

History of the First Baptist Church of Judson

On September 14, 1883, a group of Christians worshipping at Lawrenceville School, Gregg County, Texas, met for the purpose of organizing a Baptist Church. Thirteen people obligated themselves financially to start a fund in order to build the church. They were F. M. Ponder, Hiram Whatley, W. N. Dickinson, E. Prewett, J. W. Lawrence, R. W. Persons, Davis Adrian, Judge Blackburn, J. W. Croft, E. E. Crain, Mrs. Lewis, and two anonymous donors.

The first pastor was W. B. Brewer (1883-1887). Silas A. Smart and A. E. Hiatt were elected deacons September 9, 1885. Also in 1885, Mrs. Hiram Whatley recommended the church be named Judson in honor of Alabamian Adamaris Judson, Baptist Missionary to Burma in the 1840's. She was a member of a church with the same name in Eufala, Alabama, before her family moved to Texas in 1870.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Renfro and Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Smith with charter members.

Lawrenceville school was located on what is now known as the L. L. Mackey tract, Judson Community, Gregg County, Texas.

The above-mentioned parties deemed it necessary to organize the church, because there was no other church of like faith in their immediate neighborhood. In keeping with the principles of a Missionary Baptist Church, her government was that of a democratic nature, said members adopting through their Articles of Faith "that the governmental power is in the hands of the people; that the right of a majority of the members of their church should rule in accordance with the law of Christ, that the power of the church could not be alienated, and that church action was final." Judson Baptist Church also set forth as her Articles of Faith as those presented in J. M. Pendelton's original church manual.

During 1886-87 the church elected messengers to participate in matters of business during the annual gathering of sister churches at Association and District Meetings.

On Sunday, September 26, 1891, a committee composed of J. H. Newton, G. C. Renfro, and A. H. Crawford submitted to the church recommendations and specifications of a building in which to worship.

On April 22, 1893, a committee was chosen to select a site for the building of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Whatley responded by donating the plot of ground on which the church was built. The present building (1997) is located on the same plot.

On the third Sunday in July 1901, the body elected to organize a Sunday school.

On the first Sunday of November 1902, Sister Viola Stephens was elected to organize the Ladies Auxiliary. Miss Mary McLendon was elected President, Miss Eliza Smith, Vice President, Mrs. Vannie Fuller, Secretary, and Miss Effie Smith, Treasurer.

On April 1, 1922, a designated time for weekly prayer meetings was established.

The Baptist Young Peoples Training Union was organized on April 6, 1924.

On Sunday, October 6, 1935, the church dedicated a new church building containing the main auditorium and four classrooms.

On September 12, 1937, the church elected to begin half-time work, designating as its time for regular services the first and third Sundays and Sunday nights of each month.

On April 2, 1938, the sixth Sunday school class of the church school was organized.

On Sunday, December 2, 1939, the church voted to have one treasurer to handle all monies collected.

Judson Baptist Church elected to begin full-time pastorate work on December 7, 1941.

The church has as its present membership (1997) 264.

A new sanctuary was built east of and adjoining the old sanctuary in 1960, and since then more land has been acquired.

At this time (1997), the church has been free of debt for several years.

The First Baptist Church of Judson
Pastors and Years Served

Elder W. B. Brewer	1883-1887
Elder J. B. Goode	1887-1891
Elder L. P. Ray	1891-1897
Elder G. W. Whitehurst	1897-1899
Elder J. H. Smith	1899-1901
Elder Robert Marsh	1901-1906
Elder J. M. Spivey	1906-1907
Elder L. P. Ray	1907-1911
Elder George P. Birdwell	1911-1916
Elder Robert Marsh	1916-1917
Elder Sam J. Boyd	1917-1918
Elder C. B. Stanley	1918-1919
Elder L. J. Ferguson	1919-1921
Elder J. H. White	1921-1922
Elder James Morgan	1922-1924
Elder Sam J. Boyd	1924-1925
Elder James Morgan	1925-1934
Elder C. B. Stanley	1934-1937
Elder I. D. Bates	1937-1939
Elder T. J. McCain	1939-1940
Elder B. E. Petty	1940-1945
Elder C. E. Banks	1945-1949
Elder Wallace H. Glover	1949-1950
Elder L. H. Parrish	1950-1954
Elder G. W. Stovall	1954-1960
Elder T. C. Haynes	1960-1962
Elder A. L. Harris	1962-1963
Elder Chapmon Davis	1963-1966
Elder J. C. Henderson	1966-1970
Elder John Burleson	1970-1972
Elder Rickey Little	1973-1973
Elder R. L. Sikes	1973-1975
Elder C. J. Baugus	1975-1978
Elder Larry Hendren	1978-1982
Elder Ronnie K. Pipes	1982-1988
Elder Same Roe	1988-1990
Elder Wiley Dorman	1990-1991
Elder Jim Rhodes	1991-1992
Elder Danny Trimble	1992-

The First Baptist Church of Judson
Deacons

Silas A. Smart	9- 4-1885
A. E. Hiatt	9- 4-1885
Issac Morris	1888
A. C. McAfee	9- 7-1923
Ahas Mattox	9- 7-1923
Grady Clamp	7- 3-1927
Roy Sparks	7- 3-1927
Knox Smith	1928
I. S. McLendon	1929
Dave Sparks	1929
S. L. Granger	9- 5-1931
Joe Hammond	5- 7-1932
J. E. McKnight	5- 7-1932
Emmett Whitehurst	5- 7-1932
John Callaway	6-16-1938
James C. Landers	6-16-1938
Morris Ruggles	1941
Elton Hamon	6-18-1950
Marshall Johnson	6-18-1950
Huby Jones	6-18-1950
A. M. J. Martindale	6-15-1952
W. F. Martindale	6-15-1952
Dongene Smith	11-20-1966
Troy Guinn	11-20-1966
Harold Wayne Stone	11-20-1966
Thomas McAfee	9-28-1975
Jerry Long	8-17-1975
D. L. Guinn	7-18-1976
W. M. Denson	3- 7-1976
King Landers	
Mitchell Billingsley	1946
Wayne Green	1-30-1983
K. R. Collins	1-30-1983
J. C. Wilson	5- 5-1985
Johnny Steed	6-29-1986
Don Gilliam	10-11-1987



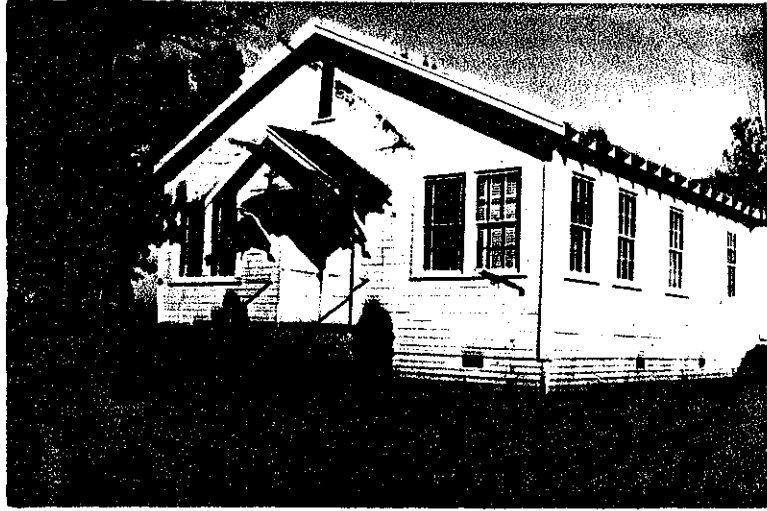
Hiram Whatley
B. 27 Feb 1841, Henry Co. Ala.
D. 13 Sept 1911, Gregg Co. Tex

Georgianna Stone Whatley
B. 10 Jan 1844, Henry Co. Ala.
D. 9 Jan 1936, Gregg Co. Tex

Picture Taken 1906

We The undersigned obligate
 ourselves to pay the amount
 opposite our names for the
 purpose of erecting a Baptist
 Church at or near the Lawrenceville
 School House Gregg County Texas

Names	Amount	Names	Amount
A. M. Dondox	\$ 10.00		
H. Whalley	10.00		
W. H. Dickerson	.50		
E. Bennett	25		
J. W. Lawrence	500.00		
Lumber			
R. H. Persons	25		
David Adrian	\$ 1.00		
Judge Speerburn	25		
J. W. Croft	25		
E. E. Crain	25		
Cash	25		
Cash	25		
Cash	25		
Mrs. Lewis	50		



First Baptist Church of Jackson
1935

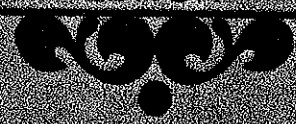
*Reverend
Adoniram Judson*



**ADONIRAM
JUDSON
AMERICA'S
FIRST FOREIGN
MISSIONARY**

92

FAITH COXE BAILEY
EDITOR



ADONIRAM JUDSON

Faith Coxe Bailey

The fascinating biography of America's first foreign missionary. From a somber, sedate Congregational parsonage Judson entered Brown University a God-fearing young man. He graduated valedictorian and a declared atheist. Then he came to the crossroads. A decision was made that led to the miracle of the only room left, the turnabout of a young man going west, the Haystackers, the fight for support, a hijacked ship, lovely Ann Hasseltine, government opposition, delays, discouragements, even death.

Each trial proved to be a preparatory step eventually leading Adoniram and Ann Judson to Burma. There they faced the virtually hopeless task of learning Burmese and converting the nationals to an unknown Christ.

Filth and fever, persecution and prison, death and destruction — these were their obstacles. But a Burmese Bible, dictionary and grammar were bequeathed to a thriving Burmese church when the "Missionary to Burma" received his final promotion.



~~Reference~~
1915 School
Souvenir



Public School
Souvenir

1915



We find in life exactly
what we put in it.

JUDSON
PUBLIC SCHOOL

District No. 2

Gregg County, Texas

L. B. TODD, Principal

MISS LOUISE FARROW, Primary Teacher

School Officers

J. G. Matthews

W. R. Turner

J. R. Killingsworth

PUPILS

Johnnie Hamby
Zelwood Denson
Fred Philer
Eddie McKnight
Willie Bussey
Roy Whitehurst
Jim Woods
Elbert Matthews
Rufus Hays
Theo. Whitehurst

Ralph Evans
Edward Ginn
Robert McGrede
Hobson Whatley
Willie Mack Visage
Harmon Hardy
Roger Henderson
Edwin Lucky
Robert Gordon
Elbert Whitehurst

Alice Ruth Henderson
Mable Matthews
Ala Whatley
Cordie McQueen
Aphra Maye Evans
Lillian Bussey
Theo McGrede
Jewell Whatley
Cori Hardy

Pearl McKnight
Ora Bell Hays
Omie Woods
Ida Pruitt
Nellie Henderson
Myra Pruitt
Nina Matthews
Eddie Whatley
Olie Ginn

Georgia Bruton

Louise Farrow

*42
Students*

Primary Department

Idus Denson	Odie Gibson
Gilbert Johnson	Herman Lewis
Cranford Lewis	Gordon Meadows
Aubrey McGrede	Ernest McGrede
Gorden Whatley	Wesley Whatley
Cranfil Whatley	Leak Ginn
Travis Whitehurst	Emmette Whitehurst
Oliver McGrede	Jim McReynolds
Sid McReynolds	Leonard Whatley
Carlton McAfee	Tiny McGrede

