



# The Hinton Family Collection – Photos

Irving Archives, Irving Public Library



## **Images from the Hinton Family Collection**

### **1900-1940s**

The Twin Wells community was located in northwest Dallas County about eight miles northwest of downtown Dallas and two miles east of the city of Irving near the West Fork of the Trinity River. Travelers coming from Dallas crossed the river at the Eagle Ford crossing on the Eagle Ford Trail, later the Eagle Ford Road, and later still Singleton Blvd. The community grew up during the late 1800s, and was named for two water wells that were on opposite sides of the Eagle Ford Trail. Residents of the area farmed, raised poultry, and kept dairy herds. Children of the community attended the nearby Irving schools. Never a large community, the population of the area peaked at about 150 in the 1940s. Construction of a major thoroughfare during the late 1940s cut the community in two. The city of Irving annexed the area in 1951.

Harwood P. Hinton, Sr., was born in Marshall, Texas, in 1870. He moved to west Texas to live with relatives in 1891. In 1909, he traded his west Texas chicken farm for 63 acres in northwest Dallas County in the community of Twin Wells. He worked for a time tending draft animals at a refinery in west Dallas. In 1914, he traded part of his 63 acres for a store in the small town of Irving, which was about two miles west of his land. Hinton's first wife, Pinkie Elizabeth, with whom he had two sons, died in 1917. He married Lucy Wright in 1921. She preferred living on the land out at Twin Wells, so the family moved there with plans to open a store on their Twin Wells land. Their land was along the road from Dallas to Irving and areas further west. Before the store was finished, Lucy was killed in a train wreck. In 1924, Hinton opened Hinton's Twin Wells Store. He married Willie Mae Garner in 1926. The couple had one son. Hinton's second son by his first wife opened Twin Wells Lumber Company in 1928. In 1942, the Hinton family sold the store and lumberyard and most of their Twin Wells land. H. P. Hinton, Sr., spent the final years of his life just across the river from Twin Wells in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas. He died in 1956.

The photos in this collection are from the Hinton Family Collection in the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library. The collection was donated to the Irving Archives by H. P. Hinton's son, Harwood P. Hinton, Jr. The photos span the years 1908 to the 1940s. The primary subjects of the photos are Hinton's Twin Wells Store, the Twin Wells Lumber Company founded by Tom Ross Hinton, and Irving school class photos from the 1930s and 1940s. Harwood P. Hinton, Jr., attended the Irving schools during those years. The photos provide a look at a bygone era in the history of the growth of the city of Irving.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-01

**Date of photograph:** 1988

**Description:** Remnants of the office of the Twin Wells Lumber Company. The company was established by Tom Ross Hinton in 1928. In the photo, Harwood Hinton, Jr., younger brother of Tom Ross Hinton, stands at the remains of the office of the lumber company in 1988.

**Information on original photograph:**

3½" by 3½", color.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-02

**Date of photograph:** c. 1928

**Description:** The Hinton family lived in a house behind the Twin Wells store. In this photo, the house is being moved behind the store.

**Information on original photograph:**

4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-03

**Date of photograph:** c. 1944

**Description:** Twin Wells and Irving area teens pose for a photo.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-05

**Date of photograph:** c. 1908

**Description:** Twin Wells community was located near the banks of the West Fork of the Trinity River. In 1908, the river experienced a devastating flood. Residents of the Twin Wells area pose by the flood waters.

**Information on original photograph:** 3½" by 2½", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-07

**Date of photograph:** c. 1928

**Description:** The Twin Wells community lay along the road between Dallas and Irving. Coming from Dallas, one would cross the West Fork and come into the Twin Wells community. About two miles further west was the city of Irving. This junction was very near today's intersection of Loop 12 and Shady Grove Road.

**Information on original photograph:** 4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-08

**Date of photograph:** 1929

**Description:** Twin Wells was so named because there were two water wells at this location along the Eagle Ford Trail between Dallas and Irving. The wells were located just to the east of today's intersection of Loop 12 and Shady Grove Road in Irving.

**Information on original photograph:**

4½" by 2½", black-and-white.





