

**Museum Musings Article- Krum News
Mar 2011**

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**Krum Depot
By Kathryn Dodd**

In 1873 the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroad was the only rail link between Houston and Galveston. Quarantines, due to yellow fever outbreaks and epidemics, caused railway transportation problems for the city of Galveston. Galveston decided to build a railroad line and totally bypass the city of Houston. The railway would go across Texas, into the Texas Panhandle and across the Texas state line to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The actual construction of the new railway did not begin until May 1, 1875. As the tracks were being laid the railroad developed depot towns. In August 28, 1886, L.L. and Gabriella Finley sold 200 acres of land to the railroad for \$2,000 and the depot town of Krum was born.

Through the years it has been said that Krum was named for A.K. Krum who was a vice president of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe railroad. A new document has been received by the museum, prepared by the Valuation Department of the Office of the Secretary of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company Galveston, Texas. The document written around 1930, titled "*Origin of Names of Towns along the Lines of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company*" shows that Krum was named for Charles K. Krum, a railroad official. No additional information is known about Mr. Krum at this time but the research continues.

According to the book, *History & Reminiscences of Denton County*, published in 1918 by Ed F. Batis "The legislature on May 28, 1873, passed an act incorporating the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad, granting to it sixteen sections per mile of completed road. The road has thirty-two and nine-tenths miles in Denton County, for which it received 526 sections, or 336,896 acres of land, equal to three-fifths of the amount of land in Denton County."

On Tuesday May 12, 1896 *The Galveston Daily News* in an article titled "The Santa Fe's Cotton Estimate" reported that "*The general freight department of the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe has issued the following comparative statement of cotton acreage along the lines of the road.*" Its agent's report of comparative cotton acreage shows the 1894 and 1896 estimates of acreage in cotton.

<u>Stations</u>	<u>1894</u>	<u>1896</u>	
Krum	8,000	12,000	< Acreage in cotton
Ponder	1,000	1,000	
Justin	550	900	

In an index to Complaints and Correspondence Found in Railroad Commission Letterpress Records Relating to the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad records from 1893 to 1933 I found these entries for the Krum Depot.

Krum:

07-20-1903	Discrimination in car supply
01-25-1917	Petition to stop train 17
02/03/1917	This is to insist that train 17 be stopped on flag ...please advise if compliance may be expected without further action.."
1-13-1926	Failure to employ agent
09-21-1927	Service issues

A letter from the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company Office of the Vice President and General Manager Circular No. 240 dated June 18, 1962 says:

"Effective June 23, 1962, the agency at Krum, Texas, located at Mile post 383.00 from Galveston, on the Second District, Northern Division, will be discontinued. Thereafter Krum will be operated as a pre-pay station."

On August 1, 1965, the GC&SF was merged into the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company.

NOTE: We now have a special miniature doll collection on display at the museum. The collection is by Della I. Davis and is a wonderful collection of dolls and doll accessories.

Special Note: By the middle of March 2011, the Krum Heritage Museum will have a new book for sale. Titled **Krum**, the book by Della Isbell Davis and George U. Hubbard, was published by Arcadia Publishing, a leading history publisher in the United States. Even though this book will be available at major book sellers like Barnes and Noble and Borders, please support your local museum by buying your copy at the museum.



1886



Krum Depot-Built 1912

Please visit the Krum Heritage Museum online at www.krumheritagemuseum.com