

SPECIAL LESSON 4

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 21, 22, 23

7 - 20, 21, 22

8 - 29, 30

STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 2, 3

Mineral Spas in Texas

- *From the Texas Almanac 2006–2007*

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. **MINI-BOOK:** Students will construct a **Miniature Book** (see Appendix) about a spa described in “Texans ‘Take the Waters’” on pages 37–41 of the *Texas Almanac 2006–2007* or the **online article**:

<http://www.texasalmanac.com/topics/science/mineral-water-spas-texas>

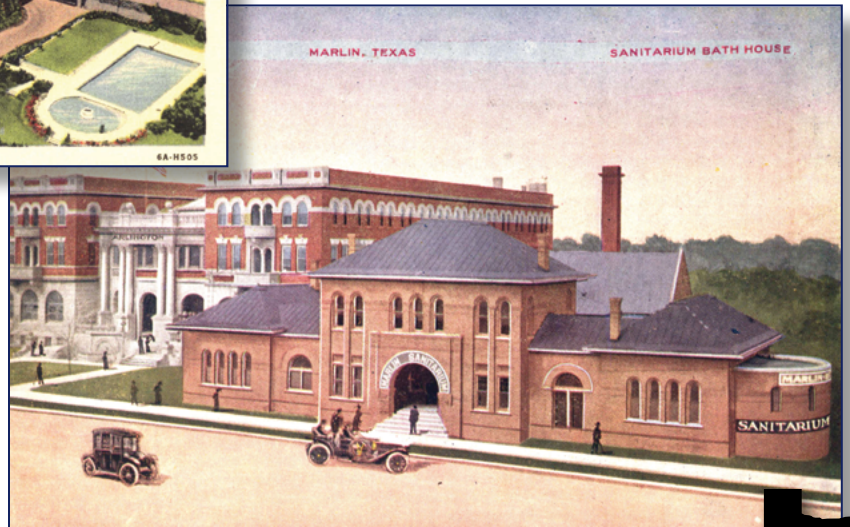
The book should include an illustrated cover, a map of its location, activities available, a daily schedule, and testimonials.

2. **POSTER:** In pairs, students will **create a colorful poster** advertising the opening of a new spa in Texas, using pages 37–41 or the online article. They should include the name, location, amenities, reasons for people to “take the water,” cost, and medicinal benefits.
3. **MYSTERY WORD PUZZLE:** Students will complete the **Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle**, using pages 37–41. They should read each statement and decide if it is true or false. If it is true, connect the numbers indicated by the “T.” If it false, connect the numbers indicated by the “F.”



(pictured left) The mineral water wells in and around Mineral Wells drew people to the opulent Baker Hotel. This 1940s postcard of the hotel is courtesy of the Dallas Public Library, Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division.

(pictured right) Hot mineral water was discovered at Marlin in Falls County in 1891 and led to the opening of sanitariums like the one in this early 1900s postcard, which is courtesy of the Dallas Public Library, Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division.



Special Lesson 4 – Mineral Spas in Texas

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle

1. Indian artifacts can be found near freshwater springs.
T - 28 to 41
F - 1 to 2
2. Oil is the predominant mineral in Texas' mineral waters.
T - 45 to 54
F - 77 to 83
3. Mineral water has no odor or flavor.
T - 126 to 134
F - 93 to 104
4. Settlers believed mineral waters had medicinal benefits.
T - 14 to 15
F - 131 to 137
5. Boquillas Hot Springs is located in Big Bend National Park.
T - 113 to 123
F - 17 to 21
6. Europeans had no mineral waters.
T - 41 to 46
F - 60 to 62
7. Nearly every Texas county has mineral springs.
T - 101 to 110
F - 129 to 130
8. Underground water is usually found by people drilling for oil.
T - 79 to 85
F - 91 to 93
9. Some mineral waters emerge from the earth well above body temperatures.
T - 114 to 124
F - 81 to 88
10. Each spring in Hudspeth County's Hot Springs is a different temperature.
T - 16 to 21
F - 35 to 37
11. Some of Texas' mineral springs were opened to the public in the early 1800s.
T - 65 to 71
F - 127 to 128
12. Sam Houston visited Sour Lake in Hardin County in 1863.
T - 91 to 103
F - 100 to 101
13. "Taking the waters" means people would steal containers of mineral water.
T - 19 to 20
F - 78 to 84
14. In the 1890s, most Texas spas were in the southern part of the state.
T - 116 to 126
F - 51 to 57
15. Most spas in the United States were closed by 1930.
T - 5 to 10
F - 125 to 126
16. Some spas offered treatments supervised by doctors.
T - 60 to 73
F - 22 to 33
17. A few spas had elegant hotels for its guests.
T - 123 to 124
F - 9 to 14
18. Spa owners never claimed mineral waters could treat medical problems.
T - 62 to 67
F - 27 to 40
19. Many scientific studies were done to document medical cures at the spas.
T - 82 to 83
F - 25 to 32
20. It was illegal to sell bottled mineral water.
T - 76 to 78
F - 55 to 59
21. Moses Hughes claimed his wife's liver problems were cured at the Lampasas mineral springs.
T - 85 to 87
F - 13 to 18
22. In the 1870s, visitors to Hancock Springs usually camped in tents.
T - 61 to 67
F - 45 to 46
23. In 1883, a fire destroyed Hancock Springs.
T - 128 to 135
F - 52 to 64