**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-09

**Date of photograph:** c. 1930s

**Description:** The Hinton's leased part of their land in the Union Bower community, just north of Twin Wells, to a couple who used it as a dairy farm. During the first half of the twentieth century, dairy farming was a major business in the Irving area.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-10

**Date of photograph:** c. 1930

**Description:** H. P. Hinton, Sr., founded Hinton's Twin Wells Store in 1924. This is an interior view of the store, c. 1930.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-11

**Date of photograph:** c. 1930

**Description:** H. P. Hinton, Sr., founded Hinton's Twin Wells Store in 1924. This is an exterior view of the store in 1932. The store was located along Eagle Ford Road (later Singleton Blvd.) between Dallas and Irving.

**Information on original photograph:**

4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-12

**Date of photograph:** c. 1930

**Description:** H. P. Hinton, Sr., founded Hinton's Twin Wells Store in 1924. This is an interior view of the store, c. 1932, after a meat counter had been added. H. P. Hinton, Jr., stands behind the counter. The store was located along Eagle Ford Road between Dallas and Irving.

**Information on original photograph:**

4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-13

**Date of photograph:** c. 1926

**Description:** H. P. Hinton, Sr., founded Hinton's Twin Wells Store in 1924. In this photo, Hinton stands in the snow in front of his store. The store was located along Eagle Ford Road between Dallas and Irving.

**Information on original photograph:**

3½" by 3", sepia.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-15

**Date of photograph:** 1908

**Description:** Twin Wells community was located near the banks of the West Fork of the Trinity River. In 1908, the river experienced a devastating flood.

**Information on original photograph:**  
5½" by 3¼", sepia.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-17A

**Date of photograph:** c. 1930s

**Description:** Children from the Twin Wells community attended school in Irving, which was about two miles to the west of Twin Wells. The Irving school district built this three-story red brick school house in 1913. It was torn down in 1959.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 3¼", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-21

**Date of photograph:** 1932

**Description:** Tom Ross Hinton established Twin Wells Lumber in 1928.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.





**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-24

**Date of photograph:** 1932

**Description:** Tom Ross Hinton established Twin Wells Lumber in 1928. In this photo, lumber sheds are under construction.

**Information on original photograph:**  
4½" by 2¾", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-23

**Date of photograph:** 1939

**Description:** Tom Ross Hinton, son of H. P. Hinton, Sr., established Twin Wells Lumber Company in 1928. The photo is of the lumber yard in 1939.

**Information on original photograph:**

3½" by 2½", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-26

**Date of photograph:** 1933-34

**Description:** Irving school's first grade class, 1933-34. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:**  
7" by 5", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-27

**Date of photograph:** 1934-35

**Description:** Irving school's second grade class, 1934-35. The children of the Twin Wells community attended school in Irving. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:**  
7" by 5", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-28

**Date of photograph:** 1935-36

**Description:** Irving school's third grade class, 1935-36. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells. H. P. Hinton, Jr., is seated in the front row holding the numbers.

**Information on original photograph:** 7" by 5", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-29

**Date of photograph:** 1937-38

**Description:** Irving school's fifth grade class, 1937-38. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:** 7" by 5", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-30

**Date of photograph:** 1938-39

**Description:** Irving school's sixth grade class, 1938-39. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:**  
7" by 5", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-31

**Date of photograph:**  
1940

**Description:** Irving elementary school graduation class, 1940. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:** 10" by 8", black-and-white.





**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-32

**Date of photograph:** 1944

**Description:** Irving High School graduation class, 1944. The children of the Twin Wells community attended the Irving schools. Irving was about two miles west of Twin Wells.

**Information on original photograph:** 20" by 8", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-33

**Date of photograph:** 1929

**Description:** The Twin Wells community was named for two water wells that were on opposite sides of the old Eagle Ford Trail between Dallas and Irving. This photo was taken in 1929 at the location of the old wells.

**Information on original photograph:**

3¾" by 3½", black-and-white.



**Collection:** The Hinton Family Collection

**Collection #:** 45-35

**Date of photograph:** c. 1917

**Description:** Before opening his store in Twin Wells, H. P. Hinton, Sr., had a store in Irving. This horse and wagon, in which two of his sons are seated, was used for deliveries.

**Information on original photograph:**  
5½" by 3½", black-and-white.