



Brown/Parrish House Collection - Images



Images from the Brown/Parrish House Photo Collection

In 1902, Otis Brown (1872-1958) came to this area as a member of a Chicago, Rock Island & Gulf Railway survey crew. The crew was constructing a rail line between Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas. While surveying the line, crew chief J. O. Schulze joined with Brown in buying land along the route and establishing the town of Irving, Texas, in December 1903.

In the fall of 1902, Otis Brown met local schoolteacher Netta Barcus (1880-1958). The two married in June of 1903 and built the first house in the soon-to-be-established town of Irving. The couple had their first child in 1905. It was during 1905 that the Browns decided to have a larger house (and the subject of this collection) built on Iowa Street (now O'Connor Road). The Browns lived in this house until 1919, as their family grew to five sons. While living here, Otis Brown was elected Irving's first mayor in 1914. His youngest son Lynn served as Irving's mayor from 1959-1967.

Through the decades, the house changed ownership several times and by the 1970s it had fallen into disrepair. In 1979, Morris and Marge Parrish purchased the home and restored and added on to it. The Parrishes were active in the community, and in 1995 Morris Parrish was elected mayor of Irving. This photo collection shows the house during its earliest days, as well as the young Brown family, who brought life to the home.



Collection: Brown/Parrish House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: 1979

Description: Morris and Marge Parrish purchased what had been the Brown house in 1979. The Parrishes restored the house and added on to it. This photo is from 1979 prior to the renovation. Morris Parrish later served two terms as mayor of Irving, 1995-1999.

Information on original photograph: 5" by 3½", color



Collection: Brown/Parrish House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: 1905

Description: Otis Brown, Irving's co-founder and first mayor, had this house built on Iowa St. in 1905. The address would later become 321 S. O'Connor.

Information on original photograph: 3½" by 3½", black-and-white on a paperboard backing, 4½" by 4½".



Collection: Brown/Parrish House
Photograph Collection

Date of Photograph: c. 1905

Description: Otis Brown, Irving's co-founder and first mayor, had this house built on Iowa St. (today 321 S. O'Connor Road) in 1905. Three Irving mayors have lived in the house: Otis Brown, who served as Irving's first mayor from 1914-1917; his son Lynn Brown, who was mayor from 1959-1967; and Morris Parrish, who served from 1995-1999. Mr. Parrish bought the house in 1979 and updated it.

**Information on original
photograph:** 3½" by 3½", sepia on
paperboard backing, which is 5½"
by 5½"



Collection: Brown/Parrish
House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1908

Description: Brown house in the snow, c. 1908. In the spring of 1908, Otis Brown constructed a cement block fence around the house. The Irving Index of April 8, 1908, reported that Mr. Brown had finished the fence and "topped it off with neat iron railings, and between the gate towers swings a handsome iron gate. The fence compares well with anything of the kind in Dallas. . ."

Information on original photograph:
6" by 4", black-and-white.



Collection: Brown/Parrish
House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1902

Description: Otis Brown (1879-1958) and Netta Barcus (1880-1958) were married June 24, 1903. Otis was Irving's co-founder (1903) and first mayor (1914). They built the first house in Irving in 1903. The house shown in this collection, their second house in Irving, was built in 1905.

Information on original photograph: 3½" by 3½", sepia on paperboard backing, which is 5½" by 5½".



Collection: Brown/Parrish House
Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1892

Description: Netta Barcus (1880-1958) is in the front row on right. Netta moved from Dallas to the Kit community (today's eastern Irving) to work as a teacher in 1902. There she met Otis Brown, who was working on a Rock Island Railway survey crew. The couple was married in June 1903. Otis Brown and J.O. Schulze founded the town of Irving, Texas, in December 1903.

Information on original photograph:
3¼" by 6½", black-and-white on
paperboard backing.



Collection: Brown/Parrish House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1920

Description: Netta Brown poses with four of her sons: (left to right) Earle, Lynn, Stanley, Loyd, and Netta.

Information on original photograph: 3¾" by 4¾", black-and-white



Collection: Brown/Parrish House
Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1919

Description: Lynn and John Brown, front row left to right, and Charles Schulze, Jr., behind. Charles Schulze was the nephew of town co-founder J. O. Schulze. John and Lynn Brown were the two youngest sons of Otis Brown, town co-founder and first mayor. Lynn also served as mayor from 1959-1967.

**Information on original
photograph:** 3½" by 5½", sepia.



Collection: Brown/Parrish
House Photograph
Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1911

Description: Loyd, Stanley,
and Earl Brown, three of the
five sons of Otis and Netta
Brown.

**Information on original
photograph:** 3½" by 3½",
sepia on paperboard
backing, which is 5½" by
3½".



Collection:

Brown/Parrish House
Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c.
1910-1914

Description: Netta
Brown holding one of
her infant sons.

**Information on original
photograph:** 6" by 5½",
black-and-white.



Collection: Brown/Parrish House Photograph Collection

Date of photograph: c. 1910

Description: Netta Brown standing with an unidentified woman at the front gate.

Information on original photograph: 3½" by 3½", sepia on paperboard backing, which is 5½" by 5½".