Iris Evans	Odessa Gibson
Ovie Lee Gibson	Mary Hamby
Vivie Hardy	Ida Hardy
Ada Hardy	Myrtle Hardy
Myrtle Johnson	Tommye Henderson
Beatrice McLendon	Melba Pruitt
Gladys Pruitt	Bula Stone
Omie Stone	Novie Whatley
Lila Whitehurst	Willie Whitehurst
Opal Honea	Doris Pliler
Mabel Johnson	Lola Hays
Ernestine McAfee	Ada McReynolds



Total Student body 86

44
Students

MRS G. F. WHATLEY, a widow

WARRANTY DEED

DATED: MARCH 14, 1932

FILED: MARCH 14, 1932

TO

FILE NO: 4385

RECORDED: VOL 122 PG 102

DEED RECORDS GREGG

I. S. McLendon, ET AL

COUNTY, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG) KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That I, Mrs. G. F. Whatley, a widow, of the County of Gregg,
State of Texas for and in consideration of the sum of OneDOLLARS
to me in hand paid by I. S. McLendon, Grady Clamp, A. C. McAfee, D. G.
Sparks, Roy Sparks and Ahas Mattox, Deacons of the Judson Baptist
Church, as follows:

Cash in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged,
have Granted, Sold and Conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell
and Convey, unto the said I. S. McLendon, Grady Clamp, A. C. McAfee,
D. G. Sparks, Roy Sparks and Ahas Mattox, Deacons of Judson Baptist
Church, of the County of Gregg, State of Texas all that certain lot, tract
or parcel of land situated in Gregg County, Texas, being a part of the
Jas F. Dixon Survey, described as follows, to wit:

BEGINNING at the NE corner of the tract of land known as the Mrs. A. E. Renfroe tract, a stake on south side of road;
THENCE N 70 yards to a wagon skein for corner;
THENCE E 70 yards to a wagon skein for corner;
THENCE S 70 yards to a railroad iron for corner;
THENCE W 70 yards to the place of beginning, containing one acre of land, more or less.

Said land to be used for church purposes.

TOHAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said I. S. McLendon, Grady Clamp, A. C. McAfee, D. G. Sparks, Roy Sparks, and Ahas Mattox, Deacons for Judson Baptist Church, their successors and assigns forever and I do hereby bind myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, to Warrant and Forever Defend, all and singular the said premises unto the said I. S. McLendon, Grady Clamp, A. C. McAfee, D. G. Sparks, Roy Sparks, and Ahas Mattox, Deacons for Judson Baptist Church, their successors and assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

WITNESS my hand at Longview, Texas, this 14th day of March, 1932.

Mrs G. F. Whatley

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, on this day personally appeared Mrs. G. F. Whatley, a widow, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 14th day of March, A.D. 1932.

(LS)

T. N. Henderson

Notary Public, Gregg County

T E X A S.

Baptist Progress

CHURCH SOVEREIGNTY

CHURCH CO-OPERATION

CHURCH EQUALITY

THE WHOLE BIBLE

CHURCH AUTHORITY

"One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren."—Matt. 23:8.

OL. XXIX. DALLAS, TEXAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1942. NUMBER 15.

HISTORY OF JUDSON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Present Pastor



ELD. B. E. (Bud) PETTY

The following article will be read with interest by our sister churches and former pastors throughout the State:

Judson Baptist church was organized September 14, 1883, with Eld. W. B. Brewer and Deacons A. Smart and A. E. Hiatt composing the presbytery. These brethren had been called upon by brethren at Lawrenceville school house, said school being situated on what is now known as the L. L. Mackey tract, Judson community, Longview, Gregg county, Texas. However, it was not until about the year 1885, that the church was named, said name being suggestive of that of a church in Alabama, to which one of the church's charter members previously belonged. The name was chosen by the late (father) Hiram Whatley.

When Judson had its origin in Alabama, being a namesake of Judge Adair Judson, former missionary to Burma, Asia, said church and state. So far as could be obtained, according to records, the following were charter members: Mr. and Mrs. C. Renfro, Mrs. Hiram Whatley, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Smith, E. Hiatt, and S. A. Smart.

The above mentioned parties deemed it necessary to organize Judson Baptist Church, because there was no other church of like faith in their immediate neighborhood. In keeping with the principles of a Missionary Baptist church, her government was that of a democratic nature, said members adopting through their Articles of Faith, "that the governmental power is in the hands of the people; that the right of a majority of the members of their church should rule, in accordance with the law of Christ, and that the power of the church could not be alienated, and that church action was, and is final." Judson Baptist Church also set forth as her Articles of Faith, those as presented in J. M. Pendleton's original Church Manual.

We have definite record of the church's election of messengers, 1886-1887, to participate in matters of business, which was occasioned annually through the gathering of sister churches at Association and District meetings. Sunday, September 26, 1891, a committee composed of J. H. Newton, G. C. Renfro, and A. H.

Crawford submitted to the church recommendations and specifications of a building in which to worship. April 22, 1893, a committee was appointed to choose site for building of a church. Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Whatley donated the plot of ground, on which is located the present building.

The third Sunday in July, 1901, the body elected to organize a Sunday school, the first of its kind to be organized in the new church.

The first Sunday in November, 1902, Sister Viola Stephens was elected to organize the Ladies' Auxiliary, and the following were appointed to the offices: Miss Mary McLendon, president; Miss Eliza Smith, vice president; Mrs. Vannie Fuller, secretary, and Miss Effie Smith, treasurer.

April 1, 1922 a designated time for regular sessions of weekly prayer meetings was set.

The church's first record of an organized Baptist Young People's Training Union was on April 6, 1924, when a committee was appointed by the church to recommend officers to serve in this capacity.

Sunday, October 6, 1935 the church dedicated a new church building, containing the main auditorium and four class rooms. The dedication sermon was preached by Eld. C. L. Cameron.

September 12, 1937 the church elected to begin half-time work, designating as its time for regu-

lar services, the first and third Sundays of each month.

April 2, 1938, the Sixth Sunday School Class in the church school was organized. The first Sunday of January, 1939 the new classroom was completed and dedicated.

A new plan of financing church was set up Sunday, December 2, 1939 whereby all monies should come through one common treasurer of the Sunday School.

June 9-11, 1941, Judson Baptist Church entertained approximately 150 messengers and visitors at the Annual State Baptist Training Union's convention, held in the local church.

Judson Baptist Church elected to begin full-time pastoral work December 7, 1941.

The church has 280 in its present membership. There is an active Training Union, with four classes. There is an active Sunday School, with six organized classes, with an average attendance of 110. The church has in its membership, besides her pastor, two ordained ministers of the gospel, namely: Eld. H. L. Bruner and J. C. Harrell.

The present active deacons are: I. S. McLendon, president of the board; A. C. McAfee, treasurer; Knox Smith, Chas. Mattox, Roy Sparks, J. E. McKnight, Emmette Whitehurst, John Calloway, Jim Landers, and Bill Slater. Mrs. A. C. McAfee is the present church clerk, and has served the church

in this capacity since September, 1924.

We, the membership of Judson Baptist Church, take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the leadership of all her former pastors. May we also express our gratitude for our worthy pastor, Eld. B. E. (Bud) Petty, who has so faithfully served the church for the past nineteen months, and has seen her grow from half-time to full-time work. We earnestly covet the prayers of all our sister churches, in our efforts to go forward in the name of Christ, this New Year of 1942.

The following is a list of the pastors and the years they served:

Eld. W. B. Brewer, 1883-1887.
Eld. J. B. Goode, 1887-1891.
Eld. L. P. Ray, 1891-1897.
Eld. G. W. Whitehurst, 1897-1899.
Eld. J. H. Smith, 1899-1901.
Eld. R. H. March, 1901-1906.
Eld. L. P. Ray, 1907-1911.
Eld. Geo. P. Birdwell, 1911-1916.
Eld. Robt. March, 1916-1917.
Eld. Sam J. Boyd, 1917-1918.
Eld. C. B. Stanley, 1918-1919.
Eld. L. J. Ferguson, 1919-1921.
Eld. J. H. White, 1921-1922.
Eld. James Morgan, 1922-1924.
Eld. Sam J. Boyd, 1924-1925.
Eld. James Morgan, 1925-1934.
Eld. C. B. Stanley, 1934-1937.
Eld. L. D. Bates, 1937-1939.
Eld. T. J. McCain, 1939-1940.
Eld. B. E. (Bud) Petty, 1940-1941.

Bro. G. W. Wall

Bro. G. W. Wall is missionary of the Grayson County Association. He is sound in the faith. He is an Association Baptist. His heart is in his work. He thinks we could pull better if we would do less kicking.

A little less grumbling,
A little more grace,
Is good for your servants
In running their race.

So why not be gracious,
As all of us could,
And be of assistance,
As everyone should.

Bro. C. C. Evans has been away at Bluff Dale where his father is sick. We hope his father soon gets well again.

The First Baptist Church of Judson
Pastors and Years Served

Elder W. B. Brewer	1883-1887
Elder J. B. Goode	1887-1891
Elder L. P. Ray	1891-1897
Elder G. W. Whitehurst	1897-1899
Elder J. H. Smith	1899-1901
Elder Robert Marsh	1901-1906
Elder J. M. Spivey	1906-1907
Elder L. P. Ray	1907-1911
Elder George P. Birdwell	1911-1916
Elder Robert Marsh	1916-1917
Elder Sam J. Boyd	1917-1918
Elder C. B. Stanley	1918-1919
Elder L. J. Ferguson	1919-1921
Elder J. H. White	1921-1922
Elder James Morgan	1922-1924
Elder Sam J. Boyd	1924-1925
Elder James Morgan	1925-1934
Elder C. B. Stanley	1934-1937
Elder I. D. Bates	1937-1939
Elder T. J. McCain	1939-1940
Elder B. E. Petty	1940-1945
Elder C. E. Banks	1945-1949
Elder Wallace H. Glover	1949-1950
Elder L. H. Parrish	1950-1954
Elder G. W. Stovall	1954-1960
Elder T. C. Haynes	1960-1962
Elder A. L. Harris	1962-1963
Elder Chapmon Davis	1963-1966
Elder J. C. Henderson	1966-1970
Elder John Burleson	1970-1972
Elder Rickey Little	1973-1973
Elder R. L. Sikes	1973-1975
Elder C. J. Baugus	1975-1978
Elder Larry Hendren	1978-1982
Elder Ronnie K. Pipes	1982-1988
Elder Same Roe	1988-1990
Elder Wiley Dorman	1990-1991
Elder Jim Rhodes	1991-1992
Elder Danny Trimble	1992-

We the undersigned obligate
ourselves to pay the amount
opposite our Names for the
purpose of erecting a Baptist
Church at or near the Lawrenceville
School House Gregg County Texas

Names	Amount	Names	Amount
A. M. Dondor	\$ 70.00		
H. Whalley	10.00		
W. N. Brinkman	.50		
E. Bennett	25		
J. H. Lawrence	500.00		
Lumber			
R. E. Persons	25		
David Adrian	\$ 1.00		
Judge Spencer	25		
J. W. Lovett	25		
E. E. Crain	25		
Cash	25		
Cash	25		
"	25		
Mrs. Lewis			

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To Hon W. H. Whalley Esq Presiding Officer of
Election Precinct No. Two

You are hereby commanded that you open the polls for the election of Member of Congress for the
Third Congressional District, Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Comptroller,
Treasurer, Attorney-General, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Superintendent of Public Instruc-
tion, Members of the Twenty-Fourth Legislature, one Chief Justice and two Associate Jus-
Supreme Court, three Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals, and District officers named in the
governor's Proclamation, For and Against the Amendments to the Constitution, and the following county and
precinct officers: County Judge District Clerk

