as a Potential Heritage Resource in the current Preservation Plan. In 2019, the Texas Pool was listed on the NRHP under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment and Recreation at the state level of significance as an important and distinctively Texan recreational amenity built to serve a new residential neighborhood in a burgeoning suburb of Dallas, which also marked a new phase in the trend of applying the Texas shape to an ever-increasing variety of objects, including large structures.

SUMMARY:

The applicant is requesting a Heritage Landmark designation for the Texas Pool. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 2019 and is included as a Potential Heritage Resource (PHR) in the City of Plano [Heritage Preservation Plan](#). The Heritage Preservation Commission approved the Heritage Landmark designation at their April 25, 2013 meeting. The request is consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan and meets the criteria for designation within the City Code of Ordinances. For these reasons, staff recommends approval of the Heritage Landmark.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommended for approval as submitted.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**1. Name of Property**

Historic Name: Texas Pool

Other name/site number: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: 901 Springbrook Drive

City or town: Plano

State: Texas

County: Collin

Not for publication: ☐Vicinity: ☐**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this
(☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my
opinion, the property (☒ meets ☐ does not meet) the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:

☐ national ☒ statewide ☐ localApplicable National Register Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Mark Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer 2/20/19
Signature of certifying official / Title Date
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other, explain: _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property

| | |
|---|-------------|
| | building(s) |
| | district |
| | site |
| x | structure |
| | object |

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 2 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 3 | 0 | total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Recreation and Culture: Outdoor Recreation = swimming pool

Current Functions: Recreation and Culture: Outdoor Recreation = swimming pool

7. Description

Architectural Classification: OTHER: swimming pool

Principal Exterior Materials: Concrete; Ceramic Tile

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 6 through 7)

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance: 1961-1969

Significant Dates: 1961

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: C&P Development

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 8 through 18)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheet 19)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 0.9960 acres

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

Latitude: 33.012316° Longitude: -96.721897°

Verbal Boundary Description: The legal boundary as recorded by the Collin County Central Appraisal District is "Abs A0014 Thomas Archer Survey, Tract 4, 0.996 Acres."

Boundary Justification: The nomination includes all property historically associated with the Texas Pool.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Janet Vermillion Moos, R.N., Jessica Woods, Janira Teague, and Henry Elmendorf of the Texas Pool Foundation, and NR Coordinator Gregory Smith

Organization: Texas Pool Foundation

Street & number: 2000 Westlake Drive

City or Town: Plano State: Texas Zip Code: 75075

Email: foundation@texaspool.org

Telephone: 972-881-8392

Date: March 2018

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 20 through 24)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 25 through 38)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 39 through 43)

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photograph Log

Texas Pool
Plano, Collin County, Texas
Photographed by Henry Elmendorf, January 2018 (except as noted)

Photo 1
Entrance to the Texas Pool, including brown city provided sign, Plano Conservancy provided wayside sign, Little Free Library, and Little Free Pantry, facing west

Photo 2
The Texas Pool and entrance and changing rooms to the left, facing south

Photo 3
The Texas Pool, facing west

Photo 4
The Texas Pool, facing east

Photo 5
The Texas Pool, looking northeast

Photo 6
The Texas Pool, looking southeast

Photo 7
The Texas Pool pumphouse with a Texas Flag mural, located on the north end of the property above the Panhandle, facing northeast

Photo 8
The full perspective of the Texas Pool, looking northeast

Photo 9
Mural on the men's changing room, facing southeast

Photo 10
Mural on the women's changing room, facing south

Photo 11
Texas Pool from above
Photographed by David Woo for the *Dallas Morning News*, 2017.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Description

The 1961 Texas Pool at 901 Springbrook Drive in Plano, Collin County, Texas, is a private neighborhood swimming pool shaped like the State of Texas. The nominated property includes three contributing resources: the pool; the changing rooms building; and the pumphouse. The 168,000-gallon-capacity saltwater concrete pool ranges in depth from one to ten feet and is lined with concrete stucco with decorative tiles along the top of the walls. Minimal changes have been made to the pool and its setting, which retains a high degree of integrity. The owner plans to recreate tiles on the pool floor that originally featured names of Texas cities.

Plano is in southwestern Collin County, Texas, approximately 17 miles north of downtown Dallas. The Texas Pool is on the west side of Springbrook Drive in the Dallas North Estates neighborhood, three-fourths of a mile west of highway US 75 and 1.35 miles southwest of the Plano Downtown Historic District. The nominated property is situated on the west side of Springbrook Drive in the Dallas North Estates suburban residential development, which was built in the early 1960s by Herbert Hunt and Hunt Properties.

The pool area is surrounded by a security fence with wood and metal sections. Set within a plain concrete deck, the Texas Pool has a 168,000-gallon capacity, with a depth ranging from one to ten feet. The pool is lined with blue concrete stucco with two rows of square tiles along the top of the walls and is bordered by red bricks laid perpendicular to the water, which provides a clear outline from viewed from above. The pool features two slides and one standard-height diving board, along with the original concrete circular "island" platform. The pool's shape is not a geographically precise representation of the state boundary but is nevertheless an unmistakable representation of the general shape of Texas, rotated approximately 45 degrees to the northwest.¹

- The pool measures approximately 100 feet (El Paso to Orange) by 90 feet (Dalhart to Brownsville).
- The diving board is anchored in Oklahoma panhandle, with the cantilevered end over the northern part of the Texas panhandle (Borger vicinity)
- The circular concrete island, approximately 12 feet wide, is said to represent the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, but is further west, centered closer to Cisco.
- One slide is anchored in southeastern New Mexico, dropping riders between Odessa and Monahans, while the other slide is anchored in the Mexican state of Coahuila east of Big Bend, and drops riders in the vicinity of Del Rio.
- Steps leading into the pool are placed in El Paso County, and along the gulf coast at Chambers and Jefferson counties.
- An elevated lifeguard's chair is positioned in the Gulf of Mexico in the vicinity of Matagorda.
- The shallow end is in South Texas.

The property includes two other contributing properties: the original entrance and changing rooms (building) to the southeast, and the pump house (structure). The L-plan building is primarily made of CMU walls with wood awnings and roof structure. It contains one locker room on each side of the central entrance and a small concession stand. On the far side of the pool sits the pump house, a wood structure hidden behind fencing and a Texas Flag mural.

Over the years many small changes have been made to the property, but all original structures remain and are still in use. Though documentation has been lost over the years, it is known that the interior pool surface has been re-plastered and originally there were tiles on the bottom with different city names, positioned to their approximate location within the state, removed at an unknown date. Plans are in the works to recreate the original tiles and restore the pool to its

¹ A geographically accurate outline of the state superimposed on an aerial photograph of the pool indicates that the shape of the pool is stretched several feet to the east and west. See figure on page 27.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

original look. Around the pool, wooden decks have been installed for lounge seating. In 2010 a Texas flag mural was painted on the side of the pump house, and in 2016 certified Cherokee Nation artist Molly Brewer painted a Gulf Coast mural of marine and sea life on the locker room walls.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Statement of Significance

The Texas Pool in Plano, Collin County, Texas, was built in 1961 as part of the Dallas North Estates residential neighborhood envisioned by Herbert Hunt and the William Herbert Hunt Trust and developed by Harry Stoner of Summit Development. The upscale neighborhood originally consisted of 3-to-5-bedroom homes priced between \$10,700 and \$15,000 and was advertised as a new community development for “comfortable family living” with a “Texas size and Texas-shaped swimming pool for residents.” The pool opened on May 29, 1961, and in 1962, was sold by the Hunt Family Trust to the nonprofit Dallas North Community Club for \$1.00, with a stipulation requiring the pool to remain open as a recreational facility. The Texas Pool is the earliest known example of a swimming pool shaped like the state of Texas and represents the adoption of the state shape as a highly-recognized icon in the mid-20th century that continues to be applied to everyday objects in a growing list of categories. The property is nominated to the National Register under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment and Recreation at the state level of significance as an important and distinctively Texan recreational amenity built to serve a new residential neighborhood in a burgeoning suburb of Dallas, which also marked a new phase in the trend of applying the Texas shape to an ever-increasing variety of objects, including large structures.

Plano, Texas

Prior to the 1840s, the area around Plano was inhabited by members of the Caddo tribe, but conflicts with Anglo settlers resulted in the removal of the Caddo from the region by the mid-1850s. The community of Plano originated in the early 1840s, with many early settlers migrating from Kentucky and Tennessee to the Blackland Prairie of Collin County. In 1846 William Foreman bought Peters Colony land from Sanford Beck and settled a half-mile northeast of Plano. Foreman erected a sawmill and gristmill that were soon in demand by his neighbors and help attract new settlers to the area. Mail service was established around 1850 and Dr. Henry Dye dispatched an application to Washington D.C. requesting the name of “Fillmore,” in honor of the President of the United States. The proposed name was rejected, the name “Foreman” was declined by William Foreman, and Dr. Dye then suggested the name “Plano,” which the postal service approved.² Although raising livestock was the primary business in the county, more of the populace began farming the rich black soil. Community members built schools and churches, and local businesses began to prosper. In the closing years of the 1850s, growth was steady, but this halted with the onset of the Civil War. With the arrival of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad in 1872, the city started on its way to new growth, as Plano was the first depot by rail for those entering Collin County from the south. By 1874, the population reached over 500. The city was incorporated in June of 1873 and Plano began to flourish as a trade center. The population in 1900 was 1,304.

Through the early 20th century, the Plano economy relied on surrounding farms and ranches, but the establishment of interurban railway lines radiating out from Dallas resulted in trade growth and economic prosperity for surrounding rural villages and towns. Interurban lines facilitated trade and transportation, contributing to the regional influence of Dallas and the growth of its satellite cities. After the interurbans were abandoned, much of the right-of-way was used for new highways, which facilitated major population increases in suburban locales. In the 1950s and 1960s the northern Dallas suburbs were booming. With the addition of large industry complexes such as the sprawling 300-acre Texas Instruments campus at US 75 and I-635, new neighborhood developments sprouted along the route of the recently improved US Highway 75. In the early 1960s, Plano’s population began booming with the addition of “planned communities” to provide desirable amenities for the families of Dallas’ growing industries in a suburban setting. Between 1960 and 1970, the population exploded from 3,695 to 17,872, an increase of 383%. The 2010 population was 259,841, making Plano the 69th largest city in the U.S.

² “Plano, Texas” by Shirley Schell and Frances B. Wells in *New Handbook of Texas*, 1996. Dr. Dye understood the word *plano* as meaning “plain” in Spanish (describing the surrounding terrain), but it actually translates as “flat.”

