

Lampasas woman set Standard for photography

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 her grandmother to cope with the death of her young daughter.
 Mrs. Standard sold the studio in the 1940s to longtime local photographer Virgil Wooten, but she kept some of her equipment and continued to conduct business from home.

She taught herself to color-tint photographs on portraits -- of which she took many -- as well as to develop and make copies of tin types, and to paint in oils on a variety of materials -- from tiles to Christmas cards. A woman of vast artistic talent, Mrs. Standard also quilted.

But her favorite pastime was dressing up her children in the latest fashions to photograph them. Portraits were sent to all of Mrs. Standard's brothers and sisters, who were living on farms and looked at their sister as a modern-day city woman with a career, Mrs. Smith said.

Mrs. Smith, who grew up in Corsicana, said she didn't see much of her grandmother, though Mrs. Standard's work is a topic of conversation at many club meetings and gatherings.

When Mrs. Smith came to Lampasas to visit her grandparents, she remembers visiting Mrs. Standard's studio on Courtyard Square. "It was kind of scary for a little girl," she said. "We would go

through a dark hallway to get to her studio, and she would put this black hood over her head to take pictures. Every time we came she took our pictures.

"She loved real estate," Mrs. Smith remembers. "She was always buying and selling houses. Every time we came to see her she was in a different house."

Mrs. Smith also remembers that her grandmother loved to fish. "She bought a cabin on Inks Lake. She wanted to go fishing but she didn't drive, so she bought a car and would ask someone to drive her to the lake for several days so she could fish."

Mrs. Smith's mother, Jessie O'Neal, worked for several years for the Lampasas Dispatch Record for Mr. Abney. That made her a good contact for her mother when photographs were to be taken.

In fact, Mrs. Standard found out about the 1937 fire at First Baptist Church through both her husband and daughter's work, which enabled her to be on hand to photograph the event.

Mrs. Standard died in 1966 and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. Her legacy lives on through the many years she chronicled Lampasas and its people. She figures prominently in Lampasas County history as an ambitious, determined and dedicated artist and woman -- ahead of her time.



PHOTOS BY LUCILE STANDARD
 Above, Will Standard and son, James, ride atop Lampasas' last horse-drawn fire wagon in 1918 before the city purchased its first motorized fire truck, below, in the early 1900s.

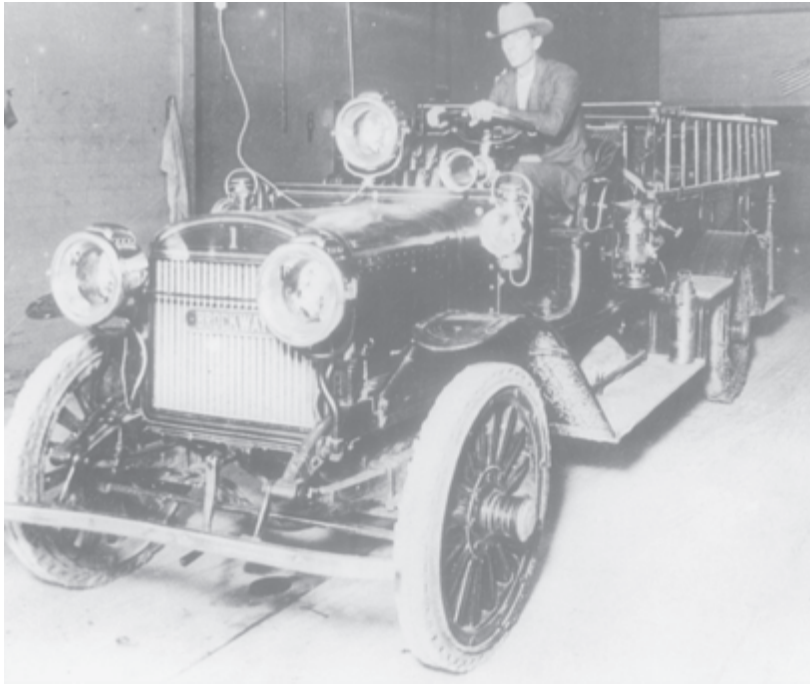


PHOTO BY LUCILE STANDARD

A Trades Day sale at Stokes Brothers in the 1930s brought out the crowds as well as the photographer to snap this photo.

Farm Bureau seeks entrants

Lampasas County Farm Bureau is seeking entrants for Miss Farm Bureau, Little Miss, Little Mister and Talent Find. Miss FB and Talent Find contestants must be 16 to 19, while Little Miss and Little Misters are 4-6 years old.

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