

Site of Willis Cigar Factory

Marker #: 7909

Title: Site of Willis Cigar Factory

Index Name: Willis Cigar Factory

Address: 300 Bell and Waverly

City: Willis

County: Montgomery, County ID: 170

UTM Zone: 15

UTM Zone East: 261848

UTM Zone North: 3368752

Code: manufacturing

Year: 1986

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark: False

Local Description:

Size of Marker: 18" x 28"

Marker Text: Following the Civil War, area farmers found the climate and soil conditions of Montgomery County were ideal for the production of tobacco. The varieties grown here were of the highest quality, winning international awards in Chicago and Paris. At the height of local tobacco production, there were eight cigar operations in Willis. One, the Willis Cigar Factory, was located at this site. Founded by Kentucky native Capt. Thomas Wesley Smith (1829-1901), a Civil War veteran and former sheriff, it remained in operation until the early 1900s.

Texas Sesquicentennial 1836 - 1986

THC Atlas #: 5339007909