County Clerk County Attorney Sheriff
County Treasurer County Tax Assessor
County Surveyor one county commissioner
For Precinct one one Justices of the Peace and
one constable for justices Precinct
no two

at Quason Court House, the same being the place designated by law as the voting
place of said precinct, on the Sixth day of November, 1894, and that you keep the said polls open during
the hours designated by law, to-wit, from 8 o'clock a. m. to 6 o'clock p. m.; and that after said hour of 6 p.
m. you proceed, in conjunction with the judges and clerks of said election, and in accordance with law, to
count the votes polled in your said precinct at said election: *Provided, however,* That if at the last election
held at said precinct more than one hundred votes were cast, you will conform to the requirements of act
as amended March 14, 1887, relating to the appointment of judges and clerks for counting votes; and,
thereupon, after certifying correct returns thereof officially, in triplicate, in connection with said
managers, you seal and send up, and deliver through one of the managers of the election, one copy thereof
to the County Judge of Gregg County, one copy of said return to the County Clerk
of Gregg County, and the third copy of same to be retained by the
officer of the election for twelve months from the day of election. Said returns must show, first, the
number of votes polled at such box; second, the number polled for each candidate, accompanied with poll

Judson missionary Baptist
Church was organized Sept 14 1883
by Eld. W. B. Brewer & Deacons. S. H.
Smart & A. E. Hiatt being called
on by the Brethren & Sisters at
Lawrenceville School house
continued from old book of the
Oct 1900 By H. S. Smith
Church clerk

Book #1
1585-
178

11
Article of Faith of the
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Article 1st We believe the Holy Bible was given by
miraculously inspired and
is a perfect treasure of
heavenly instructions,
that it has God for its
author, God for its
end, and truth without
mixture of error for its
matter; that it reveals the
principles by which God can
be judged; and therefore those
shall remain to the end
of the world the true
criteria of Christian doctrine
and the supreme standard
by which all human conduct
and opinions should be tried.
Article 2nd That there is one and only
one true and living God
whose name is Jehovah the
maker and supreme ruler of
heaven and earth, invisible
glorious in holiness, mighty
in all possible dominion
and love; revealed in the
personal and relative distinction
of the Father the Son and the
Holy Ghost, equal in power,
divine perfection and
distinct but harmonious
offices in the great work
of redemption.

under the Law of his Maker
but voluntary transgressors
fell from that holy and
happy state; in consequence
of which all men stand under
some sinners not by
constraint but choice; being
by nature utterly void of that
holiness required by the Law
of God fully given to the
justification of the world
of Satan and of their own
sinful passions and therefore
under just condemnation to
eternal ruin without
defense or excuse
But that the salvation
of sinners is wholly of grace
though the moral and
offices of the Son of God
who took upon him our
nature and without sin
bore the Law by his personal
obedience and made atonement
for our sins by his death
being raised from the dead
he is now enthroned in
heaven and continuing in his
merciful intercession for the
sinnerfullest and the
most perfect is every
way qualified to be

believe, which Christ of
his followers be placed on
such as be known as the
justification. That
justification cannot be
the portion of sinners, but
of a new creature, who
on principles of rightness
must that is, be
in conformity with
works of righteousness
which are here done. And
though his own nature
and righteousness, that
brings us into a state of
most blessed peace and
favor with God, and
every other blessing, may
be for time and season,
yet that the blessings
of salvation are made
free to all by the
work of the Holy Spirit
in the heart, and
faith and works.
The doctrine of
justification by
works is a
false doctrine, and
is a great
hindrance to
the salvation of
souls.

would we must be regenerated
 one by one. That
 regeneration consists in
 giving a holy disposition
 to the criminal, which
 is effected in a manner above
 our comprehension, as
 a consolation to the
 of the Holy Spirit, so as
 to secure our voluntary
 obedience to the Gospel
 and that its propagation
 as found in the Holy Spirit
 which are being sent to
 the glory of God.
 That election is the
 gracious purpose of God
 according to which he
 regenerates, justifies, and
 saves sinners that election
 perfectly consistent with
 the freeness of man's
 consent, he is all the time
 in connection with the
 and that it is a free
 will, and a gift of God
 sovereignly given to the
 elect, and not to the
 reprobate. That it is
 a free will, and a gift of God
 sovereignly given to the
 elect, and not to the
 reprobate. That it is

means in the highest sense
 that it is ascertained by
 its effects in all who
 believe the Gospel is
 the foundation of
 Christian advancement and
 that to ascertain it
 with regard to our
 demands and desires
 without diligence
 is to shut out every
 real believer as an
 unto the end that the
 persevering attachment
 to Christ is the ground
 upon which distinction
 from superficial
 professions that official
 formalism attaches
 this rule and they
 are kept by the power
 of God through faith
 unto salvation
 that is that the law of
 God is the eternal
 unchangeable rule of
 government that it is
 just and good and that
 the inability which the
 Scriptures ascribe to fallen
 man to fulfill its precepts
 is an entire brokenness

mediator. To unfeigned
obedience to the Father
can be one great end
of the Gospel and of
the means of grace
connected with the
establishment of the
visible church.

Art 11. That a visible church of
Christ is a congregation
of baptized believers,
associated by covenant
in faith and fellowship
of the Gospel, observing
the ordinances of Christ,
governed by his laws,
and exercising the gifts,
rights and privileges
vested in them by his
appointments, that its only proper
officers are bishops,
pastors and stewards whose
qualifications, claims,
and duties are defined in
the Epistles to Timothy and
Titus.

Art 12. That Christians baptize
by the immersion of all
believers in water, in the
name of the Father, Son
and Spirit, and that they

purifying himself
his perfecting to the
privilege of a church
relations and to the
superior which the
members of the church
by the use of bread and
wine are to communicate
together the laying of
of Christ's precious blood
by solemn self examination
Act 13th that the great day of the
week is the Lord's day of
christians Sabbath and is
to be kept sacred to holy
purposes by abstaining from
all secular labor and
recreations by the observance
of a fast both private and
public and by presenting
for that day a special
congregation for the people
to God
Act 14th that a man should
not desire to be
the servant and
of himself
his servants are to be
not consociated with
the world

of things of the earth
 that there is a radical
 and essential difference
 between the righteous and the
 wicked. That such work as
 brought forth are justified
 in the name of the Lord
 Jesus, and sanctified by the
 Spirit of our God, and thus
 righteous in his esteem,
 while all such as continue
 in transgression and
 unbelief are under his
 curse and condemnation,
 and this distinction holds
 among men both in
 life and death.

That the end of this
 war is approaching
 but that the faithful must
 still stand firm upon
 the side of the Lord, and
 not be separated from
 him, and thus take place
 the wicked will be
 condemned, and the
 righteous will be
 saved. And thus the
 judgment will be
 made for ever.

Sept.
1900

Rules of decorum Adopted by the Church at Indson Gregg Co. Bt Artist

We agree to call a pastor when the church
deems it necessary whose duty it is
shall be to act as moderator when
present in whose absence the church
shall appoint one pro tem

Art. 2

The moderator shall preside over the delib-
eration of the body ~~and~~ during
conference and see that these articles
are strictly observed and that no
allowed to speak provided the chair
is occupied by another brother
and shall not vote except in case
of a tie

Art. 3

We also agree to have a clerk whose
duty it shall be to keep a true record
of all proceedings of conference present
in whose absence the church shall
appoint one pro tem

Art. 4

The church shall have conference once
in each month and oftener if the
church deems it necessary

Art. 5

No member shall speak more than twice
on any one subject without first
obtaining leave from the church

Art. 6

No brother shall personate or cast
any reflection on the remarks of another
but shall address himself to the
subject in hand

Sept 1900

kept more than twelve and
any one desiring to be
first obtaining leave of
the church
that no brother shall
personally or cast reflections
on the remarks of another
shall address him in the
afflictions of brother
and that no man shall
be absent from a conference
without reporting to the church the cause of
his absence
that no brother shall
be absent from a conference
without reporting to the church the cause of
his absence
that all matters and
business shall be brought
before the church before
being presented by a man
and that no man shall
present any matter
before the church without
first reporting to the church
the cause of his absence

9-1900

absent himself ^{during} more than two consecutive conferences without the consent of the moderator.

9 That all matters and business shall be brought before the church ~~within~~ in conference by a motion and second and that disposed of before any other be attended unless withdrawn by the mover.

10 no Brother shall speak in conference without first rising to his feet and addressing the moderator.

11 all business before the church shall be decided by a majority of the members present except touching fellowship and that should be unanimous.

12 That an opportunity shall be given for the reception of members as often as the church deemed it wise.

13 That these By laws and rules of decorum may be altered changed or amended by a majority of the members present by giving notice at the previous conference.

14 That these rules of decorum be read quarterly as often as called for.
Foundments added

9-1900

Whose duty it shall be To Whose
duty it shall be to look after the
the church in opening it for service
and closing after service and to keep
lights in readiness and all other thing
pertaining to the church property

16 That ^{we} lay off our grave yard in lots
ranging as follows 8×12 - 8×16 - 8×20
 8×24 - 8×30 with a six foot walk
between the lots the walks to run north
and south untill they reach the center
then have a 12 foot drive way running
through the center north & south the
lots to be staked off and numbered
1, 2, 3, 4 and so on

That each member of the church ^{shall} that
be given a lot sufficient to bury his
or her family

18 That no cedar trees be allowed to be
planted nor any other trees except
magnolias and other evergreens

19 That we buy a set of tools for the
purpose of digging graves and keeping
the yard in order

20 That it shall be the duty of the sexton
to look after the lots and yard and
select lots for parties who have no lots

Articles of Faith

I. We believe that the Holy Bible, written by men divinely inspired, and full of unmixed truth, is a perfect rule of faith and practice.

II. We believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

III. We believe that man, once holy, fell by voluntary transgression from that happy state, and is now utterly devoid of holiness.

IV. We believe that sinners are saved by grace alone.

V. We believe that men are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

VI. We believe that salvation is free to all who will accept the Gospel.

VII. We believe that, except as a man be renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is not qualified or prepared for the kingdom of Christ on earth, or to enjoy his glory hereafter.

VIII. We believe that repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are the duties of every one who hears the Gospel.

IX. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, by which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners.

X. We believe that sanctification, begun in regeneration, and ever progressive, is the process by which we are made to partake of God's holiness.

XI. We believe in the preservation of the saints; that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. We believe that God's law is the only, the eternal and unchangeable, rule of his church and moral government.

XIII. We believe that a church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, united in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances and obeying the laws of Christ, and that its officers are pastors and deacons.

XIV. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer, in water, by a properly qualified administrator, into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

XV. We believe that only such as have been properly baptized and received into the fellowship of a regularly organized Baptist Church, should partake of the Lord's Supper.

XVI. We believe that the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath should be devoutly observed and sacredly devoted to religious services.

XVII. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, and that the governors of States and nations should be obeyed, when the laws they seek to enforce are not in conflict with the Gospel.

XVIII. We believe in the future resurrection of the dead.

XIX. We believe in the final judgment; and that, in that day, the righteous and wicked will be separated forever.

XX. We believe that the righteous will be made happy forever in heaven, and the wicked miserable forever in hell.

Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church and the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, back biting and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy of speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

This is the Church Covenant taken from Pendleton's "Church Manual."

Rules of Order

I. The pastor, or in his absence any member appointed, shall act as Moderator of all business meetings of the church.

II. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to keep order; and in case the Church is equally divided on any question, he shall give the casting vote.

