

08/14/09

Fort Worth Monument Company
5811 Jacksboro Hwy
Fort Worth, TX 76114
Fax Number: (817) 624-8428

James,

Please remit proofs to 903-531-1170.
We are expecting to have our ceremony on September 24th.
Please let me know when these will be ready for shipment.

JUDGE SAM LINDSEY

1863 -1961

He was known as a man of vision and earned the honorary title,
“Father of the Federal Land Banks”. He was instrumental in the
promotion and construction of the Peoples Bank building.

Thanks,
Heather
Senior Planner
903-531-1174

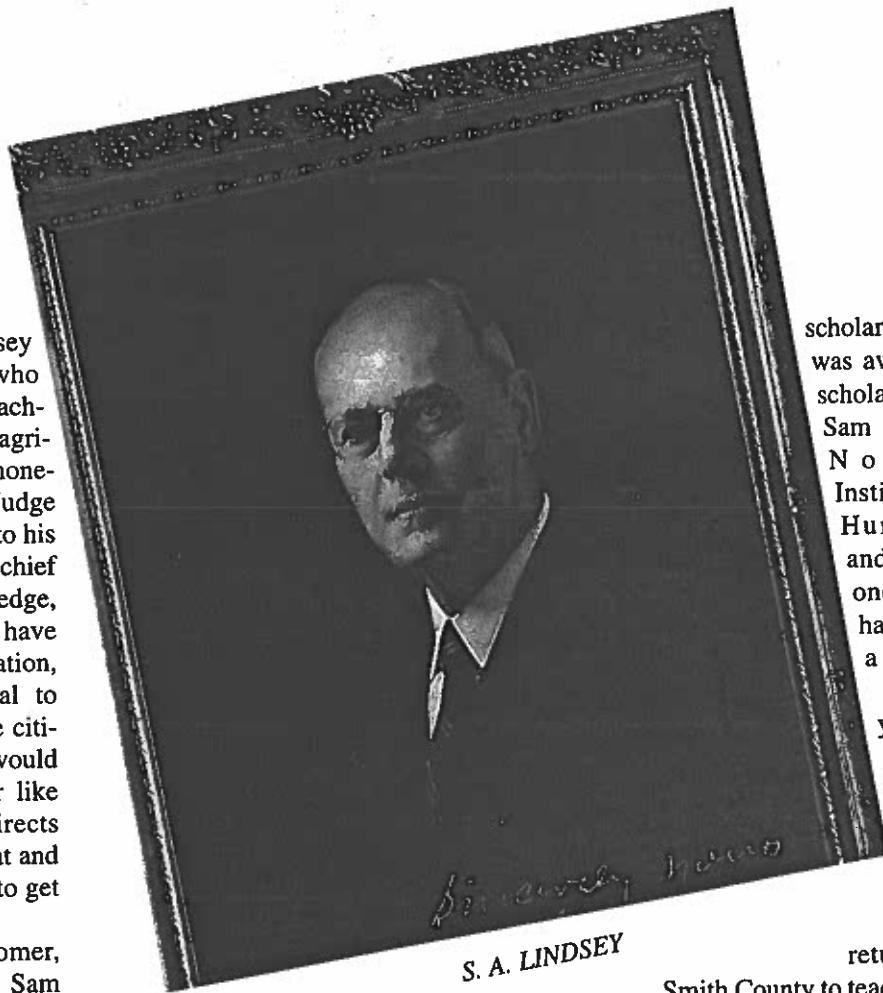
The Lindsey Family

by Barbara King

Judge Samuel Asbury Lindsey was a man of vision who excelled in many fields; teaching, business, banking, law and agriculture. However, it was never monetary gain that motivated him, as Judge Lindsey wrote in a private letter to his family, "All my life, my first and chief desire was not money, but knowledge, learning and wisdom. I seem to have been born with a thirst for education, which I considered an essential to climbing to position in front line citizenship. While a small child, I would wish or say to myself a prayer like this; whatever power that directs things and makes men wise, great and useful, please let me find a way to get an education".

Born in 1863 near Homer, Louisiana it seemed that young Sam Lindsey would have to struggle to attain the dream of education that he longed for. His father, Samuel Asbury Lindsey Sr. was killed in the Civil War in early 1865 fighting with Company "C" of the 19th Louisiana Infantry in the battle of Spanish Fort just a month after Lee's surrender to Union forces but before the news had time to reach the far South.

