

People living in West Dallas opposed inclusion into a *City of Oak Cliff* as originally incorporated in 1890. After the courts annulled that municipal boundary, Oak Cliff had a second vote and incorporated a smaller area in 1891. The next year West Dallas formed its own corporation as a school district, and drew its own boundary. The court annulled that incorporation. West Dallas then had a second vote which established their school district in 1893. In 1914 the West Dallas school district added a mile to its west; and, in 1916 it added all the area north to the Trinity River's main channel and West Fork. West Dallas never incorporated itself as a city.

## SOURCES:

1. In the illustration, above, the underlying map is a detail from: *Sam Street's Map of Dallas County, Texas*, of year 1900. Everything in color are my notes which have been added over that map. The red star shows the approximate location of the West Dallas Public School building erected in 1894 and expanded in 1914.

2. **First Incorporation of the City of Oak Cliff, Texas:** from the court annulment of the original incorporation transcribed; 25th September 2002—J. Barnes---from Microfilm; Dallas Public Library Minutes of the 14th District Court: Case 8638 : Minute book: Volume Z, pages 193-195. *The State of Texas; Ex Rel. Mrs. S.E. Pollard et al. versus Hu. F. Ewing et al.*

3. **Second Incorporation of the City of Oak Cliff, Texas:**  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 146, pages 249-250 (12 June 1891).

Since the West Dallas District boundary location uses this 2<sup>nd</sup> City of Oak Cliff boundary, I spent time trying to reconstruct that second incorporation outline. What is shown on this *Sam Street's* map detail is generally correct for those city limits of 1891, but a more detailed map and discussion are attached below.

4. **First incorporation of the West Dallas public school district:**  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 156, pages 54-56; (1892-February-24th).

5. **Annulment of first incorporation of West Dallas school district:**  
1893-April-27<sup>th</sup> – *Dallas Morning News*, page 8: *West Dallas Will Try Again.*

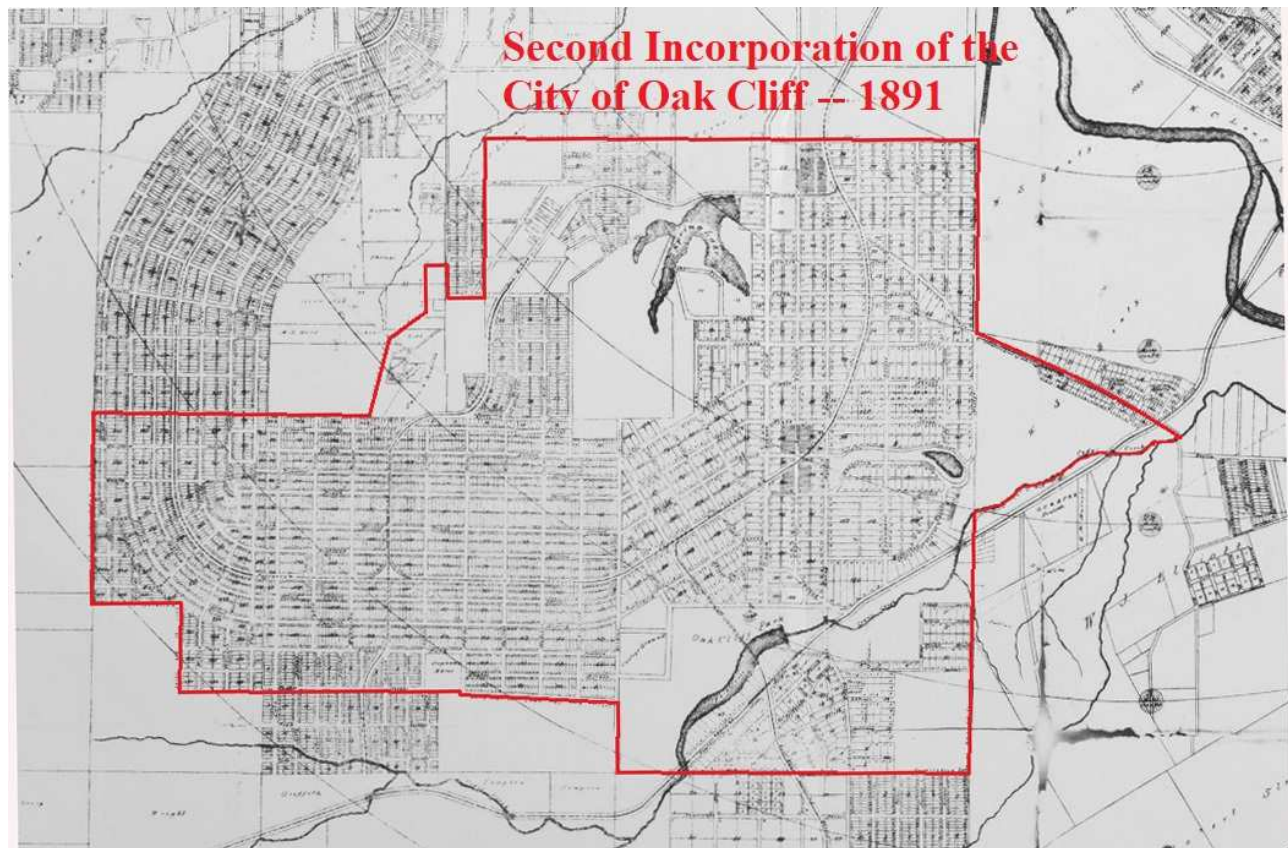
6. **Second incorporation the West Dallas public school district:**  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 169, pages 610-611; (1893-August-8th).  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 181, pages 318-319; (1893-August-8th).

