In 1888, this corner of Rusk and San Jacinto was home to a wooden building that housed a restaurant. Meals were twenty-five cents. A restaurant operated out of this building off and on for fifteen years. In 1903 a brick building was erected on this corner. There were several short-term occupants before Scott Bailey moved his drug store from its previous location into this corner building. The Bailey Drugstore operated here for more than fifteen years. In the early 1920s, Rochell and Canup purchased the stock and continued to operate a drug store until around 1940. They sold the business to a Mr. DeVaney who, around 1945, subsequently sold to Jack Cunningham. Many Rockwall residents had their first milkshake at the soda fountain in Cunningham's Drugstore. In the early fifties, Cunningham's burned. The building was rebuilt and soon Ellison and Earl Slaughter rented the property and began operating the Rockwall Drug. The Rockwall Drug stayed in business at this location for more than forty years. Building. At that time, the shop would often stay open until midnight on Saturday nights in order to accommodate the drifters and field hands who would come to town for a shave and a bath.

As you continue to walk to the end of this block, it's interesting to note that many of the buildings along this way were once occupied by businesses that offered some type of food. The Mecca Café, a popular local eatery, was located in this block.

A bakery was a long-tenured occupant of this corner storefront, followed by Harvey Sanders Corner Sandwich Shop. Sanders, an avid local football fan and part-time coach, kept a ledger at the counter, and he let customers — many of them local high school youth — order on credit. The customers wrote down what they ordered and what they owed, and Sanders never went to great lengths to collect on those accounts. Rockwall's Wilkerson-Sanders football stadium is a tribute to Sanders' dedication and generosity.

When you reach the end of the block, take a moment to look across Fannin at the next building on our tour.

In the early teens, Dr. Paul Snow established Rockwall's first Ford dealership on this corner. In 1917, he built this structure to house The Paul Snow Motor Company, and it was occupied by the Ford Agency until the sixties. This building is one of only a handful of downtown structures that still contain original architectural elements.

Now, look across Rusk to the building on the curve at Fannin and Rusk.