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STUDENT ACTIVITY

Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle

24. The popularity of the spa in Lampasas grew when the railroad extended its tracks to Ballinger.
T - 129 to 133
F - 100 to 109
25. A treatment center for alcoholics operated at Hanna Springs.
T - 5 to 6
F - 40 to 53
26. Texas A & M University took over the main building at Hanna Springs in 1894.
T - 8 to 17
F - 86 to 97
27. "Crazy Well" was located at Mineral Wells.
T - 75 to 76
F - 71 to 77
28. Only two wells for mineral waters were drilled at Mineral Wells.
T - 132 to 134
F - 53 to 65
29. Few people went to Mineral Wells for the spring waters.
T - 105 to 111
F - 109 to 110
30. There was a variety of activities available for visitors to Mineral Wells.
T - 64 to 65
F - 129 to 136
31. Hal and Carr Collins remodeled the Crazy Water Hotel in 1927.
T - 21 to 25
F - 43 to 48
32. Many well-known people were guests at the Baker Hotel in Mineral Wells.
T - 86 to 96
F - 3 to 4
33. The Baker Hotel sold crystals made from the minerals.
T - 40 to 41
F - 10 to 14
34. The Crazy Water Company lost millions of dollars during the Depression.
T - 63 to 67
F - 69 to 81
35. The Crazy Water Hotel now serves as the Mineral Well City Hall.
T - 88 to 91
F - 112 to 119
36. Sulfur-laden waters were discovered in Marlin in 1891.
T - 99 to 108
F - 93 to 99
37. Clinics, bathhouses, and sanitariums were built in Marlin.
T - 36 to 37
F - 102 to 105
38. Mineral waters were discovered at Marlin before being discovered at Lampasas.
T - 79 to 80
F - 62 to 74
39. The New York Giants baseball team trained in Marlin from 1908 to 1919.
T - 85 to 95
F - 17 to 22
40. Polio victims were treated in Marlin.
T - 92 to 98
F - 11 to 15
41. Marlin doctors felt baths alone could cure medical problems.
T - 44 to 45
F - 23 to 24
42. Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House was opened near the Alamo in 1900.
T - 71 to 78
F - 48 to 49
43. People of San Antonio refused to "take the waters."
T - 133 to 137
F - 106 to 112
44. A variety of activities was offered at the Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House.
T - 99 to 100
F - 67 to 74
45. The Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House was destroyed by a tornado.
T - 69 to 76
F - 32 to 38
46. Modern medicines contributed to the demise of mineral-water spas.
T - 27 to 28
F - 25 to 26

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47. The Great Depression was a cause of the closing of some spas.