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Dallas North Estates Development

The Texas Pool is located within the Dallas North Estates development. Dallas North Estates was envisioned in 1959 by Herbert Hunt, who came from a family of oil and gas wealth and established himself as a big player in Dallas' energy development. The head of the family was H.L. Hunt, who by 1948, was estimated to have a wealth of \$600 million and growing (\$6.1 billion in 2017 currency). Hunt's companies and family have grown, as has their prominence in Dallas and certain circles worldwide. Hunt had fifteen children, several of whom have carried on the family business and legacy. His son William Herbert Hunt, who financed the North Dallas Estates development, has been part of Hunt Oil, Hunt Petroleum Corporation, Hunt Energy, and Placid Oil, and founded Petro-Hunt LLC. Along with his brothers he tried to corner the world's silver market and in 1988 filed for bankruptcy. In 2012 Petro-Hunt sold its stake in the Bakken Shale to Halcón Resources for \$1.45 billion and Herbert Hunt gained 25% ownership of the company.

To create a better first impression of Plano when driving north from Dallas, Hunt acquired land in west Plano and directed the William Herbert Hunt Trust to guide the development of a deluxe neighborhood. North Texas' first planned community was named Dallas North Estates to cash in on the more well-known city to the south. The community was slated to be 1,700 acres of homes, schools, churches, and parks. The neighborhood consisted of 3-to-5-bedroom homes priced between \$10,700 and \$15,000, and the community was advertised as a new community development for comfortable family living, boasting a "Texas size and Texas-shaped swimming pool for residents."³

The builder of Dallas North Estates was George Chapman of Chapman Homes, who had just finished a 3,000-home development, Casa View, in Dallas near White Rock Lake. The developer was Harry Stoner of Summit Development, who went on to develop Briarwood Estates on Plano's east side, and C&P Development.

According to the *Plano Daily Star-Courier* newspaper, the final plat was approved in September of 1960 and work began at once. By October all 153 lots of the first unit were already sold, just as construction began on extension of utilities and the pouring of concrete roads.⁴ In February 1961 the newspaper reported that "Plano Is Third In Per Capita Building in 1960," according to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Dallas North Estates was credited as a major player in even higher potential growth in 1961. That same month plans were approved for the paving of Alma Drive, which today stretches all the way from Richardson, through Plano and Allen, and ends in McKinney. In March of 1961 the first three model homes opened, and in the following months newspapers started advertising the model homes with a tempting offer that anyone who visits them would receive a pass to swim in the Texas Pool between June 4 and June 30.

Social History of Public Swimming Pools

Social segregation is the most persistent theme in the history of swimming pools. At first, use divided along class, gender, and generational lines...when these divisions mostly evaporated during the interwar years, racial separation took their place.⁵

Mid-to-late 19th century municipal swimming pools in the United States were generally austere public baths meant to provide a healthier alternative to bathing in filthy rivers and lakes. Municipal governments in the north encouraged

³"New Community Development Begins At Plano." *McKinney Weekly Democrat Gazette*, 8 June 1961, www.newspapers.com/image/49178053.

⁴"153 Lots Included In First Unit; N. Texas First Planned Comm." *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 1961.

⁵Wiltse, Jeff. *Contested Waters: A Social History of Swimming Pools in America*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2007, page 209. Wiltse covers the origins and evolution of swimming pools in the northeast United States, while providing an excellent context that can be applied to Texas and other southern states as well.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

laborers of different races and nationalities to bathe in these facilities, which were segregated only by gender. Class divisions rather than racial or ethnic divisions determined who used these pools: middle and upper-class men general kept away, while women of all classes and races were left with very limited options for bathing facilities. During the progressive era women gained more access to public pools, but gender division was strictly enforced with separate pools or limited swim times. By late 1890s public pool design and use aligned in rising interest in fitness culture, physical exercise, and athletics, and pools built during the period were designed to facilitate lap swimming and races, with adjacent facilities for other forms of exercise. Many municipal pools established entrance fee schedules to exclude working class swimmers or limit their use to free hours only. Pool rules often stressed use for sport and exercise, but not for play nor bathing.

Beginning in the early 20th century, many cities built public pools in areas identified as slums, often with children's play spaces to "brighten the lives of working-class youngsters, curb juvenile delinquency, weaken social antagonisms, and inspire patriotism."⁶ Meanwhile, public pools began to transform into resort-like facilities in city parks. In 1913, the city of St. Louis opened the gigantic Fairgrounds Pool, the first gender-integrated public pool in the northern U.S., and not coincidentally, the first to be explicitly and officially racially segregated.⁷ The Fairgrounds Pool had a beach-like character that limited its utility as an exercise facility but emphasized its function as a social and recreational setting for men, women, and families. In keeping with public decency standards of the era, the pool staff enforced strict attire and behavior rules. Use of municipal pools in the north had previously reinforced class and gender divisions but not racial distinctions, but this changed in the 1920s, when pools began to welcome the comingling of white men and women, to the exclusion of all African Americans. The pools promoted family and community sociability, and earlier concerns about intimacy between men and women were redirected towards African American men.

Following national trends, Texas saw a boom in the construction of public swimming pools in the 1920s, all of which were racially segregated. Fort Worth had no public pools in 1920, but four were built by 1927, including one for African Americans. Dallas opened three public pools in the 1920s, including the 64,000 square foot Lake Cliff Pool, but the smaller (5000 square foot) and more austere Hall Street Pool was the only option for African-American residents.⁸ While the onset of the Great Depression halted building of new public pools, the New Deal fueled a tidal wave of pool construction, with hundreds financed and built through agencies such as the WPA, which built 27 pools in Texas. These new public pools were often much larger in size than previous pools, and featured vast wading areas, grassy lawns for non-swimmers, and sometimes even sandy beaches. Round, oval, and irregularly-shaped pools were not conducive to lap swimming, and instead promoted leisurely use, which was reinforced by their placement in parks alongside other recreational facilities. While pool segregation was strictly enforced nationwide (not just in the south), distinctions between white ethnic groups and classes began to evaporate as more adults and children flocked to the public pools.⁹

The swimming pools of the interwar years served as community centers in large and small cities nationwide. These pools were designed along the lines of leisure resorts, where men and women mingled, wearing swim suits that shrank in bodily coverage at a precipitous rate beginning in the 1920s. Historian Jeff Wiltse stresses that "gender integration was the watershed in the history of municipal pools...Sexuality became the magnet that drew men and women together in public pools," as pools became places to watch and be seen, often through formal pageants and beauty contests.¹⁰

⁶ Wiltse, 56.

⁷ Wiltse, 78.

⁸ Wiltse, 90-91.

⁹ Wiltse, 91

¹⁰ Wiltse, 212.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

At midcentury, swimming pools transformed again, as African-Americans fought and won court cases to gain full access to all public facilities, while white Americans abandoned public pools. Wiltse argues that “desegregation was the primary cause of the proliferation of private swimming pools that occurred after the mid-1950s.”¹¹ Swimming pools proved to be the most sensitive of such facilities, because the trends of the previous decades led towards gender integration in swimming pools, bringing men and women in closer contact and with less clothing than in other public areas. In 1953, a federal court ruled that Kansas City must integrate its public pools, a decision that the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review, thus affirming it. The appeal provided by the city did not mince words regarding the primary concerns: “Women with scant swimming attire have an aversion to intermingling in a swimming pool with male strangers of another race and we respectfully submit that no mandate of court will obliterate this trait of human nature.”¹² The 1954 Supreme Court ruling of *Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka* that decided that public school segregation was unconstitutional further opened the door to challenges to segregation in all types of public facilities. While many cities saw violent reactions to integrated pools, some cities such as Marshall, Texas, chose to sell off its public pool to a private owner. Other cities in the deep south shut down all public pools and parks rather than integrate.¹³

Desegregation of public pools nationwide led whites to desert public pools, join private pool clubs, or build backyard pools, the construction of which proliferated after the mid-1950s, mostly in the suburbs.¹⁴ Civil rights laws only applied to public accommodations, so class and race exclusion was achieved through residency requirements and membership fees, and “many pool associations mandated that most or all members had to live within a certain distance of a club or within a particular subdivision.”¹⁵ Wiltse further notes that “the underlying cause of the private pool boom, however, was middle-class Americans’ desire to recreate within more socially selective communities...Joining a pool club ensured that other swimmers would be of the same social class and race. Installing an at-home pool ensured that the other swimmers would be limited to family and friends.”¹⁶

The Texas Pool

The plan to build the Texas Pool and surrounding park was announced in late January 1961. According to city council minutes published on March 2, the permit to build the pool was initially denied because the site had not been platted.¹⁷ Construction of the pool by C&P Development was underway by March 16. The *Dallas Morning News* featured a photo of the nearly-completed pool with an article about the “planned city” that “started from a Plano wheatfield.” The article further described the extent of the planned North Dallas Estates development, to include “large shopping areas, industries, apartments, medical center, recreational facilities, school, churches, and residential districts.” Residences were reported to cost in the range of \$10,700 to \$15,000, with brick exteriors, one or two garages, three to five bedrooms, and optional air conditioning.¹⁸

The Texas Pool opened to the public on Memorial Day, May 29, 1961. A contest to guess the 168-thousand-gallon capacity awarded the winner a 10-foot boat, trailer, and motor from Plano's Lone Star Boat Co. The Chamber of Commerce held the annual Miss Plano contest at the Texas Pool, with 17 contestants vying for the crown. According

¹¹ Wiltse, 2.

¹² “Who Can Swim Where,” *Dallas Morning News*, October 25, 1953.

¹³ “Marshall OK’s Pool Sale to Maintain Segregation,” *Dallas Morning News*, August 28, 1957. The city of Fort Worth also explored the possibility of selling its public pools in the mid-1950s. “Weather Vane,” *Dallas Morning News*, November 13, 1955.

¹⁴ Wiltse, 182. When middle class Americans abandoned municipal pools, cities downgraded the importance of such pool. Municipal pool construction was renewed in the 1960s but was often limited to small pools in urban areas, with expressed goals to combat crime and juvenile delinquency. Municipal pool construction again slowed in the 1970s.

¹⁵ Wiltse, 195.

¹⁶ Wiltse, 183.

¹⁷ “Minutes From City Hall.” *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 1961.

¹⁸ North Dallas Estates Will Be Shown Today,” *Dallas Morning News*, May 28, 1961.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

to plan, the pool was restricted to residents after the first summer season. The following year in 1962, the Texas Pool was sold by the Hunt Family Trust to the nonprofit Dallas North Community Club for \$1.00, so long as it was operated as a recreational facility. In 1963 non-resident memberships were sold \$30.00 per household, equivalent to \$240.00 in 2017, and were available to families living outside of the Dallas North Estates neighborhood.¹⁹ The Texas Pool is not only notable as a large draw to a neighborhood that established west Plano, but at that time Plano had no public swimming pool for residents to use, so simply having a neighborhood pool was a huge attraction. Plano's first public swimming pool opened in 1971.

Unfortunately, there is a gap in the Texas Pool's history from the mid-1960s to the 1990s, but the pool was maintained, and the original structures stayed intact throughout this time. The height of the pool's success was in the 1990s when prospective pool members camped out overnight in hopes of securing one of the 325 family memberships. These memberships supported and sustained the pool and made the pool an exclusive private swim club for only those wealthy enough to afford annual membership costs. By the early 2000s membership numbers had plummeted due to changes in societal values and neighborhood demographics, and the pool was in danger of closing. In 2006 the pool was changed from a chlorinated reservoir to a saltwater system, making it unique once more, but memberships were still low. By January of 2007, Board of Directors President Matt Dorsett started addressing the possibility that the pool would not open that year and that the property might be sold to the City of Plano. The Board of Directors sent this information to the pool members to inform them of the financial situation and reached out to media outlets in a plea to collect enough memberships to open that summer. Though this action worked and the pool opened that summer, there was almost no profit to complete seriously needed maintenance work.