7. **1914 expansion of West Dallas public school district area:**  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 613, pages 86-87; (1914-March-10th).

8. **1916 expansion of West Dallas public school district area:**  
Dallas County Deed records, Vol. 662, pages 684-685; (1916-January-31st).

9. **1927 annexation of West Dallas school district into Dallas Independent School District:**  
1927-September-7<sup>th</sup>; *Dallas Morning News*; page 3; *School Area Allotted to City System.*  
1927-September-18<sup>th</sup>; *Dallas Morning News*; page 6; *Vacation O'er; School Starts.*

(End of listing of Sources)



*City of Oak Cliff's boundary of 1891, as highlighted in red along the lines printed in the Revised Edition of Murphy & Bolanz's Official Map of the City of Dallas and Suburbs, 1891.*

Attempting to reconstruct these city limits from the verbal description established in the Dallas County deed records (cited above), I gave up after stumbling to find the third corner point. That point is described as: "*Thence South to the north side of a tract of land sold by J.W. Hill and wife to T.A. Hord.*"

To find that 1891 property line the following research was necessary:

(1) 1889-October 8th, Dallas Co. Deed records, Vol. 109, page 293 -- 28 acres from Hill to Hord. Instead of metes & bounds description, this deed references prior deeds, which are: (2) 1887-January-1st; where H. Hart sells 30 acres ("off the west end of 80 acres") to Hill ; Vol. 75, p. 592. Also needed is: (3) 1887-June-2nd, Vol. 87, p. 82, whereby Hill then sells 2 acres out of the 30 acre tract to Valles. (4) The deed of 1875-June 29th, Vol. 30; page 792, describes the location of the 80 acres sold by H. Hart to Work, with enough definition so that the site can finally be located. As I calculate it, the "north side of the tract sold by Hill to Hord" is ~722 feet wide (east-to-west) starting on the west boundary line of the G.S.C. Leonard Survey, ~1809.3 feet north of the G.S.C. Leonard's Survey's S.W. corner.

I could never get this third point to align assuredly with the description's second point, which I also had trouble locating, so I then gave up on my reconstruction of the 1891 incorporation city boundary of Oak Cliff.

I will note however, that I believe that the above outline shown by Murphy & Bolanz in 1891 is more nearly accurate than the corresponding city limit outline shown on the 1905 map *Worley's: Greater Dallas Texas*.

(End)