

A LOOK BACK IN HUTCHINSON COUNTY HISTORY



Big City News

From 1934 to 1943, the United States government conducted a program known as the Works Progress Administration or WPA. Among the many WPA projects was an office tasked with painting murals on the walls of public buildings.

In a time of economic difficulty, this New Deal program was designed to promote hope for the future, pride in the past and jobs for the many people that needed one. More than 60 of these murals were placed in post offices and federal buildings throughout Texas.

In Borger, the post office at Fifth and Deahl was home to the mural pictured above for many years. When the post office was closed, the mural was removed and taken to Washington, D.C. for restoration. The original cost of the painting was about \$200.00. The cost for its' restoration was approximately \$2,000.00 in the early 1980's.

The mural was painted by El Paso artist Jose Aceves in 1936. The painting is titled "Big City News." It depicts the arrival of mail in what Aceves described as "a typical small Texas town" of the era. Post office murals are also seen in Amarillo, Quanah, Brownfield and Wellington. ■

618 North Main Street
Borger, Texas 79007
806-272-0130

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9am-5pm
Sat-11am-4:30pm



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