After the 2007 season ended the Board of Directors once again struggled with how to increase memberships and planned for the seemingly inevitable sale of the property to the city. In an April 12, 2008 email from President Matt Dorsett to board member Janet Moos, Dorsett confirms that "the city of Plano is willing to consider 'purchasing' the property by paying off our remaining debt. Their plan would be to demolish the pool and make the property part of the linear park." It is at this point that a shift occurs in the trajectory of the Texas Pool's fate, coinciding with the involvement of Janet Moos in the actions of the Board of Directors. Moos brought a renewed desire to promote the pool as a historically and culturally significant landmark in Plano. She rallied the board to seek new avenues of promotion, facilitated by new technology such as Facebook and Twitter. With the economic downturn the country was experiencing the board began advertising the Texas Pool as an affordable "staycation" alternative.

The Texas Pool Foundation, a 501(c)(3), created in May 2013, worked parallel to the Dallas North Community Club that had managed the pool since 1962 until December of 2016. At that time the Dallas North Community Club dissolved and all assets and operations were assumed by the non-profit in January 2017. The foundation's mission is to preserve the Texas Pool as a landmark, to support the community through outreach and events, and to provide access to swim safety education, swim lessons, and swimming opportunities for the general public, underserved, underprivileged, and special needs populations of Collin and Dallas Counties. In 2017 the Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation designated the Texas Pool as a local landmark that was worthy of recognition and provided a wayside sign.

Mid-20th Century Segregation in Plano

The Texas Pool's construction ties in with a socially significant time in Texas' history. The pool was in the process of being built at a time when African-American Texans were staging sit-ins at Dallas diners and department stores in protest of racial segregation. Desegregation of public recreation facilities came slowly to Texas and only after years of gradual progress. In 1953 Dallas barred racial segregation for its golf courses, yet municipals swimming pools

¹⁹ "Dallas North Pool Names Directors." *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 1963.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

remained highly segregated, with all but a few pools entirely off-limits to African Americans.²⁰ According to Jeff Wiltse, “between 1950 and 1970, millions of Americans chose to stop swimming at municipal pools” due to civil rights conflicts and the growing pains of desegregation in suburban areas.²¹ Cities in Texas faced backlash for not providing swimming pools for black citizens, and some white citizens voted to sell pools to private owners so that their segregation could be maintained.²² This is significant to note as the Texas Pool was constructed with the intention of being a privately-owned and operated swimming pool, exclusive to those that could either afford a house in Dallas North Estates or the membership price, and no state or federal regulations that prevented explicit exclusion of African Americans. The homes in the neighborhood were priced at \$10,700 to \$15,000 (\$87,000 to \$122,000 in 2017 dollars; housing prices in Plano have far outpaced inflation). The timing of the construction of the Texas Pool and its situation within a brand new, upper middle-class neighborhood, speaks to social preferences of the time and how the “amenity” of a racially exclusive swimming pool could be an appealing factor for Plano’s primarily white incoming residents of the 1960s. It wasn’t until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that legal segregation ended in public places and banned employment discrimination based on race, and not until the Fair Housing Act of 1968 that discrimination based on race was banned in the sale, rental, and financing of housing. Plano public schools integrated in 1964.

Development of Plano since 1961

The establishment of Dallas North Estates greatly influenced the development of Plano as a growing suburban city. In 1960 Plano was the “fastest-growing city in Collin County”²³ and the third in per capita building, with Dallas North Estates being credited as a major contributing factor.²⁴ 1960 USGS maps show no development west of US 75, and the 1968 photo-revised map shows few buildings and developments apart from the Dallas North Estates subdivisions, which are the dominating feature of west Plano at that time. By 1973, maps reveal that other neighborhoods were established, but the expanded Dallas North Estates development is by far the largest feature of west Plano, and alone is comparable in size to all of the new developments on the east side. The USGS maps definitively show that Dallas North Estates and other Hunt Properties were the leaders in development of the west side of Plano and an important catalyst for population growth within the city in the 1960s. In a 1962 article in the *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, a representative of Hunt Enterprises talked about potential development of thousands of acres in Plano with hopes to “accommodate a population of 100,000 in the Plano area in the years to come,” and explained that “the Hunt interests already have invested much money, time, and effort in their development in this city.”²⁵

In 1960 the population of Plano was 3,695, but in the following decades the growth of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and the success of several large high-technology firms and other businesses began to make their influence felt on the local economy. By 1970 the population reached 17,872, as Plano became one of the fast-growing cities in Texas and the United States. In 2010 the population of Plano topped 259,841.²⁶ According to the Collin County Appraisal District, Dallas North Estates currently includes 2,158 properties across 15 subdivisions.²⁷ Other Hunt properties in west Plano included Pitman Creek Estates, Pitman Creek North, Dallas North Research Park, Dallas

²⁰ Martin Kuhlman and Alwyn Barr, “The Civil Rights Movement in Texas: Desegregation of Public Accommodations, 1950-1964” (PhD diss., Texas Tech University, 1994), 95.

²¹ Jeff Wiltse, “Swimming Pools, Civic Life, and Social Capital,” in *A Companion to Sport: Contested Space and Politics*, ed. by David L. Andrews et al. (New Jersey: Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2013), 299.

²² Ibid, 101.

²³ Plano Public Library System, “Plano City Timeline,” 2011.

²⁴ “Plano Third In Per Capita Building in 1960.” *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 1961.

²⁵ “Immediate and Long Range Plans Of Hunt Interests Told Jaycees.” *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 1962.

²⁶ “Plano Population Growth Historic Trends 1900 to 2010.” *City of Plano*, www.plano.gov/documentcenter/view/645.

²⁷ “Dallas North Estates Property Search.” *Collin County Appraisal District*, www.collincad.org/propertysearch?situs_street_suffix=&subdiv=Dallas%2Anorth%2AEstates&isd%5B%5D=any&city%5B%5D=any&prop_type%5B%5D=MH&active%5B%5D=1&year=2018&sort=G.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

North Regional Shopping Center and Commercial Area (Dallas North Shopping Center), Dallas North Industrial District, Creekwood Apartments, and the since-demolished Springbrook Apartments.

The Shape of Texas

Renderings of the geographic outline of Texas are pervasive in the Lone Star State, adorning myriad flat surfaces from print advertisements to buildings, and represented in a variety of tangible items from bracelet charms to giant stock ponds on private ranches. This phenomenon is familiar to Texas residents and is quickly recognized by even short-term visitors. In 1995 historian and geographer Richard Francaviglia published “The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors,” in which he described the use of the Texas shape in various media and traced the trajectory of its use through the 20th century:

The map of Texas has become a popular icon that instantly says “Texas” as well as, or perhaps better than, “Traditional” Texas popular imagery, such as the Lone Star, armadillos, oil wells, ten-gallon hats, and longhorn cattle...the map of Texas is used to advertise thousands of Texas-owned and -operated businesses, products and services. The average Texan sees the map outline hundreds, perhaps thousands, or times every day—on license plates, billboards, food product advertisements, and jewelry. The map outline helps integrate time (history) and place (geography) in the popular mind...²⁸

The shape of Texas is perhaps the most-recognized state shape, partially due to its distinctive characteristics, and partly the result of its popularity as a Texas symbol. The phenomenon continues to generate national attention, as in the September 2016 *New York Times* article “The Texas-Shaped World,” in which Houston Bureau Chief Manny Fernandez reflects on “the singular, curiously drawn image that somehow encapsulates, with a few right angles and big bends, a state of 27 million people.” Fernandez notes how the Texas shape is “carved onto the sides of highway overpasses and on T-shirts, and in magazine ads. You can eat waffles shaped like Texas at the Vickery Café in Fort Worth and the Texan Diner in Haslet, and you can dive into the Texas-shaped pool in Plano...”²⁹

Creation of the Texas Shape

The shape of Texas is the product of the state’s physical and political geography, beginning with a series of 16th and 17th century land claims, followed by various international treaties, acts of congress, and supreme court decisions. The Texas boundary is 2,842 miles long, a measurement that includes the arc of the gulf coastline and the larger river bends, but if one counts the smaller meanderings of rivers and tidewater coastline, the border is 3,822 miles long.³⁰ Four line segments drawn along the west, north, and east sides of the panhandle, and along the 32nd parallel east of El Paso, account for 926 miles of the state’s boundary, and thus straight lines represent no more than 32.5% of the state’s total boundary. The combination of straight lines connecting at right angles mixed with the irregular path of the water borders provides the state with its distinctive shape.

The eastern boundary was first established at the Sabine River by the Adams-Onís Treaty between the United States and Spain in 1819, although by the time Spain ratified the treaty in 1821, Mexico declared independence from Spain and refused to recognize the boundary. In 1848 the U.S Congress granted Texas the claim to a boundary extending to the middle of the Sabine River. In 1836 the Republic of Texas declared Texas’ southwest boundary to be the Rio Grande, from its mouth at the Gulf of Mexico to its source (in present-day Colorado), and thence a line drawn to the

²⁸ Francaviglia, Richard V. *The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors*. 1st edition. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1995, 55.

²⁹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/30/insider/the-texas-shaped-world.html>. Accessed July 30, 2018. The article is illustrated with an aerial photo of the Plano pool. Texas-shape waffle makers are available online through a variety of major retailers.

³⁰ Texas Almanac, <https://texasalmanac.com/topics/environment/environment>, accessed July 30, 2018.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

42nd parallel (in present-day Wyoming). The 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo affirmed the Rio Grande boundary to El Paso as the international boundary, but Texas continued to claim portions of New Mexico until the Compromise of 1850 established the present border.³¹ Minor adjustments have been made since then, none of which greatly altered the general shape of the state. The last major challenge to the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma, along the 100th meridian in the eastern panhandle, was settled by the Supreme Court in 1930. In 1941 the State of Louisiana challenged Texas' claim to the western half of the Sabine River, an interstate dispute that would not be resolved until the U.S Supreme Court ruled in favor of Texas in 1973.³²

The Texas shape includes four major elements, described by Francaviglia as “the southern tip, the western point, the northern panhandle, and the northeastern bulge.”³³ As long as most of these components are in place, the shape may be distorted, stretched, bent, reversed horizontally or vertically, and the perimeter greatly simplified or partially deconstructed, yet still be recognizable as Texas.