Sam's mother, Lenora Elizabeth Bickley Lindsey remarried after the death of her husband and in 1869, the family including Sam and his sister moved to Navarro County. Farming proved not to be a profitable venture, and after a few seasons of poor crops, the family decided to venture back to Louisiana, only to be stopped four miles west of Tyler by the death of Sam's step-father. Sam, his mother and a hired hand set to work as tenant farmers and eventually purchased a farm east of the road from Tyler to Greenbriar, about two miles from the spot where the Judge would live in his later years.



S. A. LINDSEY

scholarship. He was awarded a scholarship to Sam Houston Normal Institute at Huntsville and after one year had earned a degree.

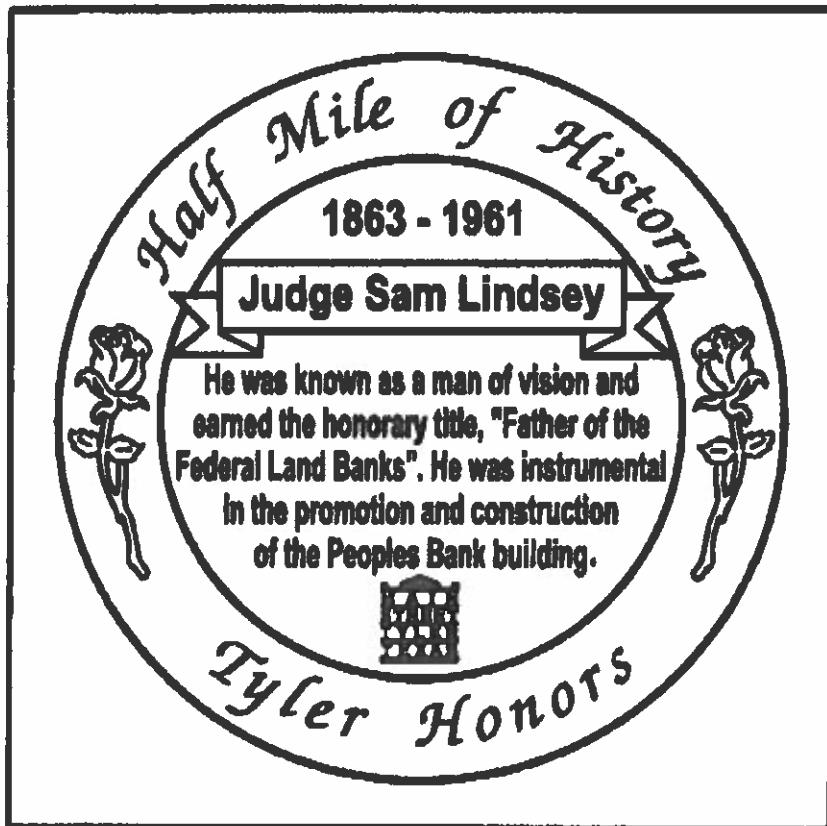
At 20 years of age, Lindsey

At fourteen years of age, Sam still longed for an education, and proposed to his mother that he go to work and use what money he could save for schooling. Although he could read and write, "I knew practically nothing of the world in which I lived," said Judge Lindsey. After working on a farm in Navarro County for five months and diligently saving his earnings, he returned home with \$35.00. Herding cattle and picking cotton back in Smith County helped him pay his way through the old Summerhill Select School at Omen. In between school sessions, he taught at Fincastle in Henderson County, where he was known to students as "Professor Lindsey". College was the next stepping stone and a persistent Lindsey borrowed a mule and rode cross-country to Palestine to take an exam for a

returned to Smith County to teach school in Lindale and begin his career in law, politics and business. By 1891 he was licensed to practice law before the Supreme Court of Texas. As a country lawyer, it was not unusual for Lindsey to travel by horse and buggy to practice in the justice and county courts. It was on one of these trips that Lindsey conceived an idea that would fulfill an essential need and make him a successful entrepreneur.

Judge Lindsey had taken a train out of Tyler to Troup for a morning meeting in Cherokee County. After hiring a horse and buggy from a local livery stable and being bounced and jolted for hours, he arrived at his destination to hear the news that the meeting had been cancelled.