III. The meeting shall be opened and closed with prayer.

IV. The order of business shall be:

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
2. The reception of members by experience or letter.
3. Granting letters of dismission.
4. Reports of committees.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New or miscellaneous business.

V. A motion before the church must be disposed of before another motion can be entertained, unless the motion be to amend, postpone, adjourn, or call for the previous question.

VI. The Moderator may speak on any question by calling on any brother to preside in his place.

VII. Every member who speaks shall rise and first address the Moderator.

VIII. The church in conference shall entertain no proposition for discussion which has not been presented on motion of one member and seconded by another.

IX. On any point of order a member may appeal from the Moderator to the church, whose decision shall be final.

X. All questions, except that on reception of members, shall be decided by the vote of a majority.



Gregg County Historical Commission

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.
Chairman

417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261
Fax # 903-753-5337

February 23, 1998

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Marker Program
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: First Baptist Church of Judson Historical Marker
Application.

Dear Cynthia:

The enclosed application is for an old church in a community north of Longview, Gregg County. Not until I studied the brief enclosed brief history did I realize that many of the early prominent families of Longview were members of this church. It has never had a large congregation, a Missionary Baptist Church very dedicated to fundamentals as seen in their Church Covenant. The church has had thirty-nine pastors with the most recent pastor now going to another church. It seems to have a solid core of about one hundred twenty members.

Wes Whatley is a retired teacher from the Longview Independent School District. His ancestors figured prominently in the organization and development of this church.

Sincerely,

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.

Enc.

Application Form Official Texas Historical Marker

(Please complete both sides of form.)



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

This marker is for (title or subject): First Baptist Church of Judson

(Title subject to change by THC staff and/or State Marker Review Board.)

County: GREGG

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):
FM Road 1844, one mile west of Spur 502 (6.4 miles north of Longview)

Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable): On post in ground in front of the church.

Approval of County Historical Commission

The application and narrative history must be approved by the county historical commission before forwarding to the Texas Historical Commission.

Signature of CHC chair or Marker Committee chair: Norman H. Black, P.D.A.

Date: 2-23-98

Address: 417 Mobberly Ave.

Longview, Texas 75602

Phone: 903-757-2261

FAX: 903-7535337

The CHC chair or Marker Committee chair automatically will receive all copies of correspondence regarding this marker project.

Permission of owner for marker placement

Permission for placement of a marker must be obtained from the property owner. Please provide the name of a contact person if the owner is an institution, organization, or public entity. This section need not be completed if the marker is to be placed on right-of-way maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Name: (pastor leaving - being called to another church)

Contact person (if applicable): HAROLD W. STONE

Mailing address: RT 2 BOX 190 LONGVIEW, TX 75605

Phone: 903 663 1172 FAX: _____

Owner's Signature: Harold W. Stone, DEACON

Do you wish to receive copies of all correspondence concerning this marker application? ☒ Yes ☐ No

To whom should the request for payment be addressed?

Name: HAROLD W. STONE

Contact person (if applicable): _____

Mailing address: RT 2 BOX 190 LONGVIEW TX 75605

Phone: 903 663 1172 FAX: _____

Does this person wish to receive copies of all other correspondence concerning this application? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is there anyone else to whom all correspondence concerning this marker application should be addressed? (One additional name and address only, please.)

Name: Wesley L. Whatley

Mailing address: 1305 Spring Hill Rd Longview, Texas 75605-2627

Phone: 903 759-3198 FAX: _____

(over)

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted.

If the marker is to be placed on the highway right-of-way, it will be shipped directly to the district highway engineer.

Name: Dr. Norman Black

Street address: 417 Mobberly Ave.

City Longview,

State Texas

Zip 75602

Phone: 903-757-2261

TYPE AND SIZE OF MARKER DESIRED (Please check one only.)

Subject Markers

This type of marker is solely educational in nature and conveys no legal restrictions to the property. Subject markers are appropriate for topics such as cemeteries, church congregations, businesses, persons, events, and institutions. These markers should not be attached to buildings. If the marker is to be attached to a surface other than the foundry-provided post, please provide the requested information in the space below.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) | \$250 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post | \$850 \$950.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) | \$800 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post | \$550 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) | \$500 |

If not on post, to what (block of granite, gatepost, etc.) will the marker be attached? _____

Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) _____

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Markers

Markers conveying the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) designation are reserved solely for historic structures deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integrity and historical associations. The RTHL designation does carry a measure of legal protection for the structure (see Marker Policies 13 through 18) and for that reason we must have a legal description (lot and block numbers) for the property to be designated. The most commonly used marker for conveying this designation is the medallion and plate (also referred to as a building marker); however, the 18" x 28" or 27" x 42" size marker may be ordered for those who wish a greater amount of historical information to appear in the marker text. Careful attention should be paid so as not to damage historic building material if the marker is to be mounted directly onto the structure. The THC staff can provide alternate ideas for mounting upon request.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medallion and 16" x 12" plate with post | \$400 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medallion and 16" x 12" plate without post (see below) | \$350 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post | \$850 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) | \$800 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post | \$550 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) | \$500 |

If not on post, to what (building, gate, etc.) will the marker be attached? _____

Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) _____

Legal description of property (lot and block number; metes and bounds): _____

Before forwarding your material to the Texas Historical Commission, please check to make sure you've included the following items. Incomplete applications cannot be considered and may be returned to the applicant.

- ✓ completed application form signed by the county historical commission chair or marker committee chair
- ✓ narrative history with reference notes and bibliography
- ✓ photograph of the proposed marker location (do not use instant/Polaroid photos)
- ✓ map indicating marker location and other sites related to the marker topic
- ✓ historic photo of property and current photographs of all elevations (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ legal description of property (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ floor plans (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ site plan (RTHL markers only)

Mail completed applications to:

Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276 512/463-5853

Additional items, including directional signs and replacement parts for 1936 markers, are available. Please contact the Local History Programs office for a separate order form.

History of the First Baptist Church of Judson Judson, Texas

Lawrenceville School was used as a place of worship by many Christians in the 1870's in northern Gregg County. Many who attended were of the Baptist Faith. Around 1880 thirteen people obligated themselves financially to start a fund in order to build a Baptist Church. They were: F. M. Ponder, Hiram Whatley, W. N. Dickinson, E. Prewett, J. W. Lawrence, R. W. Persons, Davis Adrian, Judge Blackburn, J. W. Croft, E. E. Crain, Mrs. Lewis, and two anonymous donors. They pledged \$25.50 and 500 board feet of lumber¹.

Judson Baptist Church was officially organized on September 14, 1883². W. B. Brewer (1883-1887) was the first Elder. Silas A. Smart and A. E. Hiatt were elected Deacons September 9, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Renfro were charter members. That same year the church was named Judson upon the recommendation of Mrs. Hiram (Georgia) Whatley³. She had been a member of Judson Baptist Church in Lawrenceville, Alabama, before her family moved to Texas in 1870.

Adoniram Judson (1788-1850) was America's first foreign missionary. He was born in Massachusetts, graduated from Brown University, and studied for the ministry at Andover Seminary where he became a member of a foreign mission interest group⁴. He and his wife Ann sailed for India in 1812 as Congregationalist missionaries, but embraced the Baptist point of view on baptism while aboard ship. While in Burma, he was imprisoned for two years under dreadful conditions accused of being a British spy. He later translated the English Bible into

¹ Paper of Mrs. Hiram (Georgia) Whatley

² Church Roll & Record Book #2, pg. 1

³ Baptist Progress, Vol. XXIX, No. 15

⁴ Adoniram Judson, Faith C. Bailey, pgs. 7-20

Burmese, produced an English to Burmese/Burmese to English dictionary and composed much literature. He was a master at training evangelists and pastors informally. He served for 38 years as a foreign missionary in Burma⁵.

The charter members felt it necessary to organize the church since there was no other church of like faith in their immediate neighborhood. In keeping with the principles of a Missionary Baptist Church, her government was of a democratic nature, said members adopting through their Articles of Faith and Rules of Order, "that the governmental power is in the hands of the people; that the right of a majority of members should rule in accordance with the law of Christ; that the power of the church could not be alienated; and that church action was final." Judson Baptist Church adopted the 20 Articles of Faith as presented in J. M. Pendleton's original church manual⁶. They continued to meet at Lawrenceville School until early 1894.

During 1886-87 the church elected messengers to participate in matters of business during the annual gathering of sister churches at Association (Baptist Missionary Association) and District meetings⁷.

On Sunday, September 26, 1891, a committee composed of J. H. Newton, G. C. Renfro, and A. H. Crawford submitted to the Church recommendations and specifications of a building in which to worship. The House of Worship would be 43 feet long and 32 feet wide, frame structure, walls 12 feet high, stand north and south, three windows on east and west sides, two windows on north and south ends with windows being 12"x 16". There would be two rows of seats, eight feet long on each side of the church with the middle row being 10 feet long.

⁵ Who's Who in Christian History, J. D. Douglas, pgs. 386-387

⁶ Church Roll & Record Book #1, pgs. 17-29

⁷ Church Roll & Record Book #1, pg. 62

R. E. Attlesey, A. H. Crawford, G. C. Renfro, S. A. Smart, and sisters Nobie Page and Mrs. Hiram (Georgia) Whatley were to solicit contributions⁸.

On April 22, 1893, a committee was chosen to select a site for the building of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Whatley responded by donating a one-acre tract of land on which the church was built⁹. The church was completed in less than one year. The present building is located on the same plot of land.

On October 26, 1894, County Judge J. T. Smith appointed Hiram Whatley as presiding officer, and designated "Judson Courthouse" as the place designated by law as the voting place of Precinct 2, Gregg County, Texas, for the General Election November 6, 1894¹⁰.

Judson Baptist Church is located 6.4 miles north of downtown Longview on Judson Road (Spur 502) and west 1.0 mile on FM Road 1844 (Seven Pines Road).

The oak trees still stand in front of the church with some showing small bulges on the trunk where hitching rings (used to tie horses and mules) had been driven in the trunk more than 100 years ago¹¹.

Since there was no baptistry, baptismal services were conducted in the creek east of the church (creek was dug out), later in the Will Fuller Pond (two miles west of church on Highway 1844), and later Whitehurst Lake (road junction of Judson Road and Highway 259). Services were usually conducted once a year, after the summer revival¹². Many years there were thirty or more candidates for Baptism, and after tiring the pastor was assisted by male church members¹³.

⁸ Op. Cit., pgs. 87-89

⁹ James Dixon Survey, Gregg Co., TX, vol. 122, pg, 102

¹⁰ Document from State of Texas, Papers of Mrs. Hiram Whatley

¹¹ Statement by Church Deacon, Harold Stone Personal Interview

¹² Statement by Church Member, Mrs. Van (Kathryn) McAfee, Personal Interview

¹³ Statement by Mrs. Neil (June) Killingsworth, Personal Interview

During the summer the church held one or more week long singing schools. People of all ages learned many techniques of singing one of which was the Sacred Harp singing style, and were taught how to read shaped notes, line out a melody, develop a pattern of leading, and how to dictate pitch by raising and lowering of the director's hand. On Sunday after the singing school, the church held an "all day singing and dinner on the ground." Most of Gregg County's better singers were a product of small church singing schools¹⁴.