Texas is not unique among states in having a distinctive shape, and in *The Shape of Texas*, Francaviglia identifies three characteristics of easily recognized state maps that are also commonly used as symbols: *proportion* (wherein horizontality is favored over verticality); *variety* (a limited number of memorable shapes resulting in a combination of straight and curved lines); and *volume* (whereby the line creates a significant mass in which to place information). States other than Texas that fall within these parameters include Iowa, Wisconsin, and Ohio, while states such as California are predominantly vertical and appear to be unstable when viewed in isolation. States with irregular boundaries such as Maryland, Florida, and Idaho are highly recognizable and are often presented with square or rectangular frames or backgrounds. Texas is almost as tall as it is wide, allowing its shape to fit almost perfectly within both a circle and square. This quality affords countless opportunities to employ the shape as a useful graphic device on signage, including the round Recorded Texas Historical Landmark medallion, and square TxDOT ranch and farm route signs (figures, page 29).³⁴

Use of the Texas Shape as a Symbol

The shape of Texas is well suited to serve as a symbol of the state for reasons other than its graphic characteristics, but the widespread adoption of this symbol didn't come about until the 20th century. In 1836, the Republic of Texas incorporated the “Lone Star” as the centerpiece of its official seal, which still serves as the official seal of the State of Texas. The abstract star was widely used to market the state and its products through the 1950s, after which its use diminished in favor of symbols such as the state map which, unlike the star, could represent only Texas.³⁵ While Francaviglia argues that the Texas shape “can effectively symbolize history, identity, and attachment to place,” the form was not generally used as an advertising symbol until the early 20th century, appearing sporadically until the teens.³⁶ The increase in its use may be tied to the advent of automobile age, when road maps became essential tools for travelers, and outdoor advertising called for strong graphic images that could be easily “read” by passing motorists. Renewed interest in Texas history and pride in Texas heritage reached a fever pitch in the 1930s during the Texas Centennial, and advertisements in all print media used the shape of Texas to promote Texas products within the state

³¹ *Handbook of Texas Online*, “Boundaries,” accessed July 30, 2018, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/mgb02>. The western boundary resulting from the compromise extended east from El Paso along the thirty-second parallel to the 103^d meridian, up that meridian to 36°30' latitude (west panhandle line), and along that line to the 100th meridian (north panhandle line), thence down the 100th meridian to the Red River (east panhandle line). The thirty-six-thirty line was chosen since Texas was a slave state and that line had been established in 1820 as the Missouri Compromise line between slave and free territory in the Louisiana Purchase.

³² <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/281/109/>; <https://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-supreme-court/410/702.html>

³³ Francaviglia, 49.

³⁴ Francaviglia, 34-35.

³⁵ Francaviglia, 83-85.

³⁶ Francaviglia, 87.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

and to the entire nation. In 1936, the shape of Texas was anthropomorphized on a Texas Centennial postcard, in which a rugged albeit awkwardly-rendered cowboy with a Texas torso extends a hand to welcome the world, personified by a short and formally-attired figure with a globe for a head (figure, page 30). Meanwhile, in 1937 the Texas Highway Department placed 23 six-foot-tall Texas-shaped stone welcoming markers at key highway crossing points into the state, giving visitors or returning Texans a first look at the state's distinctive profile upon entering from abroad (figure, page 31).

The widespread use of the Texas map has continued unabated since then, increasing the visibility of the symbol nationally and internationally, and transforming the shape into a true icon. As in the example of other states, the shape found its way onto postcards, glasses, ashtrays, shirts, pillow, and other souvenirs, as well as highway signs, license plates. The Texas shape, however, has arguably been applied to more products than any other state shape, which is attested by entering the term "state-shaped" into an internet image search engine and viewing the results. In addition to being presented within all manner of two-dimensional art forms, including a variety of state tattoos, the shape of Texas is routinely found in a dizzying array of three-dimensional products found within countless Texas retailers (and presumably Texas homes), including ice cube trays, cutting boards, jewelry, trays, single-use plates and cups, cake pans, cast iron skillets, baskets, candies, cookies, tortilla chips, sidewalk pavers, outdoor grills, bottles of tequila, and even a kitchen sink.

Texas-Shaped Pools and Bodies of Water

The largest permanent Texas-shaped things are buildings, swimming pools, and man-made lakes.³⁷ While buildings of this type are rare, probably due to the physical limitations of the Texas shape when applied to a house footprint, Texas-shaped swimming pools have been documented across the state, with the earliest known example being the 1961 Plano pool.³⁸ In 1962, the Hilltop Lakes Resort City in Leon County announced plans to build a Texas-shaped pool at its exclusive community, which opened the following year. In 1965 the resort placed ads in newspapers in Texas and Oklahoma, extolling amenities that included the "Hilltop pool that is shaped in the form of Texas...and it's so large you'll think it's almost as big as the state of Texas."³⁹ State-shaped pools have been partially catalogued by RoadsideAmerica.com, with Texas leading the pack with five.⁴⁰ Several large Texas pools have been verified through aerial photos and are included on the table (page 16), but numerous uncatalogued examples of small and private residential pools are known to exist. Advertisements from the *Dallas Morning News* from the period 1979-1984 identified at least six Texas pools in the Dallas area, and Texas-shaped hot tubs have been sold in sizes up to "giant" and "large" since the early 1980s.⁴¹ Suffice to say that while the Texas pool phenomenon is not yet common, the number of such pools is probably growing as the state grows in population and the popularity of the Texas shape shows no sign of abating.

³⁷ Ephemeral landscape features such as corn mazes and crop fields have been reported but are not extensively documented. See Sweet Berry Farm, Marble Falls, Texas, which measures approximately 558 feet (30.609824, -98.305023). Texas-shaped pools and bodies of water are inventoried on page 16.

³⁸ A much smaller decorative garden pool in the shape of Texas was featured in "Lily Pool Shape of Texas Ideal for all Water Plants," *Dallas Morning News*, August 31, 1952.

³⁹ Actual size: 85 feet. "Fabulous New Resort Center Established Near Normangee," *Mexia Daily News*, July 13, 1962; "Hilltop Lakes advertisement, *Dallas Morning News*, May 9, 1965.

⁴⁰ "Swimming Pools Shaped Like States," <https://www.roadsideamerica.com/story/29044>. Four of the five pools (except for one in Waxahachie) has been verified through other sources. All but the pool at the former South Shore Apartments, 300 E. Riverside, Austin, are extant.

⁴¹ "Spa Jazz" advertisement, *Lubbock Evening Journal*, April 29, 1983.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Conclusion

The earliest-known state-shaped pool was built in Florida for the 1953 movie *Easy to Love*, starring Esther Williams, and since then several have been built in other states, such as an Alabama pool at the Alabama Governor's Mansion and Oklahoma at the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion, both built in the 1970s. Perhaps more than any other state, the distinctive shape of Texas regularly stands on its own as a brand or logo that is recognizable to people all over the world. While it is not the only Texas-shaped pool in the state, this swimming pool is probably the earliest of its type and signifies Plano's growth and dedication to providing an accessible and attractive community in where new families could thrive. Historic recognition of this site further solidifies Plano's significance as not just a commuter city, but a city with its own unique story and significant future. This pool played a notable role in attracting new residents to Plano and establishing the demographics that have persisted through to today: college educated Gen-Xers looking to settle down somewhere affordable and accommodating.⁴² Furthermore, the Texas Pool's current ownership seems to be striving to once again establish the pool as an entertaining and historic attraction for North Texas' latest wave of newcomers.

⁴² Atkinson, Jim, "Brave New 'Burbs," *Texas Monthly* 31:9 (2003), 52.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Table 1

Large Texas-Shaped Pools and Man-made Bodies of Water
(excluding small swimming pools at private residences)

| Location | City | County | Type | Approx. Diameter (in feet, from Dalhart to Brownsville) | Date |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|--|------------|
| Springbrook Drive | Plano | Collin | Swimming Pool | 90 | 1961 |
| Big Texan Motel | Amarillo | Potter | Swimming Pool | 49 | After 1967 |
| Hilltop Lakes Resort | Normangee vicinity | Leon | Swimming Pool | 85 | c.1963 |
| Six Flags Fiesta Texas | San Antonio | Bexar | Swimming Pool | 272 | After 1995 |
| Texas Motor Speedway | Fort Worth | Tarrant | Swimming Pool | 45 | After 1995 |
| South Shore Apartments | Austin | Travis | Swimming Pool | (demolished) | c.1964 |
| Holiday Day Inn Express | Kerrville | Kerr | Swimming Pool | 59 | After 1995 |
| Marriott Marquis Houston | Houston | Harris | Lazy River Pool | 173 | 2016 |
| Henry William Munson Park | Angleton | Brazoria | Pond | 222 | After 2004 |
| Private Ranch | Ganado | Jackson | Pond | 175 | c.2010 |
| Private Ranch | Rockwall | Rockwall | Pond | 645 | After 1968 |

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Major Bibliographical References

Atkinson, Jim, "Brave New 'Burbs," *Texas Monthly* 31:9, 2003.

Fernandez, Manny. "The Texas-Shaped World." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 29 Sept. 2016, www.nytimes.com/2016/09/30/insider/the-texas-shaped-world.html.

Francaviglia, Richard V. *The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors*. 1st edition. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1995.

Kuhlman, H.K. (1994). "The Civil Rights Movement in Texas: Desegregation of Public Accommodations, 1950-1964" (Doctoral Dissertation).

Plano Public Library System, "Plano City Timeline," 2011. <https://www.plano.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1201>

Schell, Shirley, and Frances B. Wells. "Plano, Texas." *New Handbook of Texas*, 1996.

Wiltse, Jeff, "Swimming Pools, Civic Life, and Social Capital," *A Companion to Sport: Contested Space and Politics*, ed. by David L. Andrews et al., 2013.

"153 Lots Included in First Unit; N. Texas First Planned Community," *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 13 Oct. 1961.

"Dallas North Estates Will Be Shown Today." *Dallas Morning News*, May 28, 1961.

"Dallas North Estates Property Search." *Collin County Appraisal District*, www.collincad.org/propertysearch?situs_street_suffix=&subdiv=Dallas%2Anorth%2AEstates&isd%5B%5D=any&city%5B%5D=any&prop_type%5B%5D=MH&active%5B%5D=1&year=2018&sort=G.

"Dallas North Pool Names Directors." *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 8 May 1963.

"Minutes from City Hall." *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 2 March 1961.

"Plano Population Growth Historic Trends 1900 to 2010." *City of Plano*, www.plano.gov/documentcenter/view/645.

"Plano Third In Per Capita Building in 1960." *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, 23 Feb. 1961.