T - 36 to 49
F - 126 to 131

48. The Food and Drug Administration discovered that some samples of mineral water were contaminated.

T - 57 to 63
F - 112 to 118

49. Stovall Hot Wells continues to offer mineral-water baths.

T - 114 to 125
F - 108 to 115

50. Kessler Springs closed the same year Wizard Wells opened.

T - 12 to 13
F - 128 to 135

51. Arlington Mineral Wells and Hot Wells in San Antonio opened the same year.

T - 52 to 54
F - 54 to 77

52. Hughes Springs (Chalybeate Springs) closed twenty years after Philips Springs opened.

T - 83 to 90
F - 74 to 90

53. Hot Springs (Boquillas Hot Springs) opened during the same decade Waco Hot Artesian Wells closed.

T - 41 to 42
F - 28 to 29

54. Four mineral spas were located in the Trans-Pecos area.

T - 95 to 96
F - 88 to 89

55. Salado (Key's Wells) is south of Hughes Spring (Gooch Spring).

T - 21 to 22
F - 111 to 117

56. Most spas were located in the Panhandle.

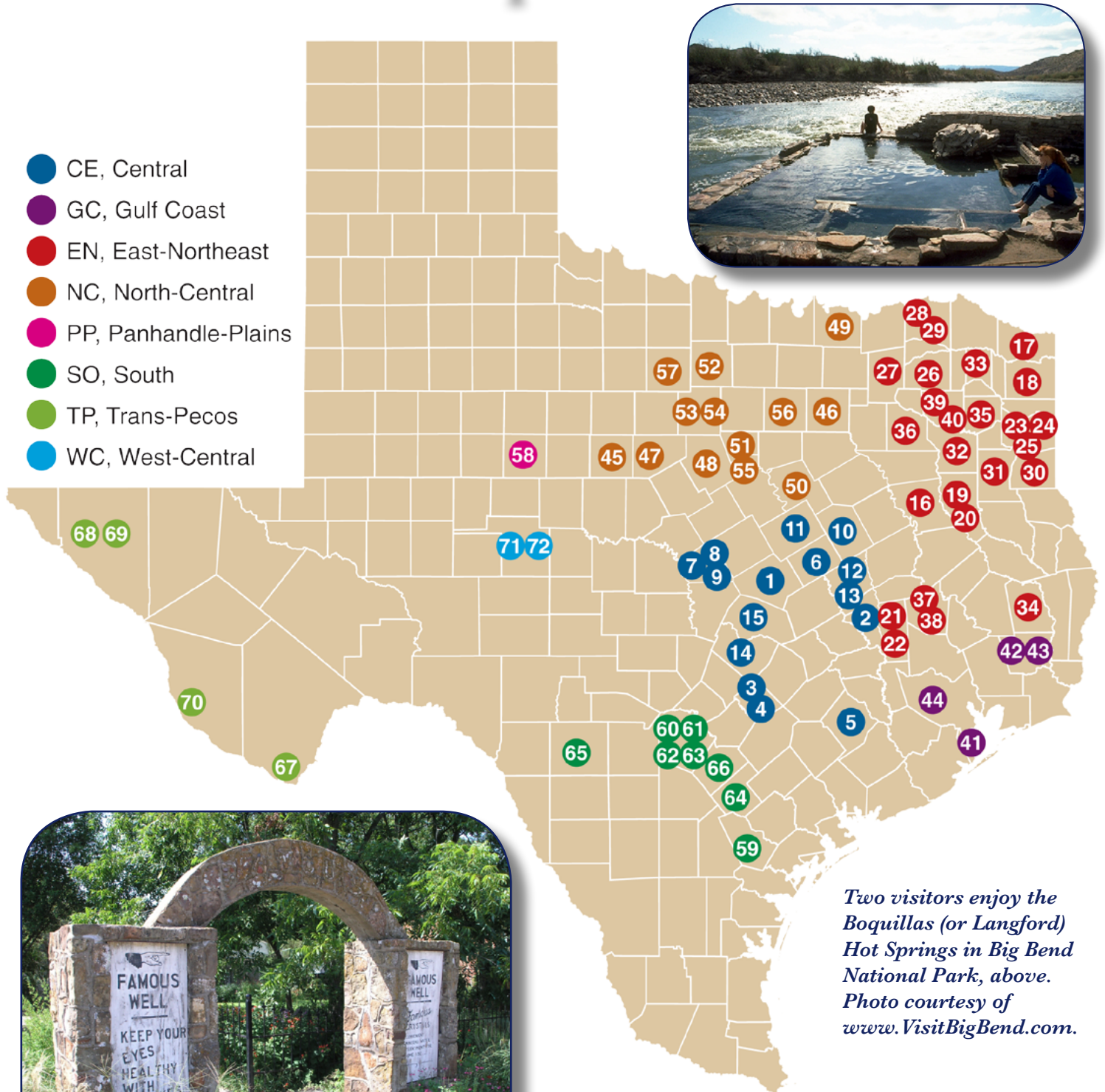
T - 113 to 119
F - 113 to 115

57. Two spas were located in Cherokee County.

T - 29 to 42
F - 122 to 127

5 • 9 • 14 • 23 • 36 • 48 • 60 • 66 • 73 • 85 • 95 • 112 • 118 • 127 • 134 •
10 • 19 • 30 • 43 • 56 • 61 • 67 • 79 • 86 • 96 • 105 • 111 • 117 • 122 • 132 •
1 • 6 • 15 • 24 • 37 • 49 • 62 • 68 • 74 • 87 • 97 • 106 • 119 • 128 • 135 •
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2 • 7 • 12 • 26 • 39 • 47 • 55 • 59 • 70 • 82 • 92 • 98 • 107 • 114 • 124 • 129 •
3 • 17 • 21 • 32 • 45 • 51 • 58 • 63 • 76 • 88 • 93 • 104 • 115 • 125 • 133 •
8 • 27 • 40 • 52 • 64 • 72 • 83 • 89 • 99 • 108 • 120 • 130 •
13 • 22 • 28 • 33 • 41 • 46 • 53 • 65 • 78 • 84 • 94 • 100 • 109 • 116 • 126 • 131 •
4 • 18 • 29 • 34 • 42 • 54 • 71 • 77 • 90 • 101 • 110 • 121 • 137 • 138 •

Mineral Spas in Texas



Special Lesson 4 – Mineral Spas in Texas

TEXAS ALMANAC POSTER

Texas' Commercial Mineral-Water Spas