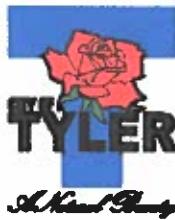
On his return trip to the station, his eye was caught by the sight of copper wire stretched through the trees by the road. If he had been able to telephone ahead, his valuable time may not have been wasted. This trip became the cat-



Total Cost - 500.00 each delivered

**The Lettering on this stone is smaller than we recommend
We cannot guaranty the lettering.
Sign and fax back to 817-624-8428**

K. Bridgeman



NOMINATION FORM HALF MILE OF HISTORY

Section A: Nomination Information

Name of Nominated person, place or event: Judge Sam A. Lindsey

The nominee is being honored for outstanding contributions in the area(s) of (please check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/Media	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Philanthropy
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Government/Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Aviation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invention/Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business/Corporate Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil/Gas	

Section B: Nominator's Information

Name of person making nomination: SAM Lindsey WO IF

Address: P. O. Box 869

City: Tyler State: TEXAS Zip: 75710

Daytime telephone: 903 5939465 Email: SAMLWIF@AOL.COM

Relationship to nominated individual:

Great Grandfather

Nominated Individual's year of death: 1961

Section C: Narrative

The narrative section of the application is the most important. It is the primary source of information judges use to make their selection of new inductees. Two (2) typed pages of 12-point type is the maximum acceptable length of the narrative. Any additional material will be referred to only for verification of accuracy of the nomination. No submitted materials will be returned.

The narrative section must contain an explanation of the nominee's enduring contribution that make this person/place/event worthy of the honor. Please describe the impact the nominee has had on the community, county, region, nation and/or world. For Individuals, please include any honors earned by the nominee as well as a list of organizations in which the nominee has been involved. Also, please indicate their educational background as well as the length of time the individual has lived in Smith County. Inclusion of photos is preferred but optional. Do not send original photos. All submitted materials will become property of the City of Tyler and its Historical Preservation Board.

Please submit nominations to:

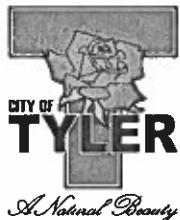
City of Tyler Historical Preservation Board
Attention: Half Mile of History
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710

**CITY OF TYLER
HALF MILE OF HISTORY
CHECKLIST**

Please check level of significance where applicable:

	Greatly Demonstrates	Demonstrates
Local Contribution		
State/Regional Contribution		
National Contribution		
Participation in Organizations		
Leadership Roles within Organizations		
Honors Received		

CITY OF TYLER, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION



Agenda Number:

Date: **May 27, 2009**

Subject: **Request that the City Council consider designating Judge Sam Lindsey as a Half Mile of History recipient.**

Page: **1 of 2**

Item Reference: **Half Mile of History Preservation Program**

The Half Mile of History is a cultural and historic landmark program paying tribute to people, places and events that have contributed to the City of Tyler and/or Smith County. The Half Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor walk-around loop that covers an approximate one-half mile stretch of sidewalk surrounding the square in the heart of downtown Tyler. People, places and events chosen for the Half Mile of History are honored with a commemorative plaque placed in the sidewalk.

One of the responsibilities of the Tyler Historical Preservation Board is to recommend people, places and events to be included in the Half Mile of History Preservation Program. On May 6, 2009, the Tyler Historical Preservation Board voted unanimously to recommend Judge Sam Lindsey for inclusion in the Half Mile of History Preservation Program. A brief narrative taken from the application follows:

Judge Samuel Asbury Lindsey was known as a man of vision. He was driven by a thirst for knowledge and excelled in various fields such as agriculture, banking, law, and teaching. He was born near Homer, Louisiana in 1863. In 1869, following his father's death as a soldier in the Civil War, his mother and new stepfather moved the family to Navarro County to farm. After successive crop failures, the family began the move back to Louisiana when, outside of Tyler, Sam's stepfather died. Sam, his mother, and a hired hand settled in Tyler and began work as tenant farmers. By their efforts, they were able to purchase a farm east of Tyler.

Sam worked his way through school and completed his degree in one year at the Sam Houston Normal Institute in Huntsville. At age 20, he returned to Smith County and simultaneously taught school in Lindale and began his career in law. In 1891 he was licensed to practice law before the Supreme Court of Texas. He traveled by horse and buggy to practice in the justice and county courts throughout the surrounding counties.

Agenda Number:

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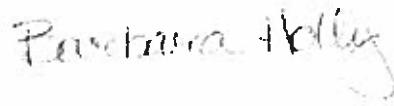
Judge Lindsey was elected to the House of Representatives of the Texas Legislature in 1890 where he served for one term. Ten years later he was elected county judge of Smith County. Judge Lindsey earned the honorary title, "Father of the Federal Land Banks" largely due to his appointment to a commission by President Woodrow Wilson. After spending time in Europe and as a result of his influence and a report prepared by the commission, Congress authorized the establishment of the 12 Federal Land Banks.