Wiltse, Jeff. *Contested Waters: A Social History of Swimming Pools in America*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2007

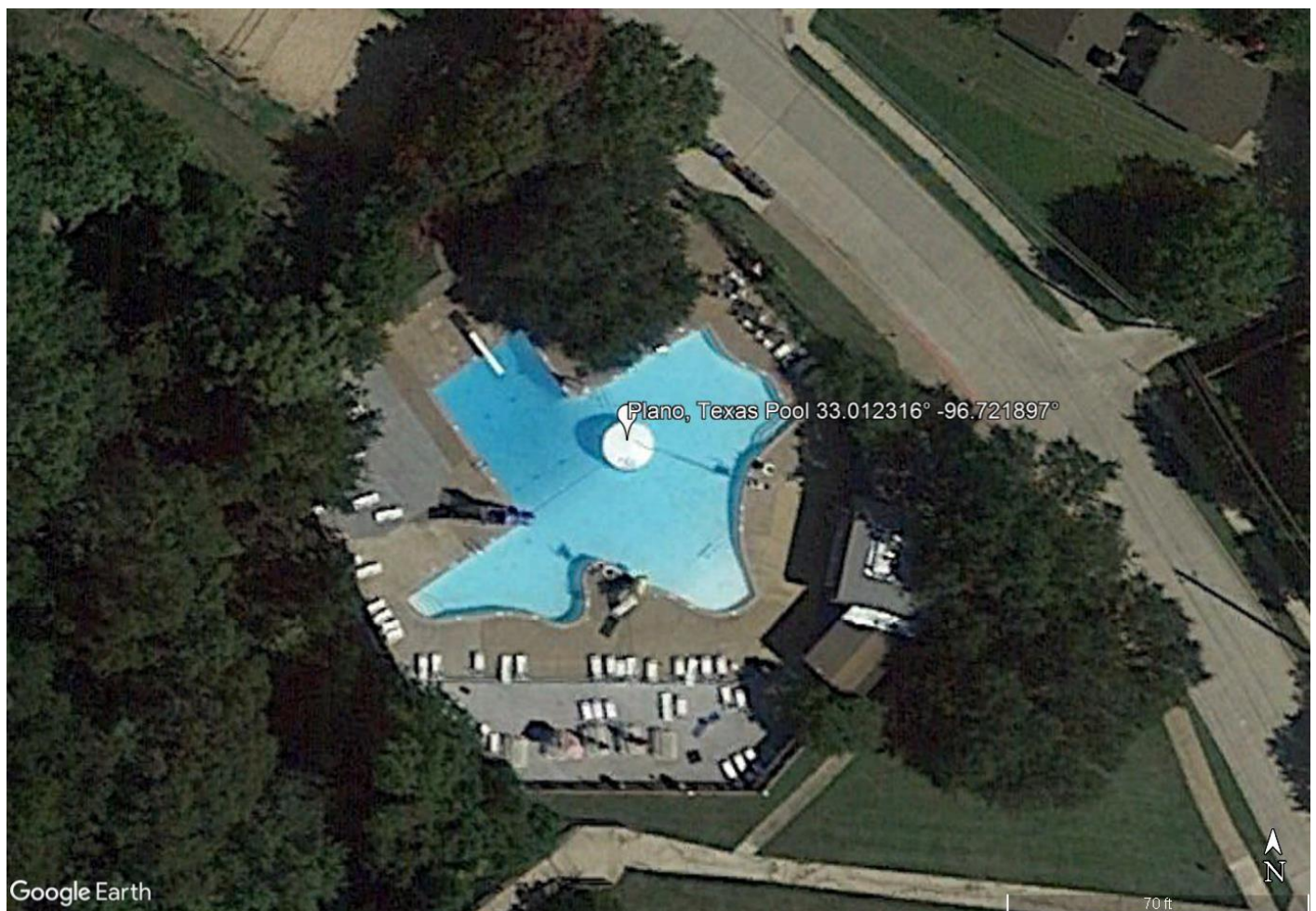
Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Collin County, Texas



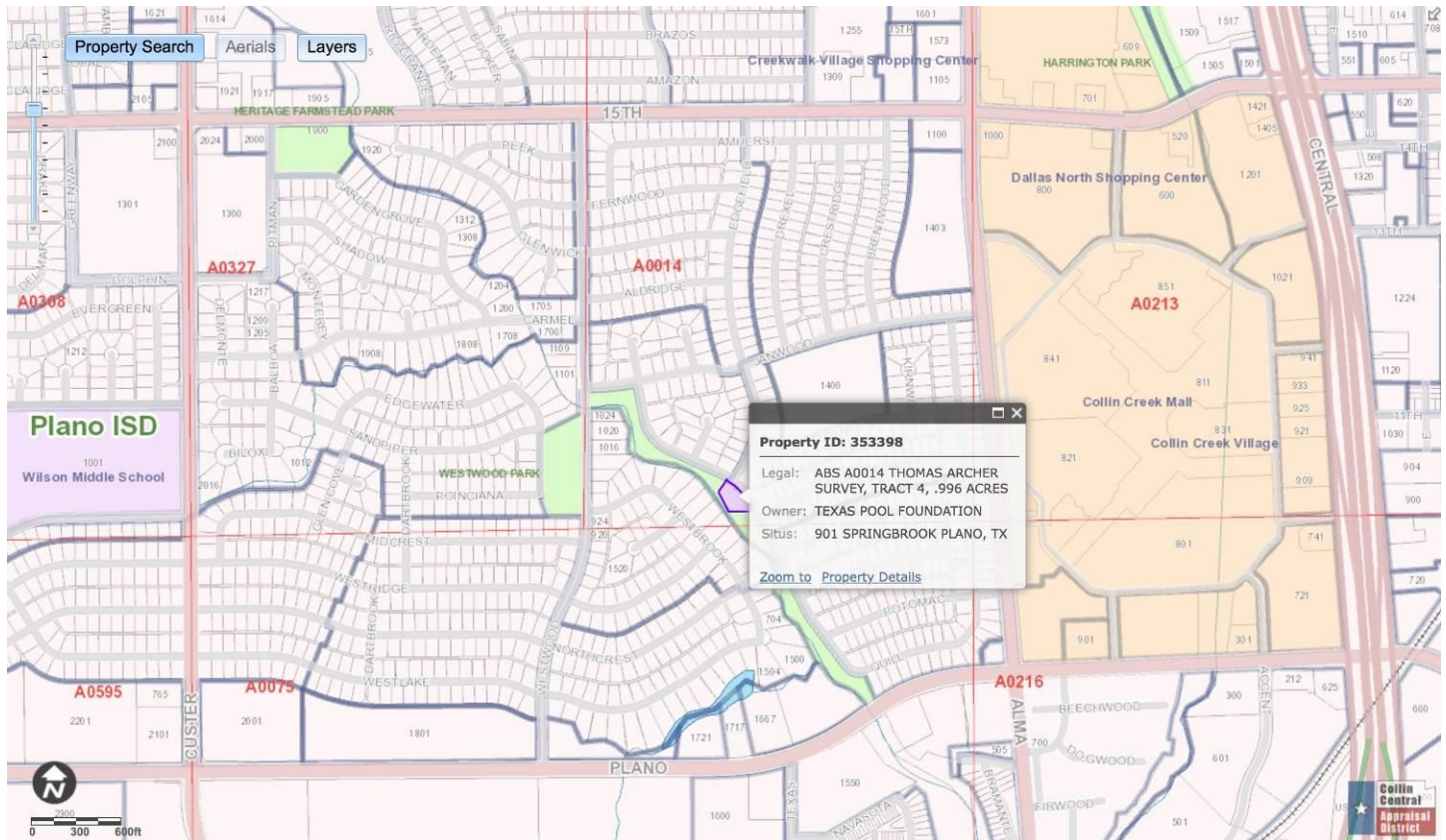
Location Map

Source: Google Earth, accessed April 6, 2018



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Collin County Appraisal District Map showing the Texas Pool Site location in west Plano



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

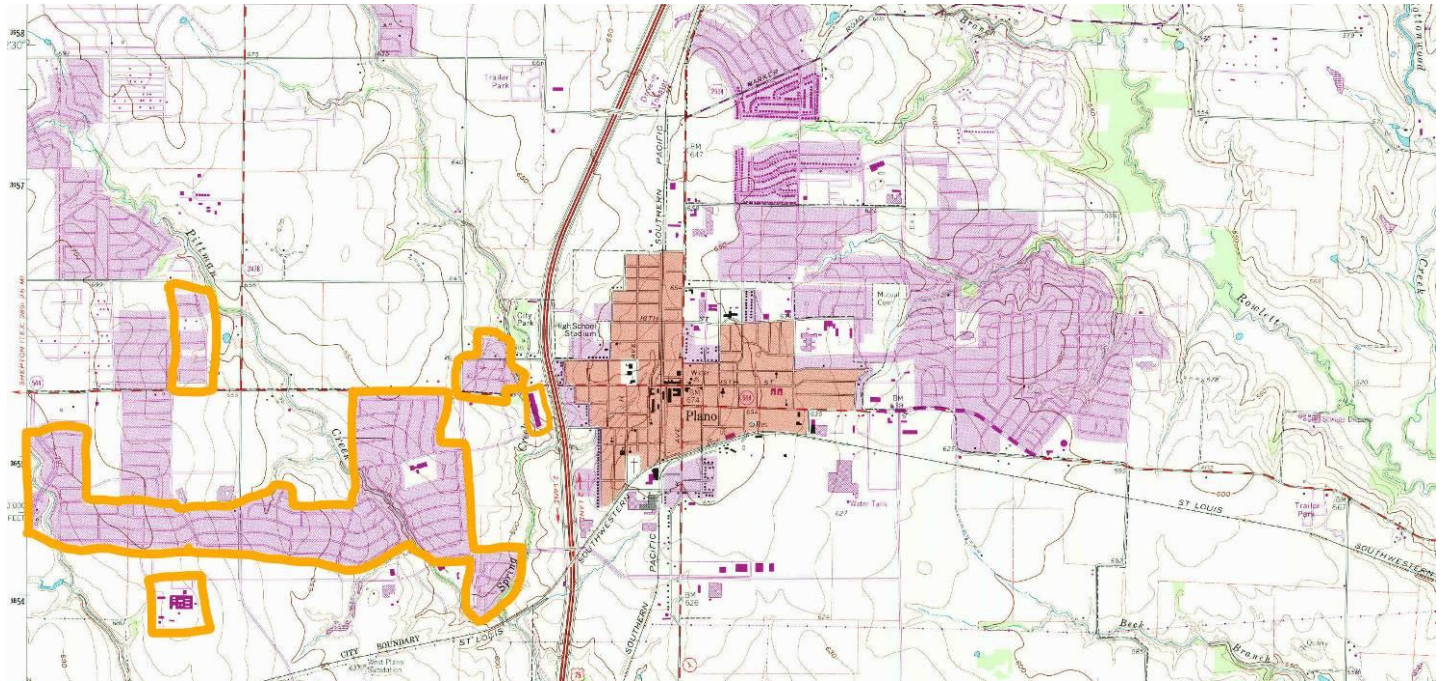
Collin County Appraisal District Map with aerial satellite overlay showing the site of the Texas Pool



[illegible][illegible]

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

USGS 7.5-minute map showing Plano development in 1960 (red) and growth by 1973 (purple), with all Hunt properties outlined (orange)



