Krum Town & Businesses

Krum is a wonderful place to live. Outstanding schools along with parks and playgrounds make it a good place to raise a family. A well-stocked library and a weekly newspaper connect the citizens with the world, and a newly opened historical museum, Krum Heritage Museum, reminds residents of their heritage. Although the mills and gins are now gone, Krum still serves northwest Denton County in agriculture as well as banking, public education and restaurants. Krum’s major claim to fame however is its people who are proud to tell the world that they live there. Many descendants of the original settlers still reside in Krum-why go anywhere else? New families are also arriving continuously to fill the housing developments that have sprung up since the beginning of the 1990’s.

First Doctors of Krum 1891

The Krum area was served by several fine doctors. Dr. W.C. Kimbrough was the first to arrive. He opened his office and drug store in 1891. Later on, his two sons, Dr. Wallace and Dr. Walter Kimbrough, graduated in medicine from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee and came here to practice their profession. Pictured are Dr. Wallace Kimbrough & Dr. Walter Kimbrough
This photograph shows a busy northwest view of McCart Street in 1900 Krum. Wheat wagons are lined up for the public scales.

The first business establishments in Krum were wooden structures. Pictured in this 1915 image of the south side of McCart St are, from left to right, Ned Gullett, J.O. McClister, Mark McFall, Bill Thomas, Basie Smith, Whit Renfro, Gladys Thomas & unknown. In 1906 a great fire destroyed every business on the north side of McCart Street.
Looking to the northeast part of town, a closer view of the pharmacy and dry goods store is obtained. These buildings were erected in 1909, and are still in use today as business and city offices.

Looking to the northwest a street scene in Krum. The Krum School can be seen in background on top right Ca. 1920
F & M Bank- Ca. 1915
Woodmen of the World in second story of bank
Rest Hour Theatre to right of bank

Looking east toward town-Chitwood Hotel on right
Ca. 1950
The bird’s-eye view of Krum looking to the southeast shows the area just north of McCart Street as it appeared in the early 1900’s.

The three adjacent buildings at the southeast intersection of McCart and First Streets are still in use today. In the 1910’s they were occupied by C.R. Fowler Hardware, Will Collier Drug Store and the H.F. Lamm Grocery Store.
A crowd is gathering for the 1924 grand opening of the Muncy Building, which was built as a Ford dealership.

Blacksmith Shop on right-Watkins Garage on left
Ca. 1912
Blacksmith shops were needed for shoeing horses, sharpening plowshares and repairing wagon wheels. R.R. Turner established Krum’s first blacksmith shop in 1888. In 1900 C.C. Hornsby established a second shop (pictured above) and in 1912 A.W. “Watt” Jones bought the Hornsby business.
Herbert Barthold (left) stands with the truck he is trading in for the newer model beside John Morris owner of Morris Chevrolet. Morris had sold Barthold the original vehicle 20 years earlier. Bricks from the old Presbyterian Church were used to build this dealership.

After Bud Dodd and his family came to Krum in 1941 he worked at Lamm’s Grocery until 1945. He then opened up his own grocery business with his brother in-law Leonard Denney next door to the F & M Bank. Leonard left the business within a few years and Bud sold out in 1957.
June Benton, holding the reins, sits in his wagon with his matched team in front of his livery stable on McCart Street. Ca. 1900

Arthur Jackson established a lumberyard in Krum in 1891. The Waples-Painter lumber Company acquired it in 1910. In 1912, the Lyon-Gray Lumber Company established a second lumberyard in town. Then the Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Company bought both yards and consolidated them. Nelson Dyer bought the consolidated yard in 1950 and leased it to Jimmie & Bill Ginnings who operated it until Bill’s death.
McClister/Wilkins Dry Goods Company

The McClister Dry Goods Company served the Krum area for 62 years from 1901-1963. Brothers J.O. & Andrew McClister opened the store in 1901. The store burned in 1906 and a brick building was erected. Cliff Wilkins, who married the McClister daughter Cittie, joined the firm in 1919 and bought the store in 1937.

One of Krum’s entertainment attractions was its brass band under the direction of W.F. Clevenger. On a bandstand erected at the intersection of McCart and First Streets, the group gave a concert every O.J. Chism, bass; W.F. Clevenger, baritone; Paul Gose, lead coronet; and Jimmy Wright, trombone. Five of the eleven band members shown are unidentified.
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