This table lists a selection of Texas' commercial mineral-water spas. It is not intended to be complete but lists 72 spas that seem to have been the most commercially active. The years of operation represent approximate active commercial life of the spa, although the waters may have been used by local residents or had sporadic commercial use earlier or later than the time periods listed. These regional abbreviations are used: CE, Central; GC, Gulf Coast; EN, East-Northeast; NC, North-Central; PP, Panhandle-Plains; SO, South; TP, Trans-Pecos; WC, West-Central. Town names in *italic* no longer exist.

NO.	REGION	COUNTY	NAME	ALTERNATE NAMES	IN OR NEAR	DATES
1	CE	Bell	Salado	Key's Wells	Salado	1900s
2	CE	Brazos	Manganic Wells		Bryan	1880s–1890s
3	CE	Caldwell	Burdette's Wells	Burditt's Wells	Lockhart	1870s–1910s
4	CE	Caldwell	Rogers' Springs	Cardwell Springs; Texas Sour Wells	Lockhart	1870s–1890s
5	CE	Colorado	Kessler Springs		Columbus	1870–1888
6	CE	Falls	Marlin		Marlin	1892–1942
7	CE	Lampasas	Hancock Springs	Sulphur or Great Boiling Springs	Lampasas	1850s–1890s
8	CE	Lampasas	Hanna Springs		Lampasas	1870s –1910s
9	CE	Lampasas	Hughes Spring	Gooch Spring	Lampasas	1850s–1870s
10	CE	Limestone	Kennedy Sulphur Spring		Groesbeck	1890s–1910s
11	CE	McLennan	Waco Hot Artesian Wells		Waco	1886–1920s
12	CE	Robertson	Franklin/Overall		Franklin	1890s–1920s
13	CE	Robertson	Wootan Wells	Wooten Wells	Bremond	1878–1910s
14	CE	Travis	Santa Monica Springs		Austin	1890s
15	CE	Williamson	Georgetown Mineral Wells	White Sulphur Springs	Georgetown	1880s–1910s
16	EN	Anderson	Elkhart Mineral Wells		Elkhart	1880s–1890s
17	EN	Bowie	Dalby Springs	Pirkey Spring; Farrier Spring	Dalby Springs	1840s–1910s
18	EN	Cass	Hughes Springs	Chalybeate Springs	Hughes Springs	1878–1920
19	EN	Cherokee	Chalybeate City		Rusk	1870s–1890s
20	EN	Cherokee	Seven Sisters Springs		<i>New Birmingham</i>	1870s–1890s
21	EN	Grimes	Kellum's White Sulphur Springs		Anderson	1830s–1880s

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T E X A S A L M A N A C P O S T E R