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

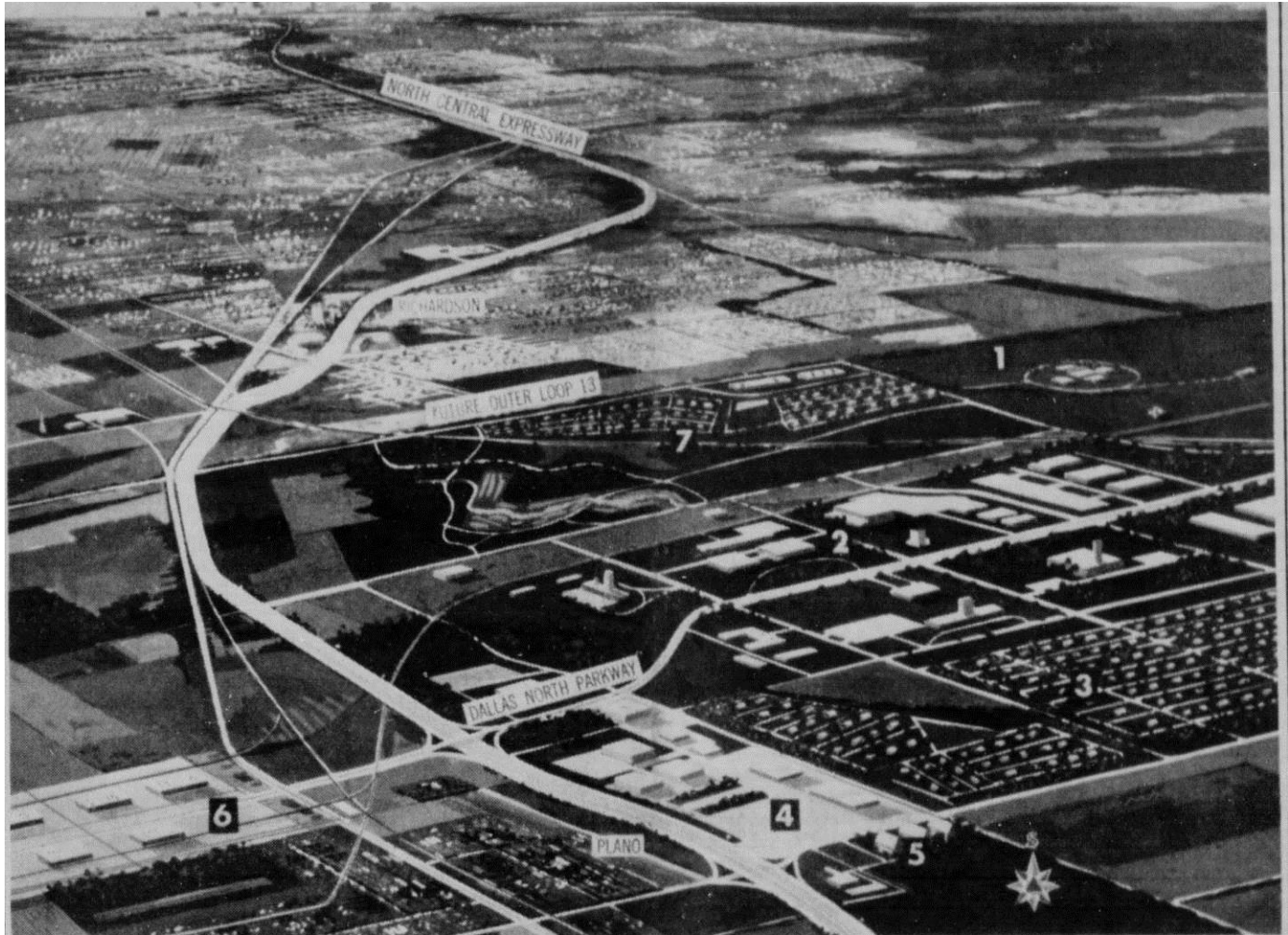
US 75 under construction at Plano in May of 1955, facing south. Note no development west of the Expressway (UT- Arlington Library Special Collections, Squire Haskins Collection, AR447 A2708)



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

1962 figure showing the extent of Hunt properties in west Plano (Dallas North Estates #3).

"3,000- Acre Research Park Announced," *Plano Daily Star-Courier*, September 26, 1962.

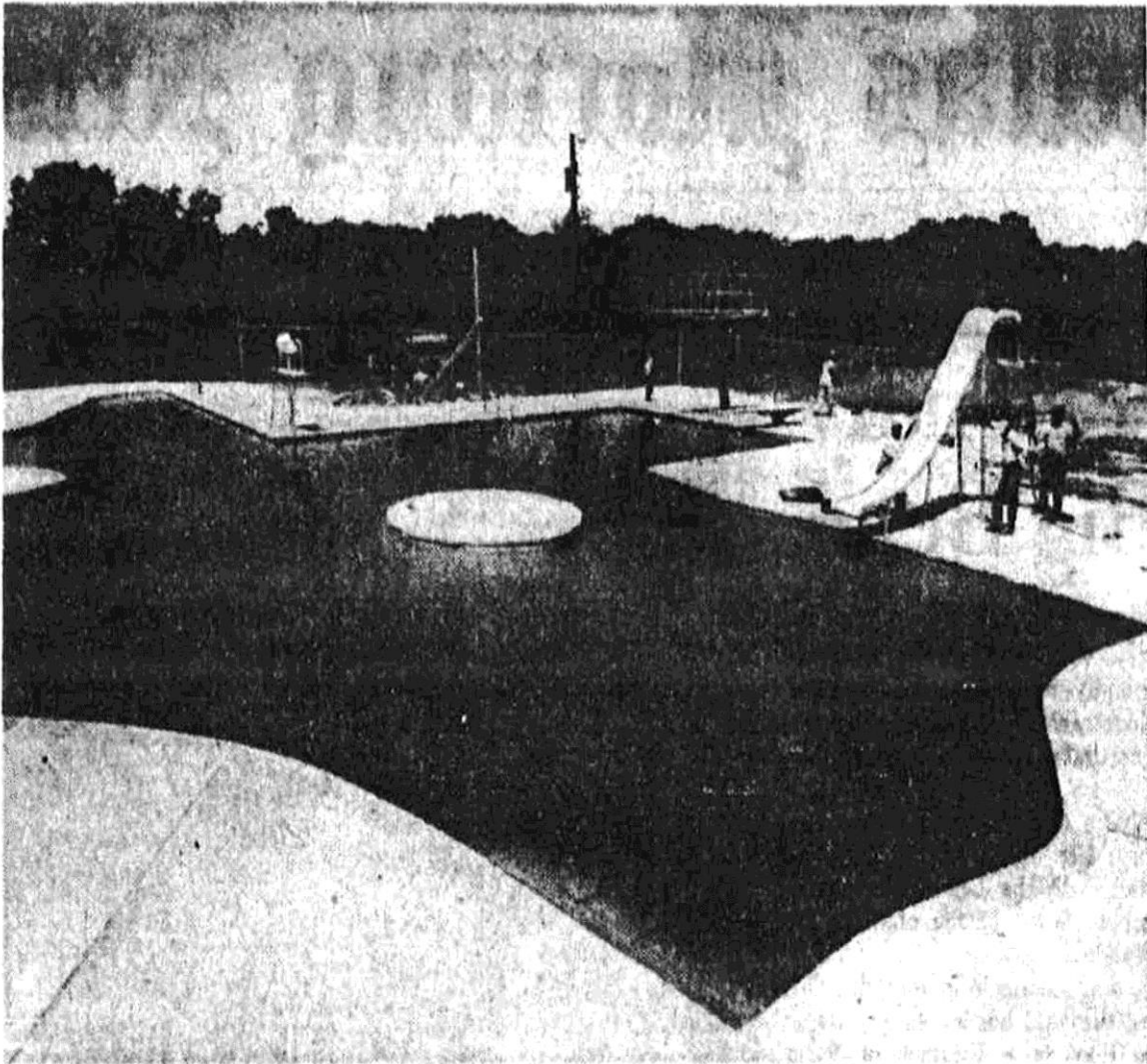


THIS AERIAL VIEW, looking from Plano southward through Richardson to Dallas, shows the tremendous scope of the Dallas North metropolitan complex. The figure 1. locates the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest. 2. Dallas North Research Park.

3. Dallas North Estates. 4. Dallas North Regional Shopping Center and Commercial Area. 5. Springbrook Apartments. 6. Dallas North Industrial District. 7. Canyon Creek residential development, country club, and shopping center.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Dallas Morning News, May 28, 1961.



Workers put finishing touches on a Texas-sized, Texas-shaped pool which will be operated for residents of Dallas North Estates in Plano. A contest to guess the number of gallons

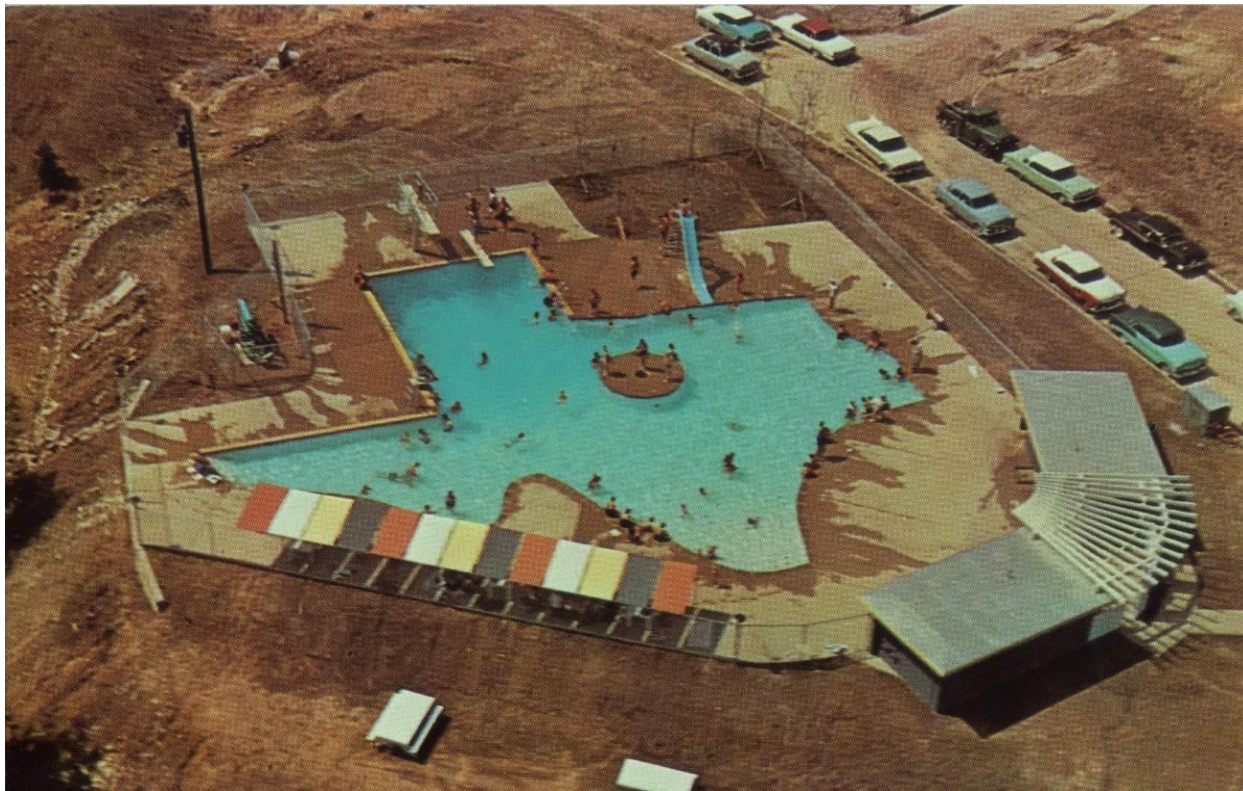
of water it contains starts Sunday, with the winner slated to receive a 10-foot boat, plus trailer and motor. The boat is being furnished by the Lone Star Boat Co., also of Plano.