The early members of Judson Baptist were mostly farmers, God-fearing, hard working, good citizens, loved their country, helped each other in times of need, and their word was their bond¹⁵. They met in Conference on Saturday, 7:00 p.m. before the fourth Sabbath of each month¹⁶. Church business was conducted at this time. The question was always asked if any member "had not lived up to duty" during the past month. If a member stated that he or she had not, and asked for forgiveness, all was forgiven. If a member reported seeing another member "not living up to duty," a committee was appointed to investigate the charges and reported back the next month. Opportunity was given for the member to acknowledge the unchristian conduct. All was forgiven if the person asked for forgiveness. The person who did not come forward and make acknowledgements was dismissed from the church. Unchristian conduct included: dancing, allowing dancing in the home, drinking, selling or making liquor, heresy (joining another denomination), and nonattendance. A male member could not be absent more than two consecutive Conferences without consent of the moderator (pastor)¹⁷.

¹⁴ Comments by Wesley W. Whatley

¹⁵ Church Covenant, Judson Baptist Church

¹⁶ Church Roll & Record Book #1, pg. 78

¹⁷ Judson Baptist Rules of Decorum, September 1900, Article 8

Judson Baptists have always supported foreign missions. The most noteworthy period was 1886-1902 when one-half of church tithes and offerings went to foreign missions¹⁸.

Shortly before 1900 Hiram A. "Gus" Whatley gave one acre of land immediately west of the church for a cemetery¹⁹. No cedar trees were to be planted, only magnolias and other evergreens²⁰. The cemetery has been enlarged since then with Ernest Holland and Elmer E. Stone giving one-half acres, each, to the Church²¹.

It is evident by looking at the grave markers in the cemetery that the men of the church answered the Call to Arms during armed conflict—Confederate veterans, veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam are buried there. Many members of the church are veterans.

With the church growing and in keeping with the Church Covenant to "religiously educate our children"²², the body elected to organize a Sunday School in July 1901²³.

On the first Sunday in November 1902, Sister Viola Stephens was elected to organize the Ladies Auxiliary. Miss Mary McLendon was elected President; Miss Elija Smith, Vice President; Mrs. Vannie Fuller, Secretary; and Miss Effie Smith, Treasurer²⁴.

On April 1, 1922, a time for weekly prayer meetings was established. They began each Sunday evening at 7:30²⁵.

The Baptist Young Peoples Training Union (B.Y.P.U.) was organized on April 6, 1924.

¹⁸ Church Roll & Record Book #1, pgs. 62-100

¹⁹ James Dixon Survey, Gregg Co., TX, vol. 122, pg. 102

²⁰ Judson Baptist Rules of Decorum adopted Sept. 1900, Article 18

²¹ Judson Cemetery Records

²² Church Covenant, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence, Book #1, 1885-1898

²³ Church Roll & Record Book #2, pg. 11

²⁴ Op. Cit., pg. 14

²⁵ Church Roll & Record Book #3, April 1, 1922 Minutes

Four Group Captains and a Quiz Leader were named²⁶. On June 9-11, 1941, Judson Baptist Church was the host church for the Annual State B.Y.P.U. Convention. More than 150 messengers and visitors attended. The Ladies Auxiliary had the task of cooking meals, washing/hand drying more than 450 plates, 1,200 knives, forks, and spoons each day²⁷.

The farmers in this area struggled to make a living in the 1920's due to falling cotton prices. Then came the stock market crash on October 29, 1929, that helped bring on the Great Depression. The 1930's was a period of high unemployment, low wages, and bank failures. Many lost entire savings. And yet, church members saw the need to build a new church. A finance committee composed of Lorene Hamby, Lois Mattox, Robert McLendon, and J. E. McKnight was responsible for raising funds for the new church building. The building was completed in late summer 1935. It was dedicated on Sunday, October 6, 1935. The morning dedication sermon was preached by Elder C. L. Cameron, and the afternoon sermon by Elder O. F. Barton. It contained the main auditorium, and four classrooms²⁸.

The church began full-time pastoral work on a day church members will always remember—the day was December 7, 1941. Elder B. E. Petty (1940-45) began full-time work. Two ordained ministers were members of the church, Elder H. L. Bruner and J. C. Harrell²⁹.

Active deacons in 1941 were: I. S. McLendon, Chairman of the Board; A. C. McAfee, Treasurer; Knox Smith, Charles Mattox, Ray Sparks, J. E. McKnight, Emmett Whitehurst, John Callaway, Jim Landers, and Bill Slater. Mrs. A. C. McAfee had been serving as Church Clerk since September 1924³⁰.

²⁶ Op. Cit., April 6, 1924 Minutes

²⁷ Op. Cit., June 9-11, 1941 Minutes

²⁸ Church Roll & Record Book #3, October 6, 1935 Minutes

²⁹ Op. Cit., December 7, 1941 Minutes

³⁰ Judson Baptist Church, Deacons List

Since 1941 the Church has purchased several more acres adjoining the original acre tract, and has purchased additional cemetery space³¹.

A new sanctuary was built in 1958 adjoining the old sanctuary. The old sanctuary was bricked with matching bricks. The debt was paid off in 1960.

For a number of years the church remained debt free. However, church members were active in mission support. They started a mission church, the Liberty Baptist Church on Loop 281, and support a mission church in Chicago. They also support the following: Baptist Encampment at Gary, Jacksonville Baptist College, local and foreign missions, Baptist Home for Children at Waxahachie, and the Baptist Missionary Alliance Seminary. The church presently has 264 members, with 112 who are active³².

In 1997 a new Fellowship Hall was started, and will be completed in early 1998. Church members have done all of the work, and it is paid for³³.

Present Deacons are: Ernie Gallaway, Chairman; Seborn Smith, Jerry Long, Johnny Steed, Thomas McAfee, Gene Freeman, and Harold Stone³⁴.

Since its humble beginning in 1883, Judson Baptist Church has seen the community, seven miles north of Longview, become known as Judson. Before 1900, Lawrenceville School became Judson School. (Later Omega, Alpine, Tryon, and Winterfield schools consolidated with Judson.)

On December 8, 1952, Judson Post Office opened³⁵. State Highway north from Longview became known as Judson Road long ago. There are several businesses with the name

³¹ Statement by Church Deacon Harold Stone, Personal Interview

³² Ibid

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ P.O. Records, Betty Little, Postmistress

of Judson, a Judson Plaza, and a Judson Lions Club. Adoniram Judson, America's first foreign missionary, sailed to India in 1812 never to know that a church would be named for him in a small community seven miles north of Longview, Texas in 1885, and a growing community named Judson has emerged.

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley L. Whalley

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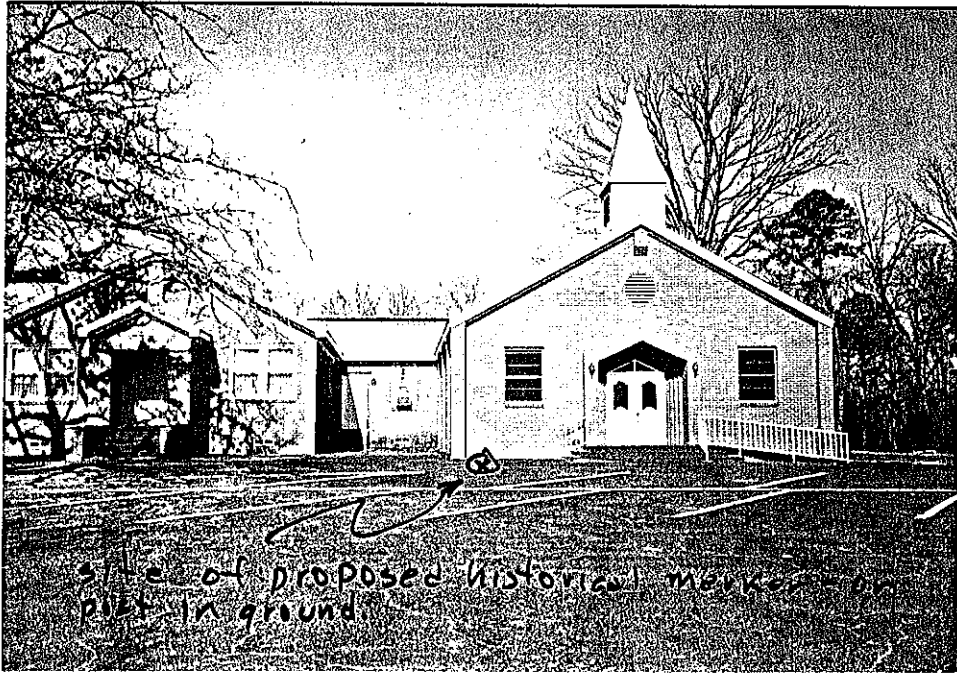
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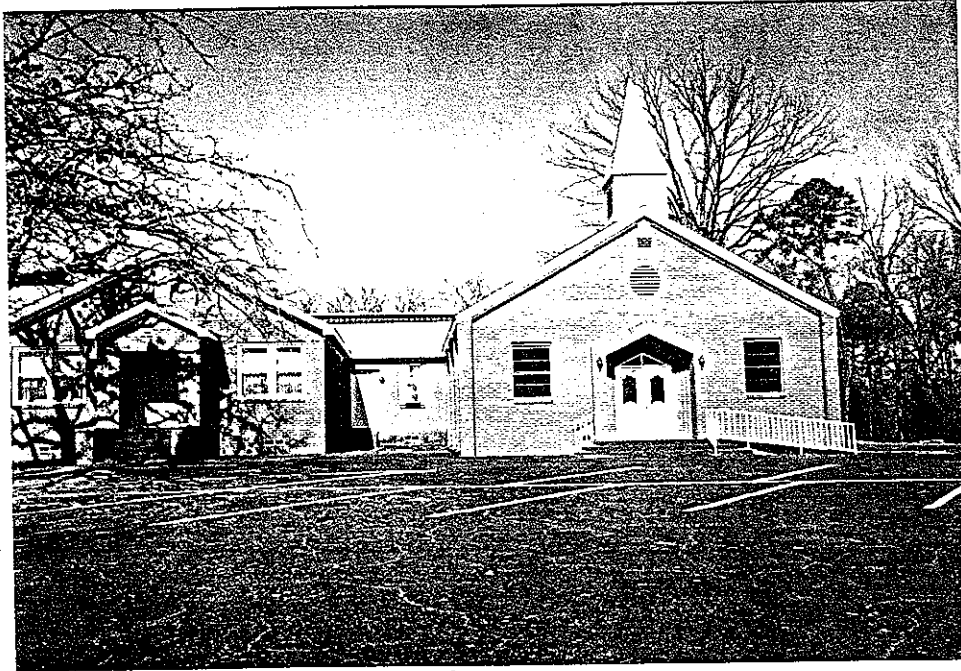
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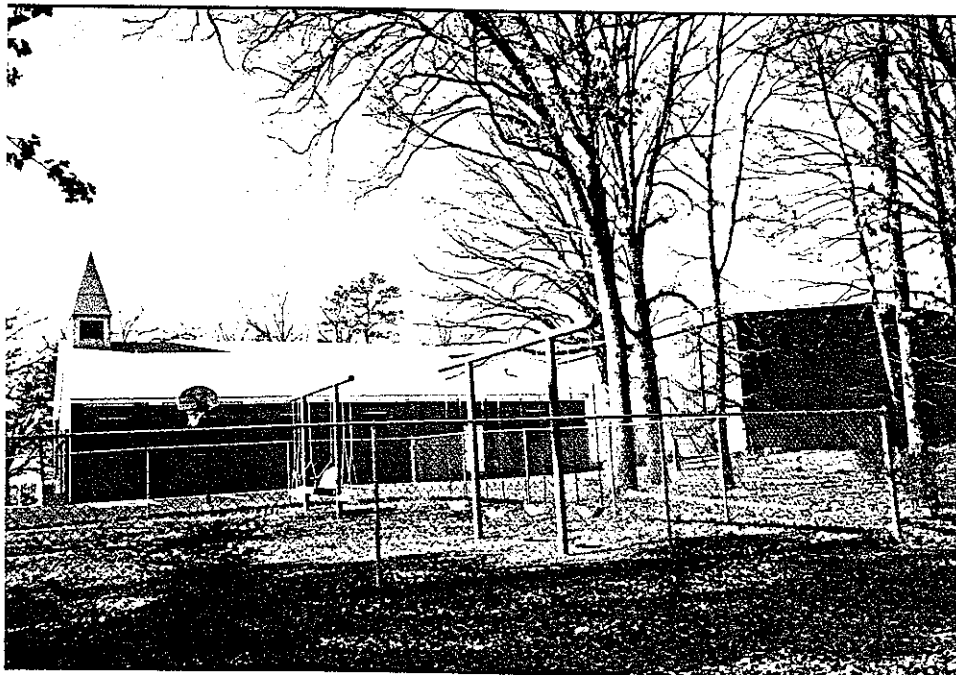
Whatley, Mrs. Hiram (Georgia) Document from The State of Texas.



