Community Services

The Brown Center

The Brown Center is a conference and meeting facility located off Highway 90 west of Orange. It is a center of educational, cultural and social activity, which serves the citizens of Orange County and the surrounding area. The 68 acres of scenic landscaped grounds, including lakes and greenhouses, feature a graceful mansion built and decorated in the Southern antebellum plantation tradition.

Lamar received the estate in 1976 as a gift from the four sons of the late Edgar W. Brown Jr., an Orange businessman and philanthropist, who served as a charter member of the Lamar University Foundation, Inc. The property, which is open to the public for tours, provides visitors with insights into the accomplishments and lifestyle of one of the region’s leading citizens. The center can be reserved for seminars, meetings, planning retreats, and other public service activities.