Texas' Commercial Mineral-Water Spas

NO.	REGION	COUNTY	NAME	ALTERNATE NAMES	IN OR NEAR	DATES
22	EN	Grimes	Piedmont Sulphur Springs		Piedmont	1840s–1870s
23	EN	Harrison	Hynson Springs	Marshall or Iron Springs; Noonday Camp	Marshall	1851–1905
24	EN	Harrison	Montvale Springs		Harleton	1890s–1900s
25	EN	Harrison	Rosborough	Roseborough Springs	Marshall	1880s–1930s
26	EN	Hopkins	Sulphur Springs	Crabtree's Sour Wells	Sulphur Springs	1870s–1900s
27	EN	Hunt	Campbell Mineral Wells		Campbell	1900s–1920s
28	EN	Lamar	Blossom	Beauchamp Wells; Bell's Mineral Wells; Carlsbad	Blossom	1880s–1910s
29	EN	Lamar	Bloy's Well		Paris	1880s–1930s
30	EN	Panola	Midyett	Breckenridge Springs	Midyett	1870s–1910s
31	EN	Rusk	Welch Springs		Brachfield	1880s–1890s
32	EN	Smith	Headache Springs	Brown's Sulphur Springs	Tyler	1850s–1870s
33	EN	Titus	Red Mineral Springs	Dellwood Hotel; Indian Springs	Mount Pleasant	1890s–1912
34	EN	Tyler	Sulphur Springs		<i>Mount Hope</i>	1870s–1890s
35	EN	Upshur	Phillips Springs		Union Grove	1877–1900
36	EN	Van Zandt	Myrtle Springs	Holden Springs	Myrtle Springs	1890s
37	EN	Walker	Sulphur Springs		Bedias Creek	1850s–1860s
38	EN	Walker	Tuscaloosa	Wyser's Bluff	<i>Tuscaloosa</i>	1850s–1890s
39	EN	Wood	Mineola		Mineola	1880s–1924
40	EN	Wood	Musgrove Springs	Chalybeate Springs	Winnsboro	1880s–1895
41	GC	Galveston	High Island	Sea View; White Doe; Smith's Well	High Island	1890s–1910s
42	GC	Hardin	Saratoga	Saratoga Springs; New Sour Lake	Saratoga	1870s–1890s
43	GC	Hardin	Sour Lake	Sour Springs	Sour Lake	1850s–1902
44	GC	Harris	Cypress	Houston Hot Well	Cypress	1914–1950

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Texas' Commercial Mineral-Water Spas

NO.	REGION	COUNTY	NAME	ALTERNATE NAMES	IN OR NEAR	DATES
45	NC	Callahan	Putnam Mineral Wells		Putnam	1800s–1910s
46	NC	Dallas	Gill Well		Oak Lawn area, Dallas	1903–1930s
47	NC	Eastland	Mangum		Mangum	1902–1910s
48	NC	Erath	Duffau Wells		<i>Duffau Wells</i>	1882–1910s
49	NC	Grayson	Tioga	Tioga Springs	Tioga	1880s–1970s
50	NC	Hill	Hubbard Hot Well		Hubbard	1900s–1920s
51	NC	Hood	Thorp Spring		Thorp Spring	1870s–1890s
52	NC	Jack	Wizard Wells	Vineyard	Wizard Wells	1882–1968
53	NC	Palo Pinto	Mineral Wells		Mineral Wells	1885–1960s
54	NC	Palo Pinto	Oran		Oran	1908–1920s
55	NC	Somervell	Glen Rose		Glen Rose	1880s–1940s
56	NC	Tarrant	Arlington Mineral Wells		Arlington	1892–1951
57	NC	Young	Stovall Hot Wells		South Bend	1930s–1994
58	PP	Nolan	Grogan Mineral Wells	Daniel Mineral Wells	Sweetwater	1905–1920s
59	SO	Bee	Mineral	Mineral City	Beeville	1877–1889
60	SO	Bexar	Dullnig Wells		San Antonio	1890s–1925
61	SO	Bexar	Harlandale Hot Sulphur Well		San Antonio	1910s–1920
62	SO	Bexar	Hot Wells	Hot Wells Hotel	San Antonio	1892–1923
63	SO	Bexar	Terrell Wells		San Antonio	1890s–1940s
64	SO	Karnes	Kenedy Hot Wells		Kenedy	1910s–1950s
65	SO	Uvalde	Reagan Wells		Uvalde	1880–1945
66	SO	Wilson	Sutherland Springs		Sutherland Springs	1840s–1920s
67	TP	Brewster	Hot Springs	Boquillas Hot Springs	Big Bend Nat. Park	1927–1952
68	TP	Hudspeth	Hot Wells		<i>Hot Wells</i>	1900s–1920s
69	TP	Hudspeth	Indian Hot Springs	Ojos Calientes de los Indios	<i>Indian Hot Springs</i>	1925–1940; 1967–1974
70	TP	Presidio	Ruidosa Hot Springs	Kingston or Chinati Hot Springs	Ruidosa	1930s–present
71	WC	Tom Green	Carlsbad		Carlsbad	1900s–1910s
72	WC	Tom Green	Christoval Mineral Wells		Christoval	1915–1980s