

One hundred and five (105) years ago this month a tornado hit Slidell and wiped out almost the entire town. Here are some newspaper accounts of this event:

Galveston Daily News-Thursday March 25, 1909

SLIDELL BADLY WRECKED

But Not a Fatality Occurred In the Town. Whole Family Incinerated Two Miles Away.

Special to the News

Denton, Tex. March 24.—Eleven persons dead and twenty hurt at least two of them badly, are known results of the tornado which struck the vicinity of Slidell sometime between 9 and 10 last night. First striking the village of Slidell, an inland town on the line between Denton and Wise counties, twenty-five miles northwest of here, the storm seems to have lifted from the earth and then returned to it with concentrated fury at about two miles northeast of that town. The town of Slidell suffered heavy property loss but strange to say, not a single death, not even a serious injury. Practically every house included in the forty or fifty there was damaged more or less, and three were almost utterly demolished.

DAILY Bulletin-Brownwood, Texas- Wed March 24, 1909

Death and Destruction Follow in the Wake of Terrific Wind and Electrical Storm that Swept Thru Wise County - The Village of Slidell is Completely Destroyed

Sanger, Texas, March 24.—Latest reports from Wise county say that a terrific wind and electrical storm swept over a portion of that county early this morning dealing death and destruction to everything in its path. The once prosperous little city of Slidell, in the eastern portion of the county, is reported almost completely destroyed. Three miles north of the stricken town the home of Ad Price, a farmer, was blown down and Price, his wife, five children and a farm hand were pinioned under the debris and burned to death by flames. The death list is given at thirteen and the injured at twenty-five throughout the county. Wind and rain came with tornado force and swept a path five miles wide, wrecking property, killing and maiming people and livestock. Two negroes named Clark were killed by lightning and two men who took refuge under a hay stack were burned. The stricken district presents a pitiable sight today while the inmates of the former happy homes are searching over the waste and ruins for their belongings and administering to those of their family and neighbors who were injured. The storm first broke about midnight and struck the Slidell homes while people were asleep. More than a hundred homes and business houses were wrecked and it is claimed that the bank building in that village is the only one that stood the mighty attacks of the storm. The stricken town had an inhabitation of about six hundred and was one of the most prosperous villages in the whole of Wise County. Wires are down and news from the towns in the storm's path comes in slowly. The dead and injured list may grow with later reports.

Record and Chronicle-Denton Texas –Wednesday Evening March 24, 1909

Three Dead at Greenwood

One Killed in the Storm, Two Others Burned to Death

Bridgeport, Tex, March 24- At the town of Greenwood, five miles west of here, an unknown man was killed in the storm early this morning. At Slidell two men sought safety under a hay stack which caught fire and both were burned to death. This brings the total number dead to thirteen.

**Record and Chronicle-Denton Texas
Wednesday Evening March 24, 1909
Was Out In The Storm**

C.T. Clinch who lives beyond Krum and this side of Slidell, was in town Wednesday, but was unable to give much definite information about the damage done. Mr. Clinch came from the Arkansas pasture near Justin to his home Tuesday night and fared badly in the journey on account of the storm. The horse he was riding could hardly keep his feet and times both man and beast were in much danger. The lightning played around them in almost solid sheets.

**Dallas Morning News- March 27, 1909
Slidell Appeals For Aid**

Many Victims of Tornado in Texas Town In Need-Where to Send Contributions

Slidell, Tex.,- March 24- To the Public: Whereas, The town of Slidell and surrounding country has been visited by a cyclone which has wrought death and destruction; and
Whereas, There is much need and suffering among a great number of our citizens, and we humbly appeal to the public for aid for the suffering.

All contributions will be cheerfully received and distributed among the sufferers.

Forward all contributions to Richard P. Head, treasurer, or to any of the following committee: J.B. Doyle, chairman; H.F. Barton, L.W. Watson, B.J. Hawkins, R.D. Moore.

Below are shown the Krum contribution to the relief fund after the Slidell tornado. Amount may not seem like much but remember this was 1909.

Denton Record Chronicle April 13, 1909

Chairman J.B. Doyle of Relief Committee at Slidell Issues statement To The News

Slidell, Tex April 7—Please give space to the following:

To the Public: As chairman of the relief Committee, I beg to submit herewith a report of all the receipts and disbursements to date, of all contributions sent in from over the State. We wish to thank each and every individual for the contributions whether in money, clothing, bedding or of whatever nature. The citizens of Slidell shall never forget their kindness.

Krum Sunday School...\$16.20

Krum Texas\$169.25

Krum Milling and Elevator Company...500 pounds flour

Visit Krum Heritage on line at www.krumheritagemuseum.com