

Marker #: 7908

Title: Willis

Index Name: Willis

Address: SH 75 and FM 2432

City: Willis

County: Montgomery, County ID: 170

UTM Zone: 15

UTM Zone East: 261980

UTM Zone North: 3367886

Code: cities and towns; land surveys, land companies, promotional towns

Year: 1970

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark: False

Local Description:

Size of Marker: 18" x 28"

Marker Text: Founded in 1870. Named for P. J. and R. S. Willis (large land and timber owners who formerly were merchants in area). They gave townsite, on the Houston & Great Northern Railroad. With the line came prosperity, and in 1874 Willis and Montgomery vied for county seat, but both eventually lost to Conroe.

Willis boasted a college, opera house, numerous stores; and by 1895 had vast tobacco fields supporting 7 cigar factories. This industry faded when tariff on Cuban tobacco was lifted. Present industries are timber and livestock.

THC Atlas #: 5339007908