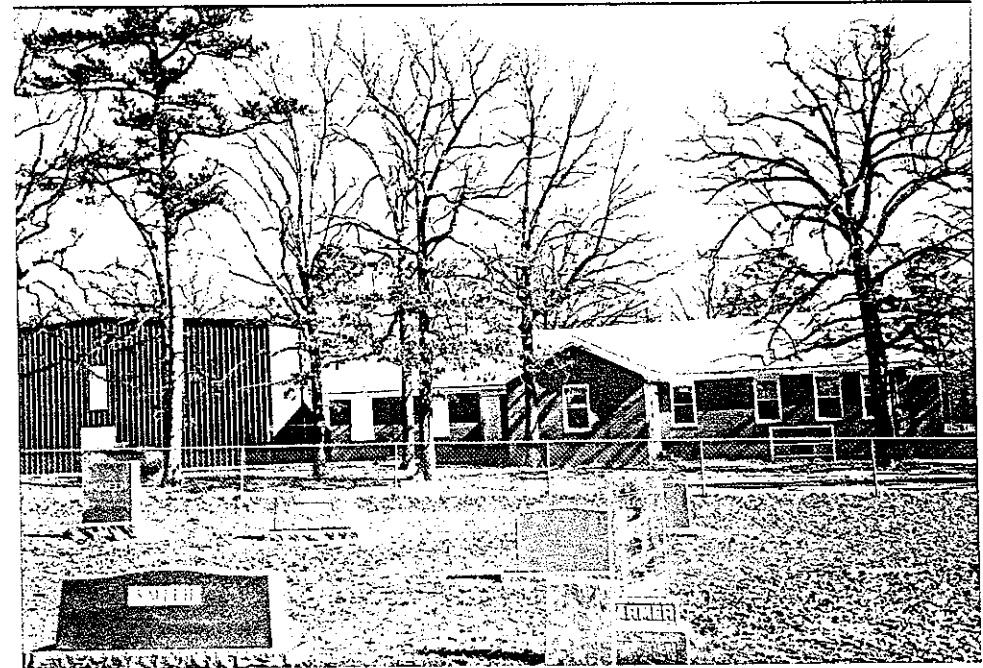
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - JUDSON



South (front side)



East side



West side

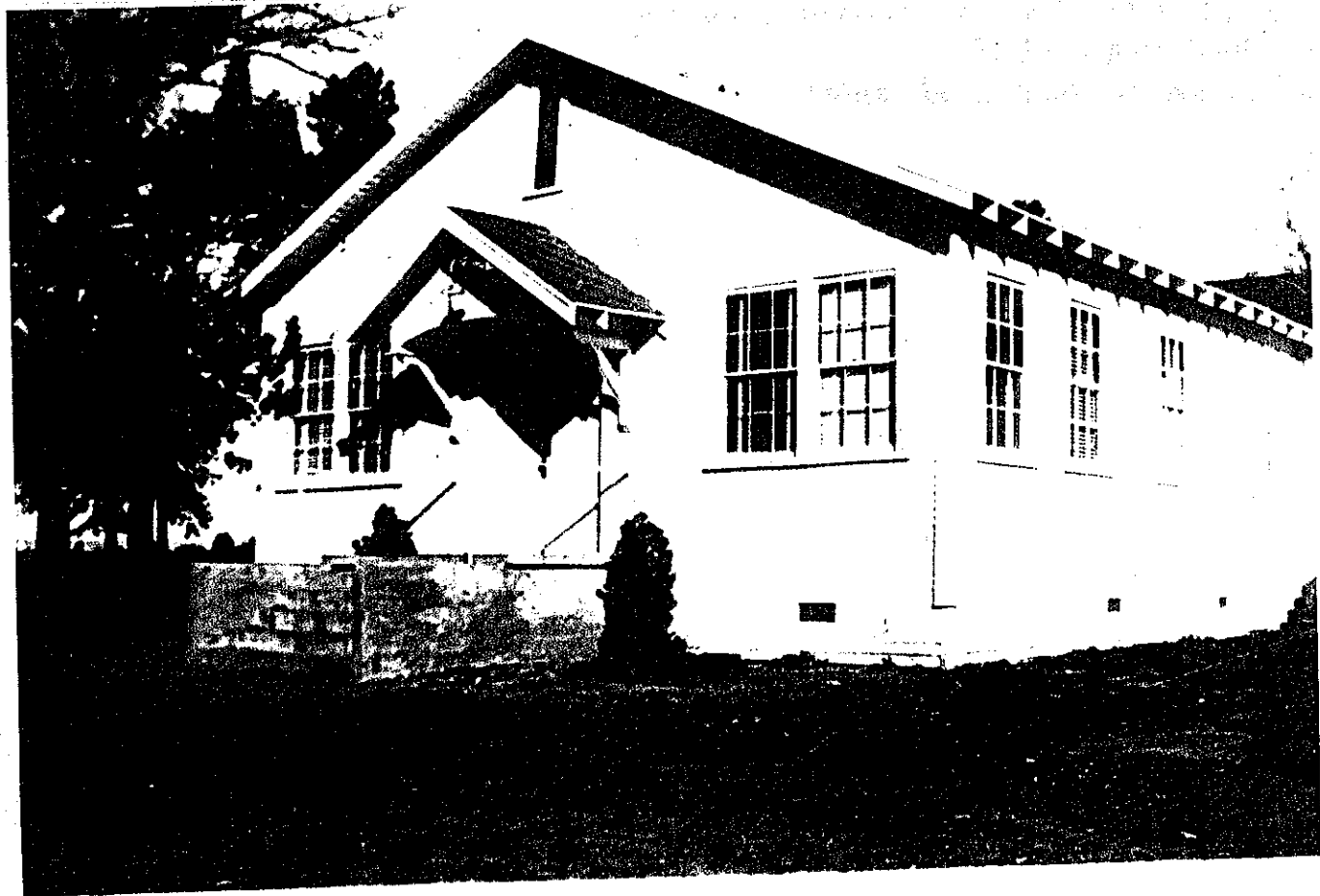
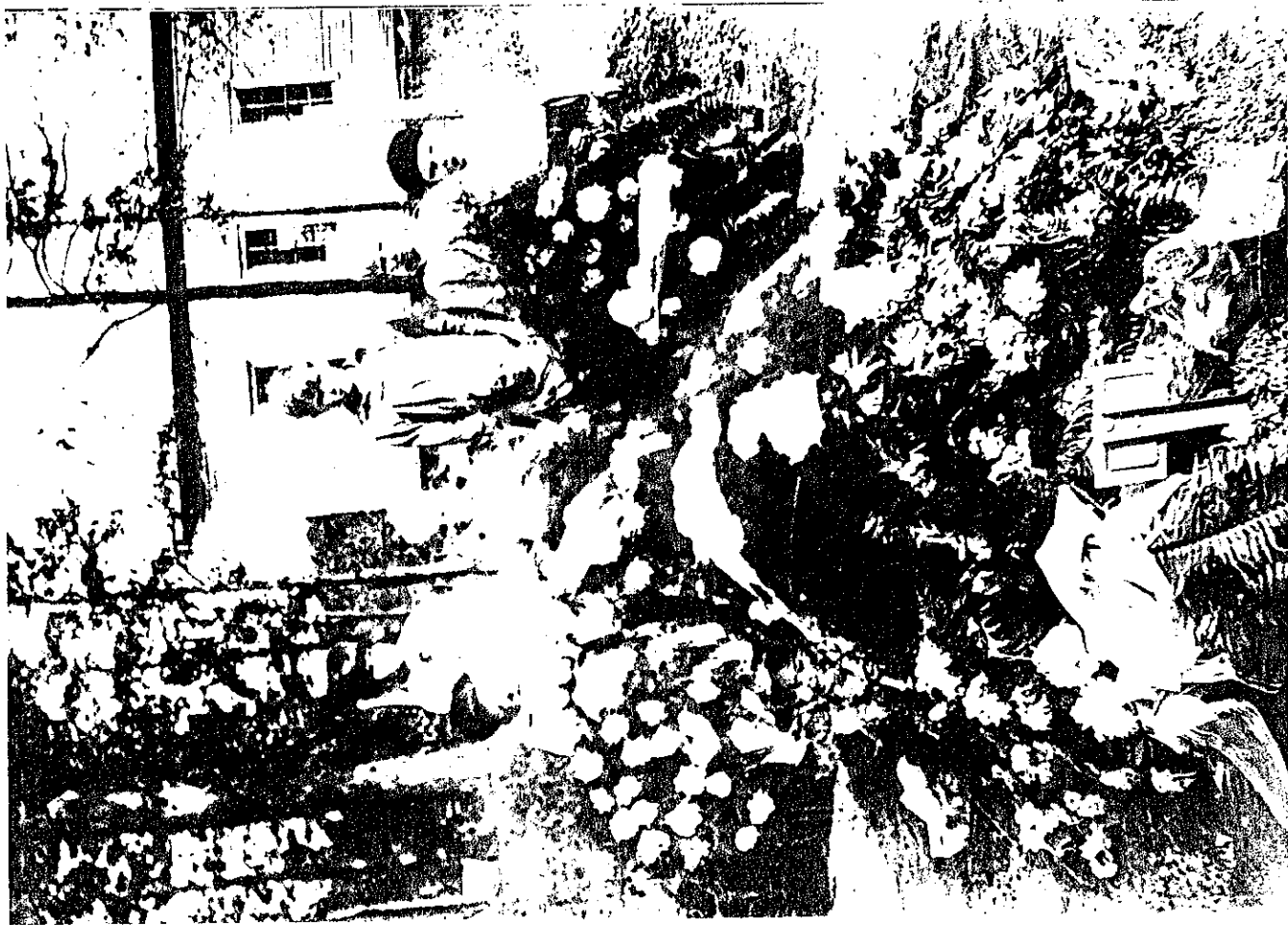


First Baptist Church of Tudson
FM Rd. 1844 (Seven Dinos Rd.)
1 mi. W. of Spvr 502 (6.4
mi. N. of Longview)

GREGG CO.

