

Oakhurst

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Snowtown is located in the northwestern part of San Jacinto County. The town was named after Thomas Snow, one of the early settlers. Snow ran a store and a saloon there. He went by ox wagon through the Big Woods to Phillips and on to Huntsville to buy his merchandise. It took him 3 days to make the trip. When liquor was voted out of Snowtown, Snow sold his store and moved a mile southeast of Point Blank and built a cotton gin. Some years later, after an accident in the gin, he bled to death. He was buried in an unmarked grave in a Coldspring cemetery.

Snowtown didn't have a post office. It didn't need one. The settlers didn't write much and they received very little mail. Their mail came to Dodge and they picked it up once a month.

In 1899 a Post Office was established at the little sawmill town of Oakhurst. The Oakhurst Company needed their men to work at the mill so they agreed to let the Snowtown men carry the mail. W. J. Clark carried the mail for a number of years. J. M. Dolive also carried the mail a long time thereafter. For years Henry "Doc" Josey ran a store, a barber shop, and a pool hall in Snowtown. Another one of Snowtown settlers was Alfred A. Aden, a school teacher. Snowtown began growing in 1908 when the Oakhurst Sawmill Company bought the Palmetto Sawmill and combined the two mills at Oakhurst. Some of the old settlers went to work at the mill.

Snowtown had a depot where a railroad was built from Oakhurst to Dodge. A few years later, Snowtown had 5 stores. When the old settlers, who were in business, began to die, one by one, the stores closed.

After the Oakhurst Sawmill closed in 1930 almost all the mill people moved away. The commissary and drug store closed. The church went dead and the post office was moved to Snowtown, but the post office still went under Oakhurst, Texas. Even though Snowtown is now called Oakhurst, it will always be Snowtown in the heart of those who grew up there.