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# CAMPUS

## POINTING OUT THE PAST

Committee sponsors competition to find design for University historical marker

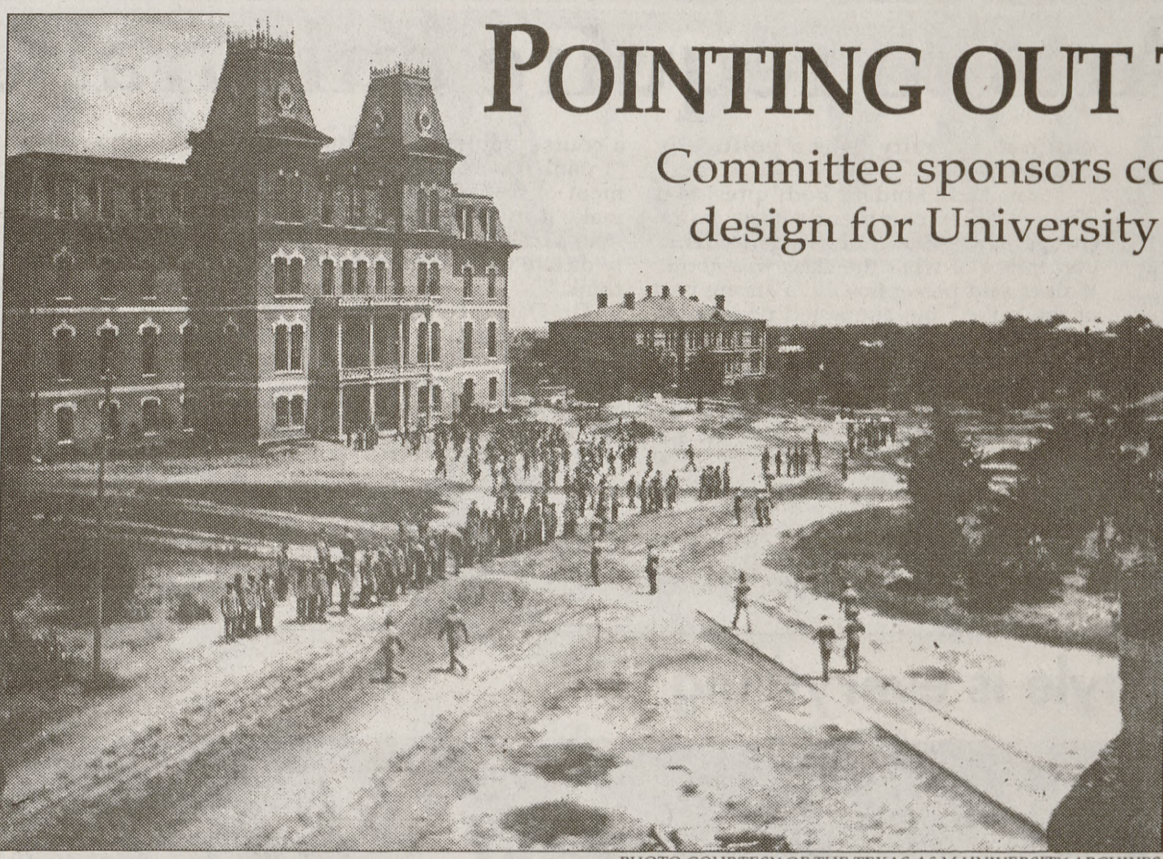


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Old Main, the first building at Texas A&M University, stood on the present-day site of the Academic Building from 1876 until it burned in 1912. This photo was taken in 1897.

Center, said current markers around campus are mostly state historical markers or commemorative plaques with no distinctive logo. The committee wants markers with an easily identifiable design representing Texas A&M, but the designers have been left a free hand, he said. Halter said the new plaques will be detailed, telling the story of a building or event rather than simply giving a name and date. He said the committee plans to dedicate one or two plaques each year, on football weekends, Parents' Weekend, reunions or similar events.

Competitors are asked to design a logo and specify the size of their marker and the materials used. The recommended size is no larger than 27 inches by 42 inches. The only specification is that the marker be durable enough to be mounted outdoors on a building or post. Henderson said the marker should appear dignified and "first-class." Dr. Richard L. Floyd, associate vice president for finance and administration, said specifying both the marker's look and how it should be built will be a challenge. "We want one that is distinctive and befitting of the events and buildings that we want to recognize," he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Cadets march down Military Walk from Old Main around the turn of the century, when the Corps past Ross Hall to the mess hall. This photo was taken marched across campus in formation to every meal.

Contest entries are being accepted by Floyd at the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration. The deadline is Sept. 1, 1993. A judging team to be composed primarily of faculty members will choose the winning entry, Floyd said, and the designer will receive a \$250 prize. Floyd said he has not received any contest entries yet but has gotten inquiries from architecture students and winners of other design competitions. He said he thought the competition would also interest former students and give them the

chance to make a lasting contribution to A&M. "We want something unique to the heritage of Texas A&M University," he said. Henderson said the markers can educate campus visitors as well as members of the A&M community. "There's no question we're seeing more and more visitors here, and when the Bush library opens I think the number of visitors will be just amazing," he said. The Sanders Center has seen as many as 3,000 visitors on home football game days, he said. A State of Texas historical marker will be dedicated on campus this fall, Halter said. The marker will identify the location of the train depot that gave the town of College Station its name, and will be placed by Albritton Tower. Another state marker may be placed at Bolton Hall if the committee can verify that a play-by-play radio broadcast of the Nov. 24, 1921 A&M football game was the first broadcast of a college game in the United States, Halter said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

A train pulls in to the College Station depot, where students of the A&M College are lined up to board. The depot gave its name to the town that grew up around it. This photo was taken around 1905.



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