PLANNED CITY

Dallas North Estates Will Be Shown Today

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

First aerial photograph of the Texas Pool, taken in the 1960s shortly after opening.



The Texas Pool in full swing during the summer months

Plano Magazine, May 2015.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

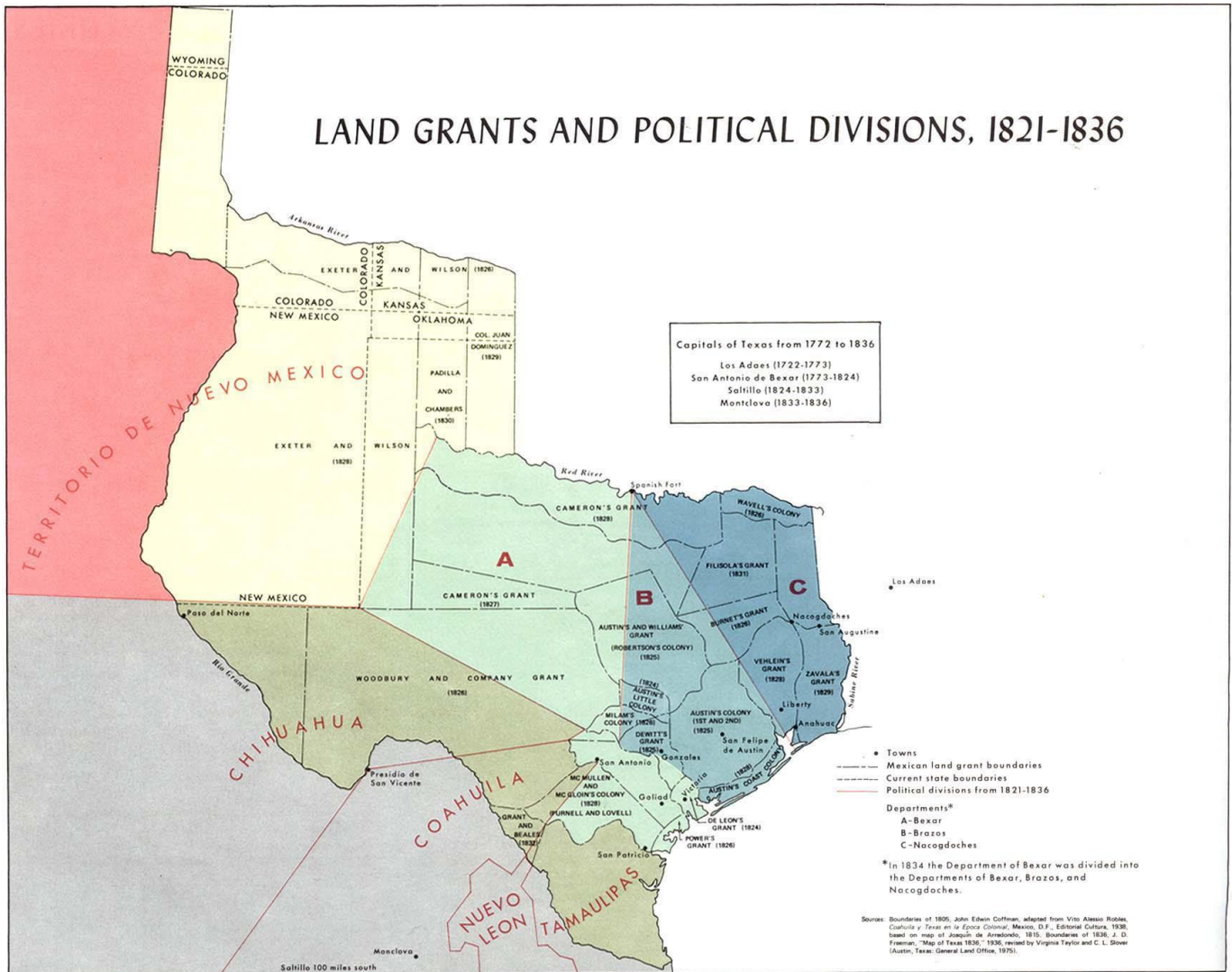
Google Earth aerial view with actual shape of Texas superimposed



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Historic shape of Texas, with present boundary

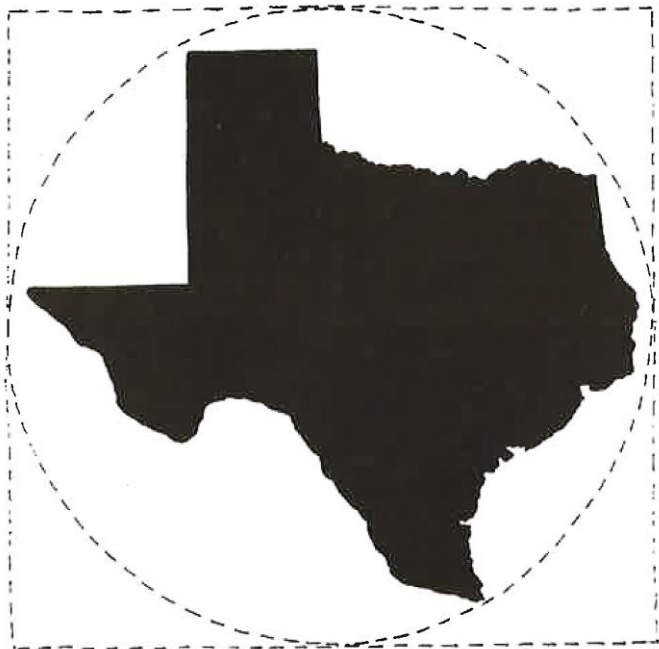
http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_texas/texas_land_grants.jpg



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Texas within Circle and Square

From *The Shape of Texas*, by Richard Francaviglia, 1995.



Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) Medallion

<https://hiveminer.com/Tags/rthl>

Texas Farm Road Highway Sign

http://www.wikiwand.com/en/Farm-to-market_road



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Texas Centennial Postcard, c.1936.

<https://flashbackdallas.com/2016/06/09/dallas-texas-centennial-exposition-vs-fort-worth-1936/>

Texas Centennial Promotional Ad (*Southwestern Rail Way Journal*, March 1936).

From *The Shape of Texas*, by Richard Francaviglia, 1995.



TEXARKANA Visit EL PASO!
BROWNSVILLE See AMARILLO!

A stylized map of Texas with several cars driving on it, representing travel across the state.

TEXANS!
PLAN TO TRAVEL
TEXAS DURING—
**CENTENNIAL
YEAR**

**VISIT THESE INTERESTING
CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATIONS**
(March 13 through
April 28. Revised
to March 1)

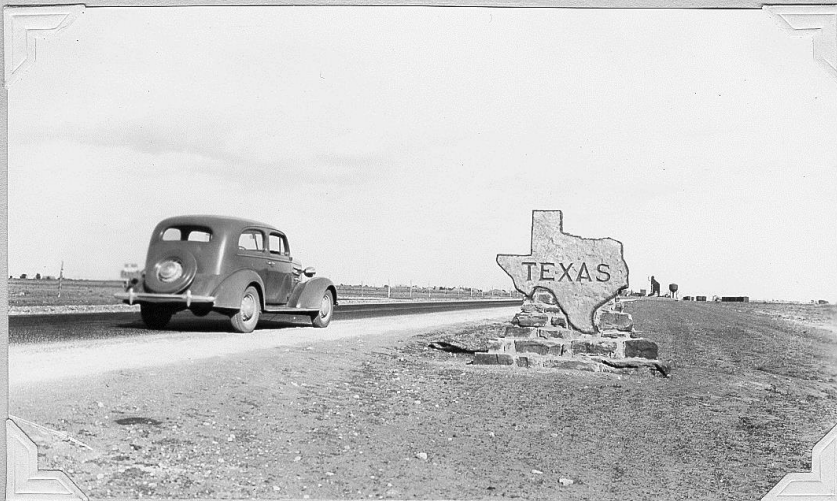
MARCH 13-22—FORT WORTH — South-
western Exposition and Fat Stock Show.
MARCH 17—CRYSTAL CITY — Spinach
Festival.
MARCH 27—GOLIAD—Pontifical Field
Mass.
MARCH 28—AUSTIN—Texas Centennial
Relcys.

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Texas State Line Markers, c.1937.
Courtesy TxDOT.



