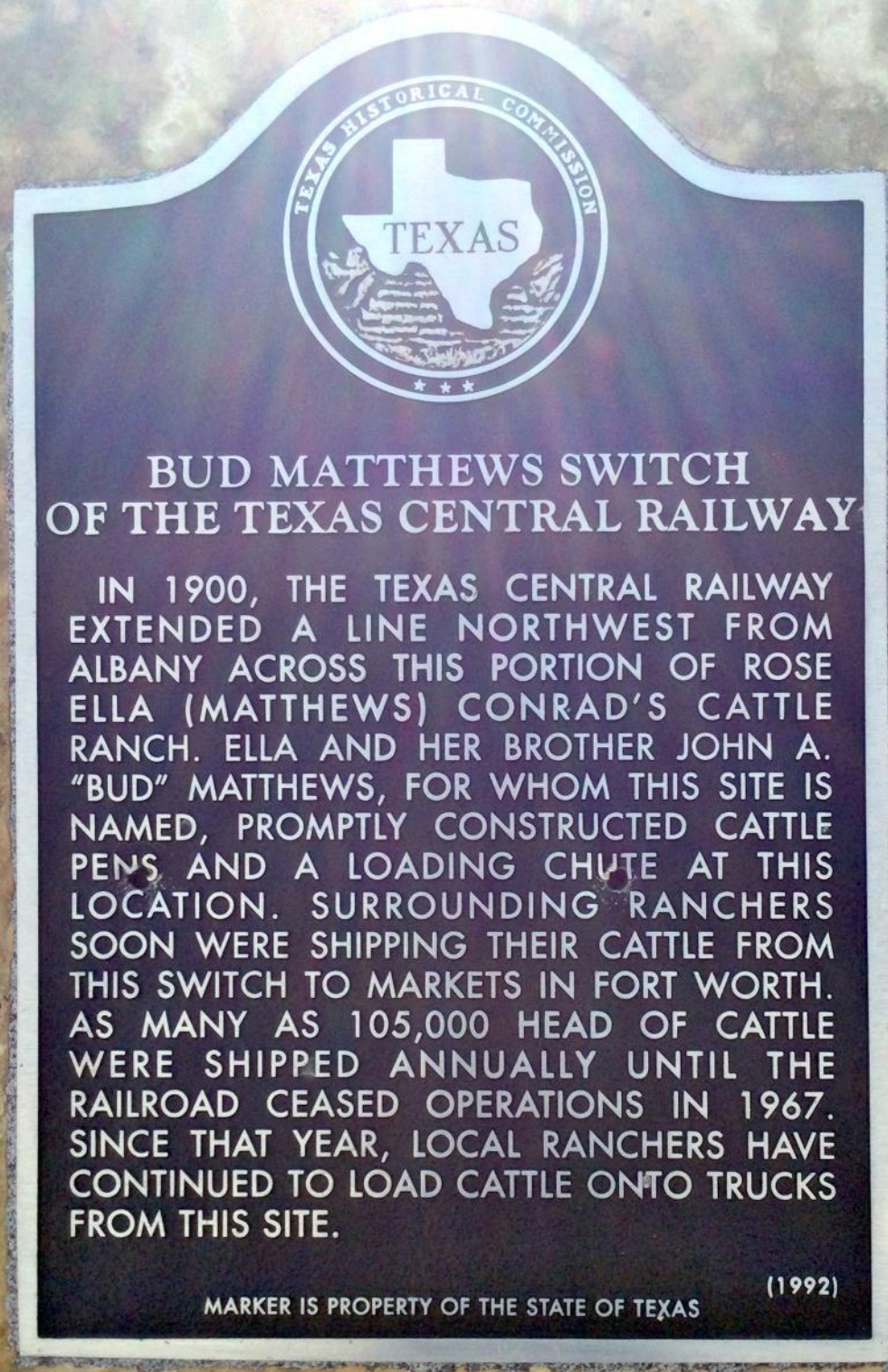


# Matthews Switch

***Visited on August 10, 2021***

*All photos are by RG de Stolfe, except where noted.*



After leaving Albany on my way back home along Highway 6, I stopped unexpectedly at another spot about 15 miles west when I came across another historical marker. However, this spot had a little more than a simple marker. This was the Bud Matthews Switch of the Texas Central Railway. There was an old wood cattle car and a loading chute with sorting pens and a windmill. The train car and a historical marker mounted on a large rock were obviously added later, while the chute, pens, and windmill are the historical part still privately owned, in this case by the Chimney Creek Ranch. In looking at an overhead map, it is a little difficult to see the evidence of where the tracks were. It appears that the tracks probably followed along Highway 6 from Albany. Without the presence of tracks, they likely were taken up after 1967.





Google Maps

  
**BUID MATTHEWS SWITCH**  
OF THE TEXAS CENTRAL RAILROAD  
IN THE 1930S, THE TEXAS CENTRAL RAILROAD  
EXTENDED A LINE THROUGH THE  
MOUNTAIN REGION OF THE  
STATE, AND THE SWITCH WAS  
BUILT AT THIS LOCATION. THE  
RAILROAD WAS USED TO  
TRANSPORT CATTLE FROM  
THE MOUNTAIN REGION TO  
THE PLAINS. THE SWITCH  
WAS BUILT IN 1935 AND  
IS A REMINDER OF THE  
RAILROAD'S HISTORY IN  
THE MOUNTAIN REGION.







*Aermotor windmill*







### Historical Marker Text

“Bud Matthews Switch of the Texas Central Railway

In 1900 the Texas Central Railway extended a line northwest from Albany across this portion of Rose Ella (Matthews) Conrad's cattle ranch. Ella and her brother John A. “Bud” Matthews, for whom this site is named, promptly constructed cattle pens and a loading chute at this location. Surrounding ranchers soon were shipping their cattle from this switch to markets in Fort Worth. As many as 105,000 head of cattle were shipped annually until the railroad ceased operations in 1967. Since that year local ranchers have continued to load cattle onto trucks from this site. (1992)”

### Read More

- Historical Marker information: <https://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/Details/5417000557>
- Chimney Creek Ranch: <https://www.chimneycreekranch.com/bud-matthews-switch>

# de Stolfe Journal ★★★ Broadsheets

## I hope you enjoy these de Stolfe Journal Broadsheets!

I started these broadsheets as a means to reduce the number of pages for the regular journal issues. (And let's face it, you don't have time to read 50+ pages of the regular journal when not every topic in them might be of interest to you!) My broadsheets are single topics of special interest in a horizontal page format and restricted to ten pages or less (usually).



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# de Stolfe Journal.....

The de Stolfe Journal is a publication made by Robert-George de Stolfe. The first issue was published in March 1986 as the de Stolfe Journal and published irregularly until 1998 (17 issues total). The *Candid* variety of the Journal started in July 2012, with a production of over 60 regular and special issues, with now the *Candid* dropped from the name. Archives of all issues—including the original ones (1980s-1990s)—are available on the website: [www.destolfe.com](http://www.destolfe.com)

### Publisher/Owner/Editor

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