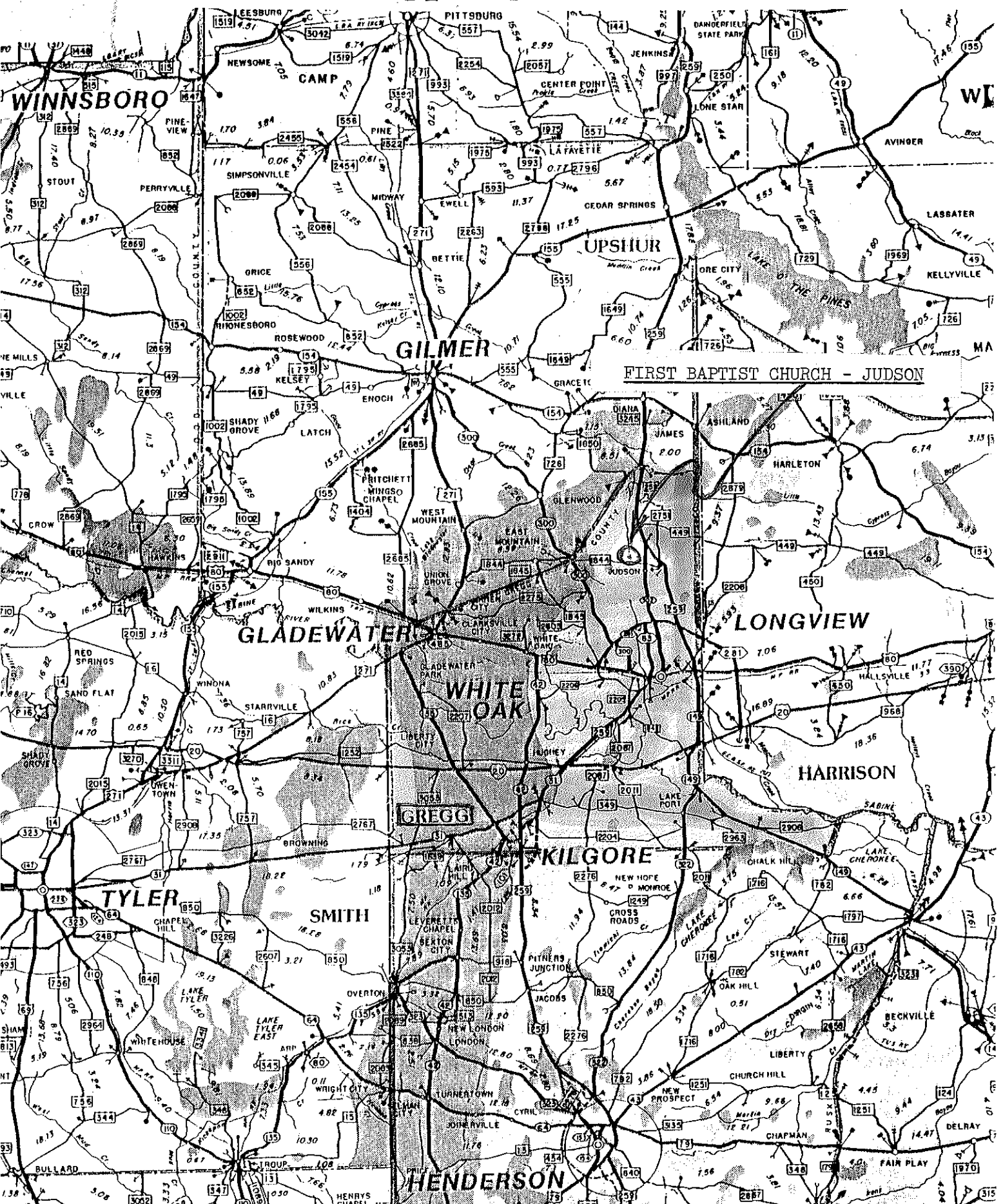
Church cemetery - looking NW
from church yard.

Feb 1998



Legend - overleaf

GREGG COUNTY



27" x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker with post
Gregg County (Job #15798)

Location: 6.4 mi. N of Longview on SH Spur 502; 1 mi. W on FM 1844

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON

IN THE 1870s THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY MET IN THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN WORSHIP SERVICES. THIRTEEN LOCAL BAPTISTS ORGANIZED THEIR OWN CHURCH IN 1883, CONTINUING TO MEET IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING. FOUNDING MEMBER GEORGIA WHATLEY SUGGESTED THE NAME JUDSON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR A CHURCH SHE HAD ATTENDED IN LAWRENCEVILLE, ALABAMA WHICH WAS NAMED IN HONOR OF ADONIRAM JUDSON (1788-1850), AMERICA'S FIRST FOREIGN MISSIONARY. IN 1886, THE JUDSON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BEGAN TO SUPPORT MISSION WORK.

MEMBERS BEGAN TO PLAN FOR THEIR OWN HOUSE OF WORSHIP IN 1891. GEORGIA AND HIRAM WHATLEY DONATED A PLOT OF LAND, AND THE STRUCTURE WAS ERECTED IN 1894. BAPTISMAL SERVICES WERE CONDUCTED IN THE CREEK EAST OF THE CHURCH AFTER THE YEARLY SUMMER REVIVAL HAD TAKEN PLACE. THE BAPTISMS LATER WERE HELD ON A MEMBER'S PROPERTY AND THEN AT NEARBY WHITEHURST LAKE.

IN THE LATE 1890s H. A. WHATLEY GAVE ONE ACRE FOR A CEMETERY. SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGAN IN 1901, A LADIES' AUXILIARY WAS FORMED IN 1902, AND THE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION WAS ORGANIZED AT THE JUDSON CHURCH IN 1924. A NEW CHURCH BUILDING WAS ERECTED IN 1935, AND THE CHURCH WAS ABLE TO HIRE ITS FIRST FULL-TIME PASTOR IN 1941. BY 1900 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2, GREGG COUNTY, WAS KNOWN AS JUDSON. IN 1952 A U. S. POST OFFICE OPENED IN THE COMMUNITY, TAKING THE NAME JUDSON.

THE MEMBERSHIP, MANY OF THEM DESCENDANTS OF THE PIONEERS OF THIS PART OF GREGG COUNTY, NUMBERED MORE THAN 260 IN 1998. THE CONGREGATION CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE IN MISSION WORK AND IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF JUDSON.

PLEASE CHECK ONE AND SIGN:

(1998)

☒ I approve this text as written.

☐ Please consider the revisions as
noted on this copy.

Dr. Norman Black, Ch. Gregg C.H.C.
(signature)

8-22-98

First Baptist Church of Judson
Gregg County (Job #16598)- incise on back of marker

J. B. BAUCUM, JR.
MITCHELL BILLINGSLEY
B. M. BIRDSONG
NELLIE BOYD
LOUISE BRELSFORD
E. T. & MARTHA BRILEY
BILLY R. CABBINESS
CHARLES DAVIS
DWAYNE HARRIS
DIANE HOLLIS
BUCK JORDAN
JUDSON LIONS CLUB
JUNE WHATLEY KILLINGSWORTH
JO ANN, KATHRYN, & RAY LANDERS
KATHRYN McAFEE
THOMAS McAFEE
EDWIN McKNIGHT
JESSIE McKNIGHT
MATTIE BELLE REPPOND
BYRON ROACH
SAM SATTERWHITE
JUDGE MICKEY SMITH
MELVIN SPARKS
LARRY STOKES
HAROLD STONE
KEITH STONE
GEORGE WHATLEY
ROBERT WHATLEY
WESLEY L. WHATLEY
LINDA WHITEHURST
TOMMY YOUNG

PLEASE CHECK ONE AND SIGN:

☒ I approve this text as written.

☐ Please consider the revisions as
noted on this copy.

Debra M. Baet Ch. Gregg C. H. C.
(signature)
9-22-98



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

George W. Bush • Governor
John L. Nau, III • Chairman
Curtis Tunnell • Executive Director

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

September 4, 1998

Harold W. Stone, Deacon
First Baptist Church of Judson
Route 2 Box 190
Longview, TX 75605

RE: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON
27" x 42" marker w/ post
Job # 15798 - Inscription Revision

Dear Mr. Stone:

Enclosed is the revised inscription for the above-referenced historical marker. I have tried to incorporate most of the changes that you suggested, but various style and spacing requirements may have required some compromising.

If you approve the inscription, please sign and return the enclosed copy of the text. If not, please let me know and I will work on it further with you. To avoid any unnecessary delays, please consult with all parties listed below before returning your approval or submitting any suggested revisions.

As mentioned in earlier correspondence, the marker will not be ordered for casting until a final inscription is approved by all parties, as documented by the return of each person's signed copy of the inscription.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Emily Cole Bell".

Emily Cole Bell, Historian
Official Texas Historical Markers
History Programs Division

pc: Dr. Norman Black, Gregg CHC
Wesley L. Whatley

First Baptist Church of Judson
P.O. Box 53
Judson, Texas 75660-0053

March 5, 1999

Dr. Norman W. Black
611 Sylvan Drive
Longview, Texas 75602

Dear Dr. Black,

We are pleased that the Texas Historical Commission in Austin approved an official Texas Historical Marker for the First Baptist Church of Judson. We want to offer our special thanks to you and the Gregg County Historical Commission for all of your efforts in helping us to realize this special recognition. The marker recognizes the historical significance of our church. Organized in 1883, the First Baptist Church of Judson is one of the oldest congregations in Gregg County. With a present membership of 282, our church continues to be an active and growing congregation in the community of Judson.

As you also know, we plan to dedicate the historical marker in a brief dedication ceremony at 1:30 pm on Sunday, March 21, 1999. Several local dignitaries in addition to representatives of the Gregg County Historical Commission have been invited as special guests. The congregation has extended a special invitation to past and present church leaders.

We would like for you to serve as Master of Ceremonies for the dedication ceremony. Refreshments will be served in our new Family Life Center immediately following the dedication ceremony. Please bring any guests you wish to bring.

