

Historic Landmark #26



**Stringfellow-Craddock-Gilmartin House
322 West Bridge Street**

Historic Landmark #26

Stringfellow-Craddock-Gilmartin House

This primitive farmhouse was built around 1916 for Will Stringfellow and his family. The home was built of lumber and other old materials from Confederate Major John A. Formwalt's Granbury residence, which was located on the same site. In the 1850's Formwalt settled in what is now Hood County. He formed a local militia to fight the Indians as early Hood County settlers ventured West of the Brazos River. He served under General Hiram Granbury during the Civil War. Formwalt later became a three-term Granbury justice of the peace.

The Stringfellow home still occupies a quarter-block, and was a small farmstead in the village. Here the Stringfellows planted a large vegetable garden, nurtured fruit trees, raised a cow, and stabled their horses and a team of mules. Their small farmstead had a water well, a storm cellar, an outhouse, and a carriage house, all built by Major Formwalt.

Thomas Buckner (T. B.) Craddock and his wife Cora Dale (Parker) Craddock owned and occupied the home after they purchased it from the Stringfellows in 1940. Mr. Craddock worked for the Santa Fe Railroad beginning in 1917 and served as the agent and stationmaster in Granbury from 1938 to 1947. Upon his retirement from the railroad Craddock served on the Granbury City Council, beginning in 1951, as well as the Granbury Parks Board. His descendants sold the property to Mr. Jimmie Dixon in 1972.

The late Mrs. Helen Gilmartin, a descendant of several pioneer Hood County families, purchased this farmstead in 1975. She furnished the home with her antique collection, and many of her local pieces remain in the house. Mrs. Gilmartin, a noted antique dealer, recreated an authentic old county store in the rock structure next door, called "Gilmartins General Store", which she opened to the public. Mrs. Gilmartin was also known for her circa 1950s aluminum Christmas tree she left up year-round.

The steep Victorian cross gables area significant architectural element of the Stringfellow-Craddock-Gilmartin Farmhouse. The interior of this home features rough-hewn wood walls, original woodwork and sliding pocket doors.

The Stringfellow-Gilmartin House was designated a local landmark July 1, 2008. The landmark was renamed the Stringfellow-Craddock-Gilmartin House on July 5, 2022.