Enter Texas - State Line Marker
Hwy. #5 - Texas-New Mexico State Line

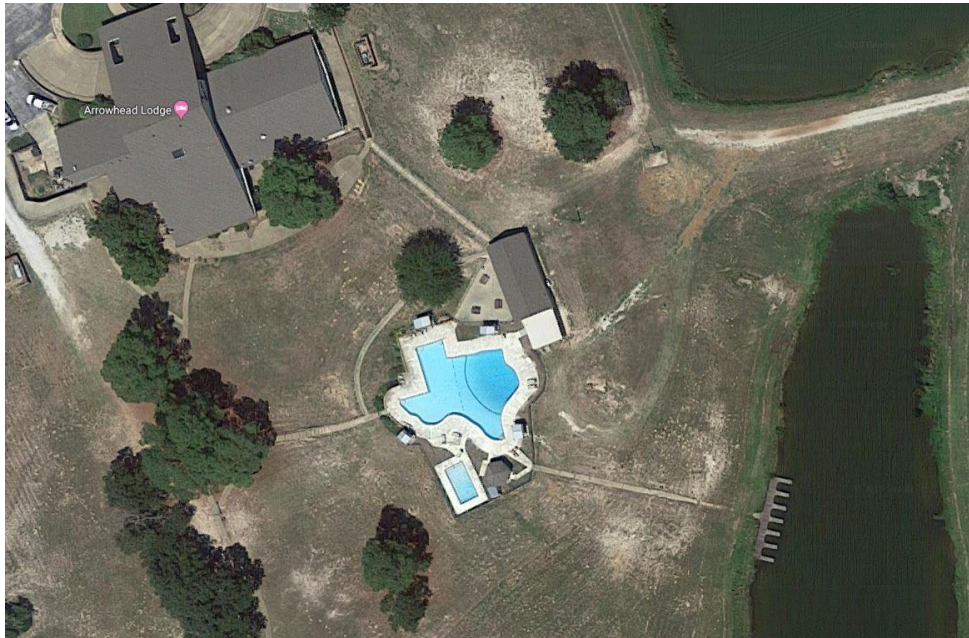


Looking Southeast to Texline
Hwy. #5, Dallam County

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

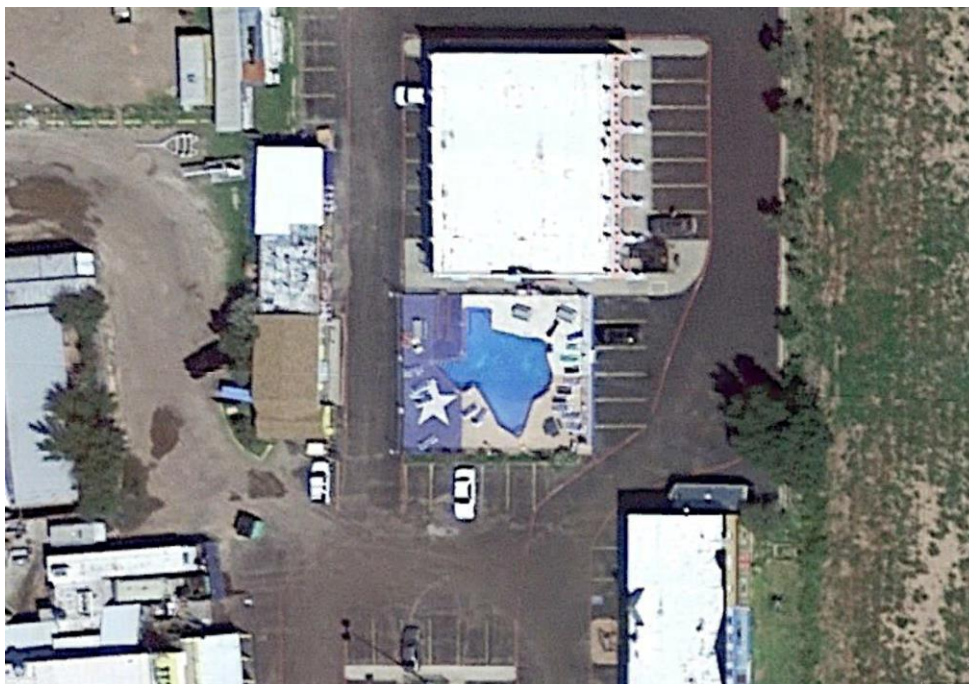
Hilltop Lakes Pool (circa 1963), near Normangee, Leon County

31.074002, -96.208774



Big Texan Motel Pool (after 1967), Amarillo, Potter County

35.194066, -101.754447



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

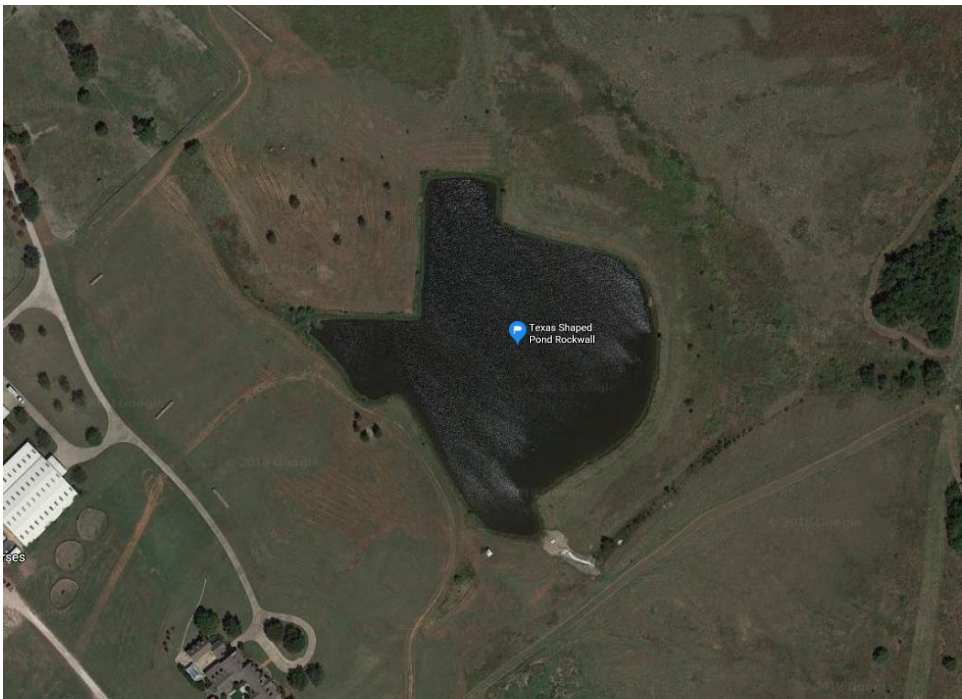
Six Flags Fiesta Texas Pool (after 1995), San Antonio, Bexar County

29.600560, -98.609730



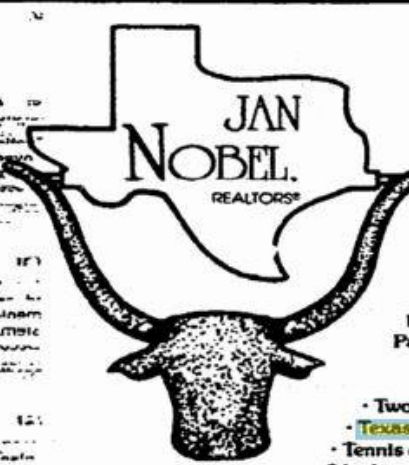
Private Ranch Stock Pond, Rockwall County (after 1968).

The largest known Texas-shaped body of water, measured diagonally at approximately 645 feet. Originally an accurate form, lack of upkeep has led to loss of shape at the gulf coast.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Assortment of real estate advertisements mentioning Texas-shaped pools. *Dallas Morning News*, 1979-1984.



TEXAS STYLE!

OPEN HOUSE
Today 2 to 5 PM

- Fashion modeling by Cutter Bill Fashion-Dallas
- Test drive an Excalibur from Eagle Lincoln Mercury
- See trend-setting table settings by J. Arden Gifts of Highland Park Village

12415 COVENTRY

- Two acre estate inside LBJ
- Texas shaped pool
- Tennis courts
- 3 bedroom, 2½ bath home plus quarters or office

A wise investment at \$599,000
Better than market rate owner financing

Susanne Forbes Dicker
6021 Berkshire Lane

Debbie Ingram
369-8200

Ultimate in Texas Lifestyle

Casual elegant one-of-a-kind contemporary 3 bdrms, 2½ bath, PLUS GUESTHOUSE, TEXAS SHAPED POOL & TENNIS COURT. If you like informal living and entertaining this is for you. \$398,000. Eves. Inez Mersky, 387-0445.

Paula Stringer

 **A Merrill Lynch
Realty Associate**

233-9000

TEXAS

Inside & Out! 4 Texas-sized bedrooms, 2½ baths and Game-room inside and a gorgeous TEXAS-shaped POOL outside! Great for summer fun. Near schools and shopping. A great value at \$129,900. Eves. 867-6718.

POOL

Plus Shade! If you want trees, see this 4 bedroom custom with beautiful POOL. Earth tones throughout. Super living-den plus formal dining room. \$89,900. Eves. 422-4876 or 424-6409.

Lou Smith

IN

REALTORS®

3055 W. 15th St., PLANO, TX
596-0033

First Offering 4933 Swiss Ave

Large brick Prairie style home with four porches. Rookwood fireplaces in magnificent master and elegant living room. Grand staircase entry, plus servant's stairs. Texas-shaped pool. Known as 'The Honeymoon House'. A prime opportunity to secure a Swiss Avenue address at an affordable \$345,000. Milette McGowen 824-8799.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ \$200 OFF ★

★ FIRST MONTH RENT ★

★ 1 and 2 bedrooms ★

- ★ • Olympic Pool ★
- ★ • Texas Shaped Pool ★
- ★ • Tennis Courts ★
- ★ • Playground ★
- ★ • Ceiling Fans ★
- ★ • WBFP's ★
- ★ • Washer/Dryer ★
- ★ Connections ★
- ★ • Security On Premises ★

★ PRICES START AT \$350- ★

★ 1 Child Welcome ★

★ MEADOW CREEK ★

★ VILLAGE ★

★ 288-7649 288-7640 ★

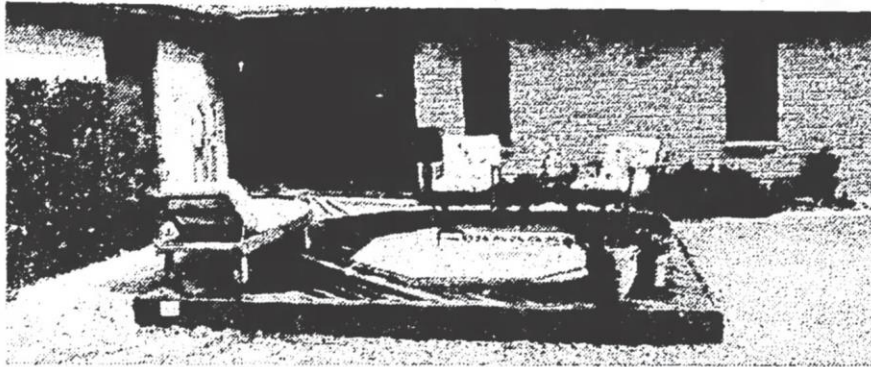
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Advertisement for "EXCLUSIVE GIANT AND LARGE TEXAS SPAS."
Lubbock Evening Journal, April 29, 1983.

SPA SALE

GUARANTEED 7 DAY SALE ONLY!



FEATURING ON LOCATION:

FACTORY OUTLET FIBERGLASS AND ACRYLIC SPAS,
PORTABLE SPAS, 12x18 SWIMMING POOL, 21 SPA SHELLS,
EXCLUSIVE GIANT AND LARGE TEXAS-SHAPED SPAS,
3 COMPLETELY OPERATIONAL SPAS, 47 DIFFERENT
STYLES TO SELECT FROM

**SAVINGS OF HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS! THIS WILL BE
THE ONLY SALE OF THIS KIND THIS SUMMER**

POOL SALE: 12x28 ROMAN POOL \$7,995.00 INSTALLED
LIMITED TO FIRST 3 SOLD.

**OPEN
MON.-SAT.
10AM to 5PM
SUN.-1PM-5PM**



**2009 E. 50TH ST.
ONE MILE EAST OF
AVE. A
LUBBOCK**

Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Texas Pool from Above
Photographed by David Woo for the *Dallas Morning News*, 2017.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photo 1

Entrance to the Texas Pool, including brown city provided sign, Plano Conservancy provided wayside sign, Little Free Library, and Little Free Pantry, facing west.



Photo 2

The Texas Pool and entrance and changing rooms to the left, facing south.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photo 3
The Texas Pool, facing west.



Photo 4
The Texas Pool, facing east.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photo 5
The Texas Pool, looking northeast.



Photo 6
The Texas Pool, looking southeast.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photo 7

The Texas Pool pumphouse with a Texas Flag mural, located on the north end of the property above the Panhandle, facing northeast.



Photo 8

The full perspective of the Texas Pool, looking northeast.



Texas Pool, Plano, Collin County, Texas

Photo 9

Mural on the men's changing room, facing southeast.



Photo 10

Mural on the women's changing room, facing south.