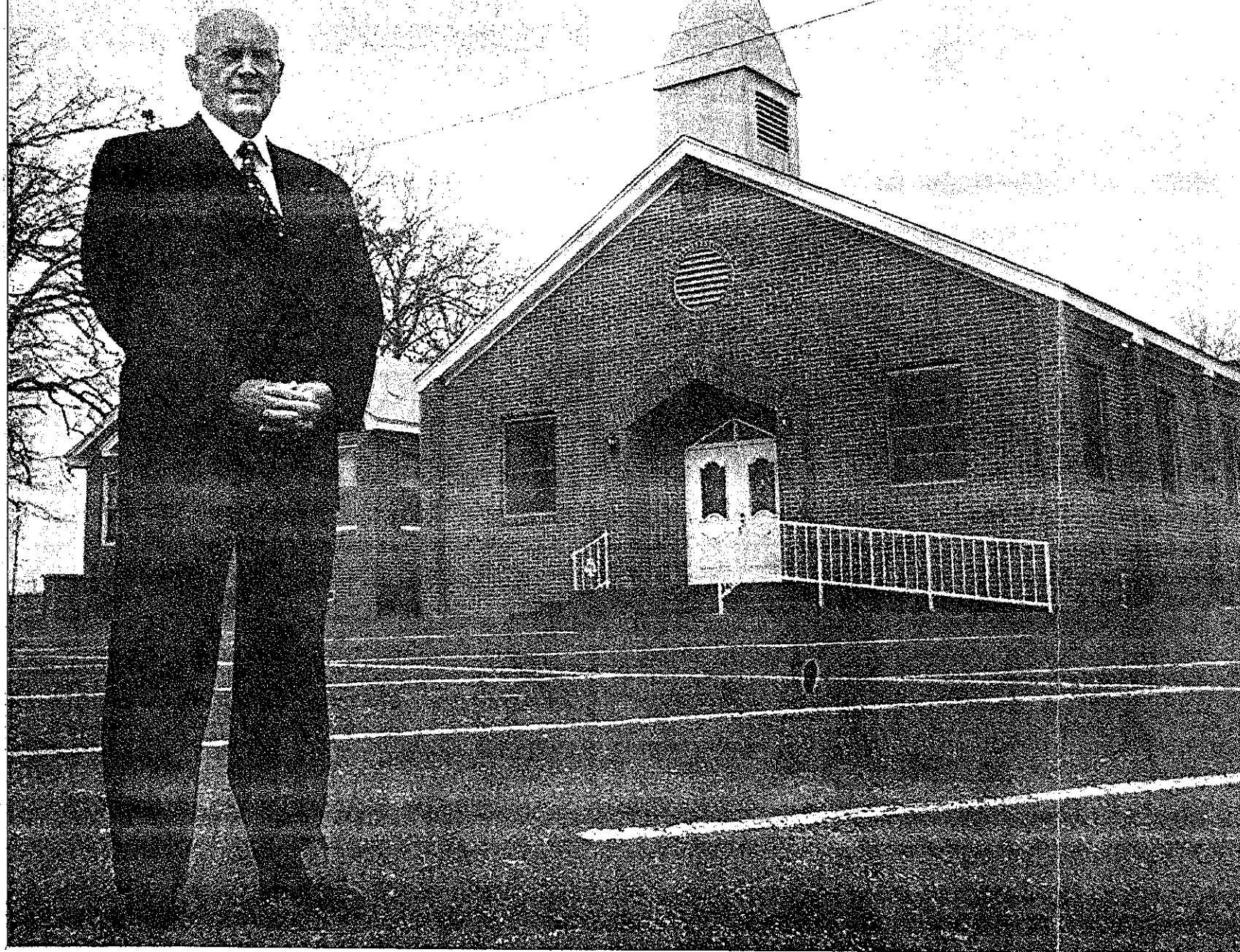
We look forward to meeting you and expressing our appreciation in person.

Sincerely yours,



Rev. Marvin F. Wittenburg
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Judson

Sunday, March 14, 1999



Wesley Whatley stands in front of the First Baptist Church of Judson, which will hold a dedication ceremony March 21 for a new historical marker honoring the church. Whatley researched the church's history, compiling the information that will go on the monument.

Kevin Green/Staff Photographer

Marker to detail history of First Baptist Church of Judson

By Anntoinette Moore

Staff Writer

The tens of thousands of Longview-area residents who drive Judson Road each day probably don't know it, but they are traveling a road with links to America's first missionary, Adoniram Judson, who lived from 1788-1850.

The road leads to the Judson community, named for the First Baptist Church of Judson, which in turn was named in honor of the missionary, Wesley Whatley said.

Whatley, a retired school administrator, has spent the past year or so researching the history of the church and the community. He has strong ties to the area: His great-grandfather, Hiram Whatley, donated land in 1894 to build the first church, and his great-grandmother, Georgia Whatley, suggested the name Judson.

Whatley's efforts will bear fruit at 1:30 p.m. March 21 when a new historical marker outlining the history of the church and community will be dedicated.

"The church is deserving of one, and it's the only church in Texas, to my knowledge, that was named in honor of America's first missionary," he said.

"I'm honored to have a small part in that. I think the man is deserving of recognition," said Whatley, who examined church and county records to gather information for the historical marker.

"The man must have been brilliant," he said of Judson, who grew up in Massachusetts, graduating from Brown University and studying for the ministry at Andover Seminary.

Judson and his wife, Ann, left Massachusetts for India in 1812 as Congregationalist missionaries, Whatley said. However, while sailing to India, they became believers in the total immersion way of baptism and so became Baptist missionaries.

Judson was imprisoned for two years in Burma after he was accused of being a British spy. He later translated the English Bible into Burmese and produced an English/Burmese and Burmese/English dictionary.

He served as a Baptist missionary and was a master teacher,

Judson From 1B

training evangelists in India and Burma for 38 years, Whatley said.

Whatley's great-grandparents moved from Alabama to East Texas, to what would become Judson, in 1870, he said.

Hiram Whatley "farmed and was a schoolteacher in the Lawrenceville School. Georgia Whatley was a homemaker. They had a number of children, and many of their descendants still live in this area," Whatley said.

Thirteen Baptists in the area formed a church Sept. 14, 1883, Whatley said. His great-grandfather was part of that

group. That same year, his great-grandmother suggested they name the church Judson Baptist Church in honor of the missionary, he said.

Georgia Whatley had belonged to Judson Baptist Church in Lawrenceville, Ala., before her family moved to Texas, Whatley said.

"I just feel real strong that those people sacrificed a lot. They formed that church during the Panic of 1883," when times were hard, he said. The original members pledged \$25.50 in cash and 500 board feet of lumber to provide financial resources for the church,

Whatley said.

The Baptists in the area met at the Lawrenceville School; they didn't yet have a church building, he said.

So, in 1894, Hiram Whatley donated an acre of land for a church building, Whatley said.

"My grandfather, Hiram Augustus (Whatley), gave an acre of land for the (church) cemetery, sometime before 1900," he said.

In 1935, church members again sacrificed to build a second church building, although it was the depths of the Great Depression, Whatley said.

Their sacrifice and dedication just shows their commitment to God, he said.

"The people of East Texas now will know how Judson community got its name. Everything comes from the church. It's all in honor of Adoniram Judson," Whatley said.

"I'm just grateful now that he will get a little recognition," he said.

The dedication ceremony will be in front of the church and will be led by the church's pastor, the Rev. Marvin Wittenburg, and Gregg County historian Dr. Norman Black.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON
HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION
Sunday, March 21, 1999., 1:30 P.M.

M.C. NWB Good afternoon. Welcome to the dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker: The First Baptist Church of Judson.

TRUMPET Heather Capehart will play the Star Spangled Banner.

INVOCATION Reverend Dannie Trimble, former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Judson, will give the invocation followed by remarks from Mr. Harold Stone.....Thank you Heather, Rev. Trimble and Mr. Stone.

GUESTS We have some guests with us this afternoon who I would like to introduce. First, for some of you who may not know, the Gregg County Historical Commission is an arm of the county government, appointed by the County Judge and Commissioners Court. It is the responsibility of the historical commission to protect and preserve our county's historical heritage and to encourage others to do the same. [We may have some members of the Historical Commission with us today] These proceedings are being taped by Nancy McWhorter, Director of the Gregg County Historical Museum. With her is Janet Brown, also of The Historical Museum.

OTHER GUESTS (Introduce other guests present.) *Jim Montgomery, County Pol. 1, Gregg Co*
Gerda Mc Hunt, sole surviving grandchild of Alvin & George Whitley.

LETTERS Mrs. Francis Satterwhite and Mr. Harold Stone will read some letters we've received pertaining to this event....Thank you Mrs. Satterwhite and Mr. Stone.

SPEAKERS (SMITH & MERRITT) We are very fortunate to have two of our most important elected Gregg County Officials with us today and they are going to speak to us: Gregg County Judge Mickey Smith and Texas State Representative Tommy Merritt....Judge Smith.

Thank you Judge Smith.

TOMMY M. And now, Tommy Merritt.....Thank you Tommy.

ADDRESS One who needs no introduction to us will bring the address,
Reverend Marvin Whittenberg.....Thank you, ~~Bother~~
Whittenberg.

DEDICATION & UNVEILING Before the marker is unveiled by Mr. Wesley Whatley and
Mr. Harold Stone, I want to dedicate this Official Texas
Historical Marker, and I am very proud to do so... I want to
dedicate this marker to the founding and past members, the
present members, and all the future members of the First
Baptist Church of Judson.
STOP UNVEILING.....Thank you Harold and Wes and
not incidentally, these two gentlemen did yeomen work to
make this occasion possible: Mr. Whatley did the research
and wrote the history for the historical marker application
and Mr. Stone did most of the planning, set the marker and
is responsible for the beautiful setting in which the marker
is placed. Many others helped, too. And Mr. Whatley will
READING - read the text of the historical marker..... Thank you, Wes.
TEXT

PRESENTAT. ~~What we will now see and hear is not on your program, for a~~
~~good reason.~~ Harold Stone will come over and make a
presentation.

BENEDICT. After the benediction, <sup>by Former Pastor
Irby Bates</sup> there will be a reception in the New
Fellowship Hall.....Rev. ~~Whittenberg~~
Bates

Thank you all for coming.

Joshua
Chap 4 V. 19

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON

HISTORICAL MARKER

DEDICATION



MARCH 21, 1999

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF JUDSON

MASTER OF CEREMONIES-----DR. BLACK
NATIONAL ANTHEM-----HEATHER CAPEHART
INVOCATION-----REV. DANNY TRIMBLE
WELCOME-----HAROLD STONE
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS-----DR BLACK
FRANCES SATTERWHITE
HAROLD STONE
SPEAKERS-----HONORABLE MICKEY SMITH
HONORABLE TOMMY MERRITT
ADDRESS-----REV. MARVIN WITTENBURG
DEDICATION OF MARKER-----DR BLACK
UNVEILING OF MARKER-----WESLEY WHATLEY
HAROLD STONE
READING OF MARKER-----WESLEY WHATLEY
PRESENTATION-----HAROLD STONE
BENEDICTION-----REV. IRBY BATES

IN THE 1870s THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY MET IN THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN WORSHIP SERVICES. THIRTEEN LOCAL BAPTISTS ORGANIZED THEIR OWN CHURCH IN 1883, CONTINUING TO MEET IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING. FOUNDING MEMBER GEORGIA WHATLEY SUGGESTED THE NAME JUDSON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR A CHURCH SHE HAD ATTENDED IN LAWRENCEVILLE ALABAMA WHICH WAS NAMED FOR MISSIONARY ADONIRAM JUDSON (1788-1850), AMERICA'S FIRST FOREIGN MISSIONARY. IN 1886, THE JUDSON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BEGAN TO SUPPORT MISSION WORK. MEMBERS BEGAN TO PLAN FOR THEIR OWN HOUSE OF WORSHIP IN 1891 GEORGIA AND HIRMAN WHATLEY DONATED A PLOT OF LAND, AND THE STRUCTURE WAS ERECTED IN 1894. BAPTISMAL SERVICES WERE CONDUCTED IN THE CREEK EAST OF THE CHURCH AFTER THE YEARLY SUMMER REVIVAL HAD TAKEN PALCE. THE BAPTISMS LATER WERE HELD ON A MEMBER'S PROPERTY AND THEN AT NEARBY WHITEHURST LAKE. IN THE LATE 1890S H.A. WHATLEY GAVE ONE ACRE FOR A CEMETERY. SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGAN IN 1901, A LADIES' AUXILIARY WAS FORMED IN 1902, THE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION WAS ORGANIZED AT THE JUDSON CHURCH IN 1924. A NEW CHURCH BUILDING WAS ERECTED IN 1935, AND THE CHURCH WAS ABLE TO HIRE ITS FIRST FULL-TIME PATOR IN 1941. BY 1900 PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.2 GREGG COUNTY, WAS KNOWN AS JUDSON. IN 1952 AN U.S. POST OFFICE OPENED IN THE COMMUNITY, TAKING THE NAME JUDSON. THE MEMBERSHIP, MANY OF THEM DESCENDANTS OF THE PIONEERS OF THIS PART OF GREGG COUNTY, NUMBERED MORE THAN 260 IN 1998. THE CONGREGATION CONTINUES TO BE ACTIVE IN MISSION WORK AND IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF JUDSON.