Through Sam's diligent work with Southwestern Telephone and Telegraph Company came the birth of Gulf States Telephone Company, connecting their lines at Tyler and the surrounding areas. He was elected as President of the Company and served in that capacity for 50 years. He was chairman of the Peoples Bank from 1913-1955 and was instrumental in promoting and erecting the 15-story bank building which was the largest building in East Texas at that time.

Judge Lindsey will always be remembered for his years of leadership and service to his community and his life will remain as an example for future generations.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Tyler Historical Preservation Board, by a unanimous vote, request that the City Council approve the designation of Judge Sam Lindsey as a Half Mile of History recipient.



Drafted/Recommended By: **Barbara Holly**
Department Leader

Edited/Submitted By:
City Manager

alyst for the birth of the Gulf States Telephone Company. Within weeks of his return he had reached an agreement with the Southwestern Telephone and Telegraph Company to connect their lines at Tyler and had developed an ingenious system of sales through coupon books for service. Judge Lindsey continued as President of the Company for 50 years. The Gulf States Telephone Company recently became part of the Sprint Telephone System.

Judge Lindsey's prestigious career included his election to the House of Representatives of the Texas Legislature in 1890 where he served one term. Ten years later he would be elected county judge of Smith County. As a prominent banker, he was chairman of the Peoples Bank from 1913-1955. The judge was instrumental in promoting and erecting the 15-story bank building which was the largest building in East Texas.

Judge Lindsey earned the honorary title, "Father of the Federal Land Banks" largely due to his appointment

to a commission by President Woodrow Wilson. He spent three months in Europe studying farm problems, and as a result of the report prepared by the commission, Congress



Therese Kayser Lindsey

authorized the establishment of the twelve Federal Land Banks.

In 1893, Judge Lindsey married Therese Kayser, a native Texan and poetess. Mrs. Lindsey was born in Chapel Hill in 1870, the daughter of a political exile from Austria-Hungary.

Her father, Albert Kayser was the first principal of Tyler High School from which she graduated. Mrs. Lindsey published several books of poems and was instrumental in the establishment of the Poetry Society of Texas. Her award winning poetry concerned themes involving the American Southwest and includes **A Tale of the Galveston Storm**, a narrative poem published in 1936 based on the Texas storm of 1900. Mrs. Lindsey died at the age of 86 in 1957.

Judge and Mrs. Lindsey had two children, Louise and Sam Jr. who died at the age of eight years old. Louise married John Finney Merrick in 1937 and they resided in Bandera. Louise Merrick died in 1982, preceded by her husband in 1969. John Finney Merrick served as President of Gulf States Telephone Company until his death.

Louise also had one daughter, Lindsey Pope (stepdaughter to John Merrick) who married Bernard Wolf. Mr. Wolf died in 1968 as the result of an airplane accident, and Mrs. Wolf

died in 1995. The great-grandchildren of Judge Lindsey are Dr. David Wolf who practices in La Hoya, California and Steven and Samuel Wolf. Sam Wolf operates Gulf State Lumber in Tyler. Sam Wolf, born Lawrence Bernard Wolf remembers that his great-grandfather was "very upset that I was not named for him, so they changed my name to Samuel Lindsey Wolf and I am very proud to bear his name." Sam Wolf was only eleven years old when his great-grandfather died at the age of 97 in 1961. "I have

"I am so pleased to be here today at the dedication of Lindsey Park. I feel very excited that the City of Tyler has turned this gift of my grandmother's into a beautiful recreation area that all the citizens of Tyler can enjoy...."

Sam Wolf

fond memories of visiting him every week at Greenbriar Lake," recalls Sam. "He was a very imposing man, but fond of his family."

Dr. David Wolf has two children, Lindsey and Matthew, Steve Wolf has two sons, Bo and Zack. Sam Wolf also has two children, Jonathan and Martie who reigned as Tyler Rose Queen in 1995.

In the late 1800's Judge Lindsey bought acreage that now belongs to the city of Tyler and was dedicated as Lindsey Park South. At the dedication ceremony, Sam Wolf summed up the feelings of the entire Lindsey family. "I am so pleased to be here today at the dedication of Lindsey Park. I feel very excited that the City of Tyler has turned this gift of my grandmother's into a beautiful recreation area that all the citizens of Tyler can enjoy. Judge Lindsey will always be remembered for his years of leadership and service and his life will remain as an example for future generations."

