



Elgin, Texas
1-3-2022

The City of Elgin will celebrate its Sesquicentennial in 2022. As we look forward to a year to commemorate, educate and celebrate in our community we look forward to sharing retrospectives about the community.

Main Street is Paved

The Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) was an American New Deal agency, employing millions of job seekers to carry out public works projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads. It was established in 1935 as a key part of the New Deal as the United States was coming out of the Great Depression. Elgin certainly used workers to help build our city in various projects. Every project had to be approved from Washington.

The November 21, 1935 *Courier* tells of upcoming improvements for the City of Elgin by the W.P.A. for the city's Street Paving project. The project included graveling and tarvia topping for Main Street from Second Street south to Brenham Street and from the high school on North Avenue C to the grammar school on South Avenue C. The side streets connecting these 2 parallel streets were to be included in this paving project also. The project cost about \$20,000.

Work for paving would begin in early January 1936 because the laborers were finishing up another close project of building the river bridge.

Special thanks to Sydna Arbuckle, native Elginite and local historian for sharing these stories. The Depot Museum, operated by the Elgin Historical Association manages the photography collection and archives. In addition, several books on Elgin area history, Elgin, and stories from Elgin people are available at the Depot Museum 14 Depot Square in downtown Elgin, open Saturdays 12 to 4 and at the Elgin Public Library 404 North Main Street open Tuesday – Saturday.

Join the celebration for the Elgin Sesquicentennial – volunteer by emailing community@ci.elgin.tx.us or call 512-229-3227.