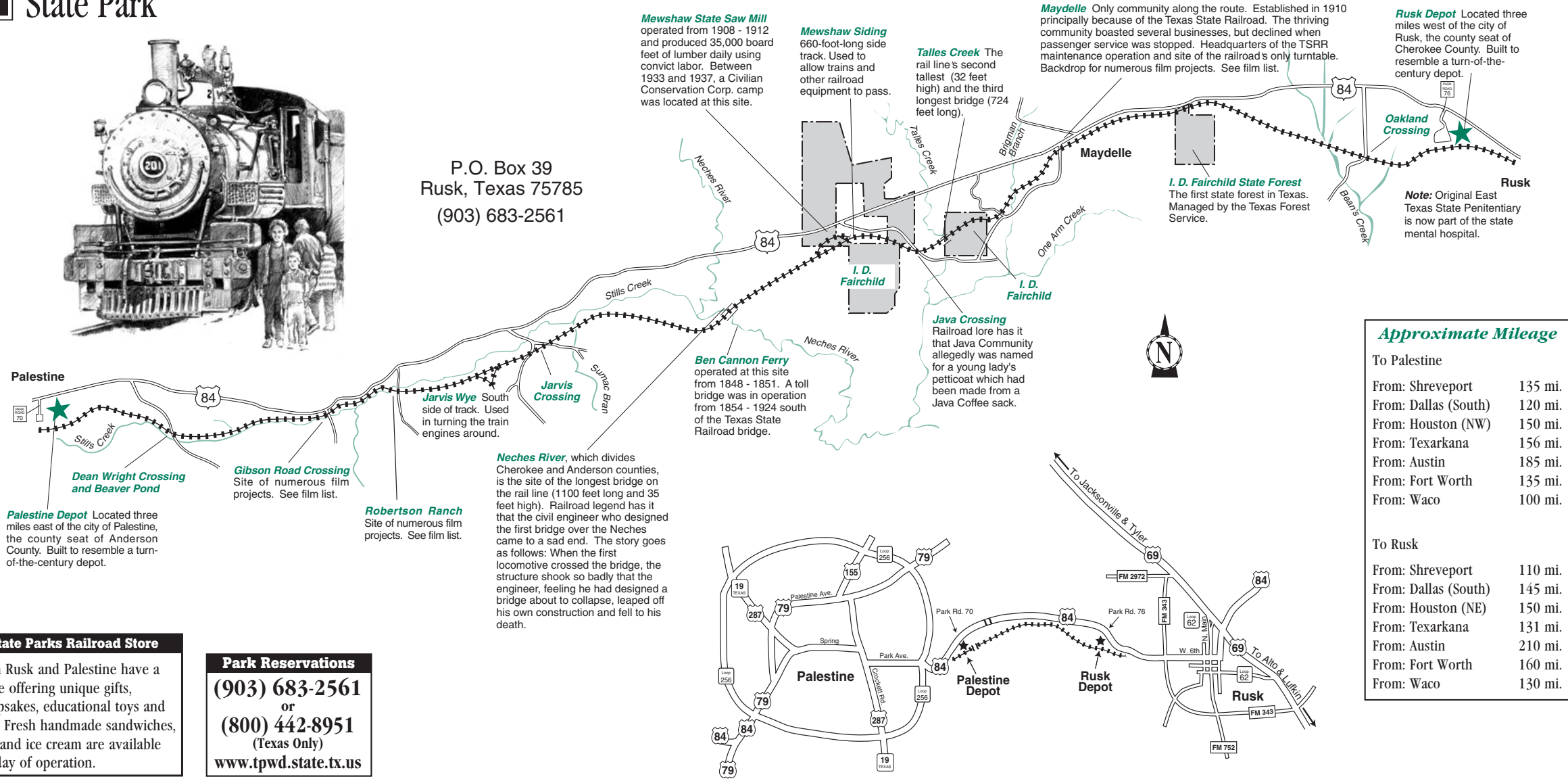


Texas State Railroad

State Park



P.O. Box 39
Rusk, Texas 75785
(903) 683-2561



Mewshaw State Saw Mill
operated from 1908 - 1912 and produced 35,000 board feet of lumber daily using convict labor. Between 1933 and 1937, a Civilian Conservation Corp. camp was located at this site.

Mewshaw Siding
660-foot-long side track. Used to allow trains and other railroad equipment to pass.

Talles Creek
The rail line's second tallest (32 feet high) and the third longest bridge (724 feet long).

Maydelle
Only community along the route. Established in 1910 principally because of the Texas State Railroad. The thriving community boasted several businesses, but declined when passenger service was stopped. Headquarters of the TSRR maintenance operation and site of the railroad's only turntable. Backdrop for numerous film projects. See film list.

Rusk Depot
Located three miles west of the city of Rusk, the county seat of Cherokee County. Built to resemble a turn-of-the-century depot.

Note: Original East Texas State Penitentiary is now part of the state mental hospital.



Approximate Mileage

To Palestine	
From: Shreveport	135 mi.
From: Dallas (South)	120 mi.
From: Houston (NW)	150 mi.
From: Texarkana	156 mi.
From: Austin	185 mi.
From: Fort Worth	135 mi.
From: Waco	100 mi.
To Rusk	
From: Shreveport	110 mi.
From: Dallas (South)	145 mi.
From: Houston (NE)	150 mi.
From: Texarkana	131 mi.
From: Austin	210 mi.
From: Fort Worth	160 mi.
From: Waco	130 mi.

Palestine Depot
Located three miles east of the city of Palestine, the county seat of Anderson County. Built to resemble a turn-of-the-century depot.

Dean Wright Crossing and Beaver Pond

Gibson Road Crossing
Site of numerous film projects. See film list.

Jarvis Wye
South side of track. Used in turning the train engines around.

Jarvis Crossing

Robertson Ranch
Site of numerous film projects. See film list.

Neches River, which divides Cherokee and Anderson counties, is the site of the longest bridge on the rail line (1100 feet long and 35 feet high). Railroad legend has it that the civil engineer who designed the first bridge over the Neches came to a sad end. The story goes as follows: When the first locomotive crossed the bridge, the structure shook so badly that the engineer, feeling he had designed a bridge about to collapse, leaped off his own construction and fell to his death.

Ben Cannon Ferry
operated at this site from 1848 - 1851. A toll bridge was in operation from 1854 - 1924 south of the Texas State Railroad bridge.

Java Crossing
Railroad lore has it that Java Community allegedly was named for a young lady's petticoat which had been made from a Java Coffee sack.



Texas State Parks Railroad Store

The depots in Rusk and Palestine have a Railroad Store offering unique gifts, nostalgic keepsakes, educational toys and food service. Fresh handmade sandwiches, chips, drinks and ice cream are available during each day of operation.

Park Reservations
(903) 683-2561
or
(800) 442-8951
(Texas Only)
www.tpwd.state.tx.us