



Gregg County Historical Commission

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

417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone
903-757-2261

October 13, 1991

Frances Rickard, Director
Local History Programs
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Requests for Official Texas Historical Marker and Official Texas
Grave Marker for John Ben Shepperd.

Dear Frances:

The Gregg County Historical Commission would like to erect an Official Texas Historical Marker commemorating the life of John Ben Shepperd. I know you are intimately aware of Mr. Shepperd's great contributions to the State of Texas as Secretary of State, Attorney General and in the field of historical preservation. It is our feeling that a man of his stature and prominence is deserving of a marker which we would like to place in his hometown of Gladewater, and request the waiver of the 20 year rule.

The Gladewater Historical Society would like this historical marker dedicated on May 1, 1992, the first day of the three day "Gusher Days" celebration.

Therefore, I am enclosing an application with biographical data which will appear in the new Handbook of Texas. Also enclosed are copies of Mr. Shepperd's obituaries, pertinent articles, and an unedited version of his vita. A photograph of the proposed site of the proposed marker is included.

Also, John Ben's widow, Mamie S. Shepperd, would like to have an Official Texas Historical Grave Marker for John Ben's grave in the Shepperd Family Cemetery in Gladewater. The waiving of the 20 year rule is also requested for the same reasons as for the historical marker. However, no specific dedication date for the grave marker is requested. I am enclosing an application for the grave marker.

Sincerely,

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.

Enc.

APPLICATION FORM
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): John Ben Shepperd
Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):
Shepperd Family Cemetery on grounds of Shepperd Home; 2 1/2 miles south of
Gladewater on Country Club Road at Old Highway 135 (west side of junction).
County: Gregg
Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable):



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.

Chair's Signature: Norman H. Hall, D.D.A. Date: 10-13-91
The CHC 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 by 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 State Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

Name: John Ben Shepperd Estate
Contact person (if applicable): Mamie S. Shepperd, Ind. Executrix
Mailing address: Route 3, Box 298
Gladewater, Texas 75647-9332 Phone: 903-845-4546

Owner's Signature: Mamie S. Shepperd
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: Mamie S. Shepperd
(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization, or public entity.)
Mailing address: Route 3, Box 298
Gladewater, Texas 75647-9332 Phone: 903-845-4546

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: _____
Mailing address: _____
Phone: _____

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: Mamie S. Sheppard
Street address: Country Club Road at the intersection of old Kilgore Hwy (old SH 135)
Gladewater, Texas 75647-9332 Phone: 903-845-4546

TYPE AND SIZE OF MARKER DESIRED (please check one)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) | \$225 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post | \$750 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) | \$700 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post | \$450 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) | \$400 |

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). 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 | \$350 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medallion and 16" x 12" plate without post (see below) | \$300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post | \$750 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) | \$700 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post | \$450 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) | \$400 |

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

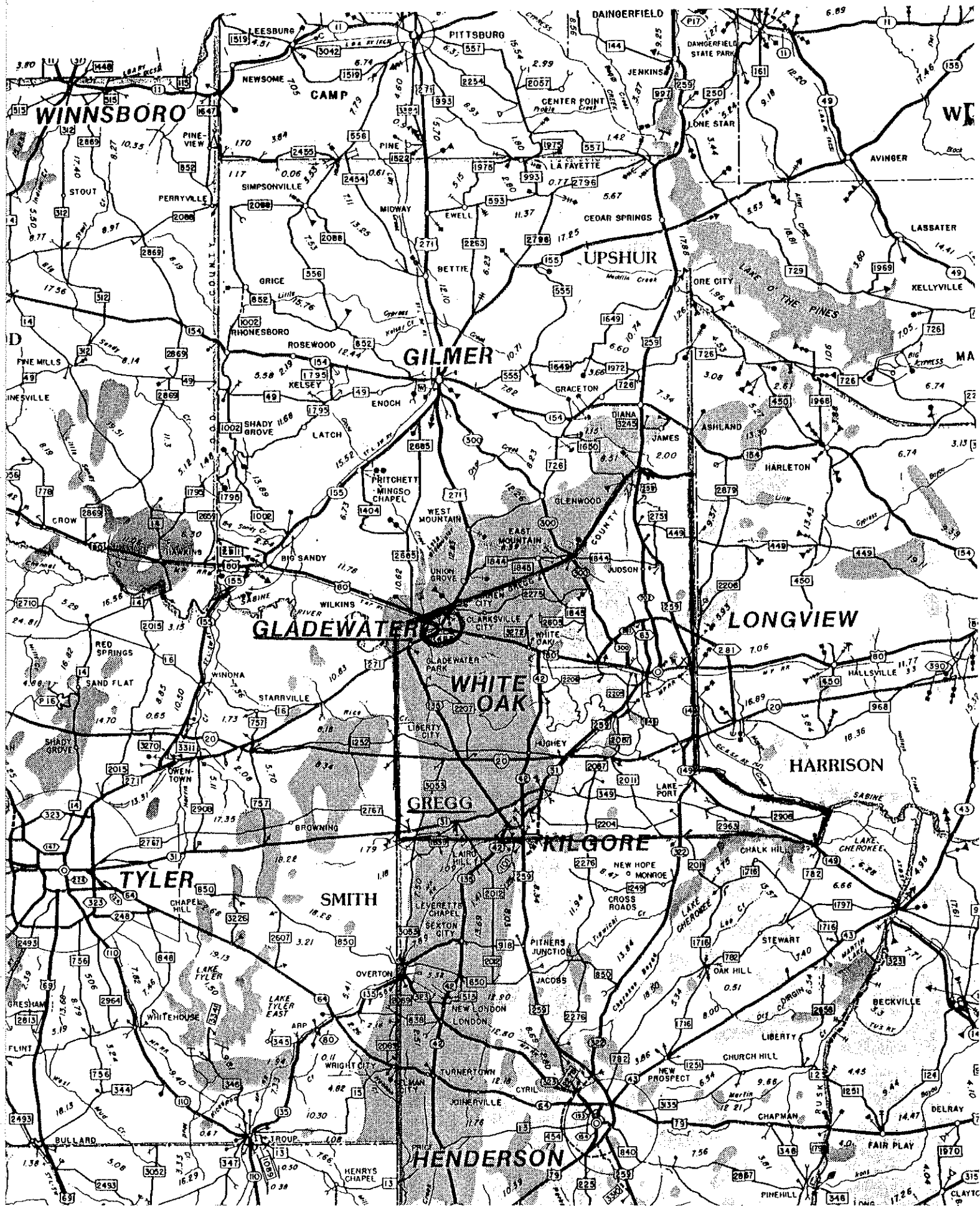
Additional items, including paperweights, directional signs, and replacement parts for 1936 markers are available. Please contact the State Marker Program for a separate order form.

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.

- ✓ completed application form signed by the county historical commission
- ✓ narrative history with footnotes and bibliography
- ✓ photograph of the proposed marker location
- ✓ 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)

Mail completed applications to:
State Marker Program, Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711
512/463-6100

EAST TEXAS OVERVIEW



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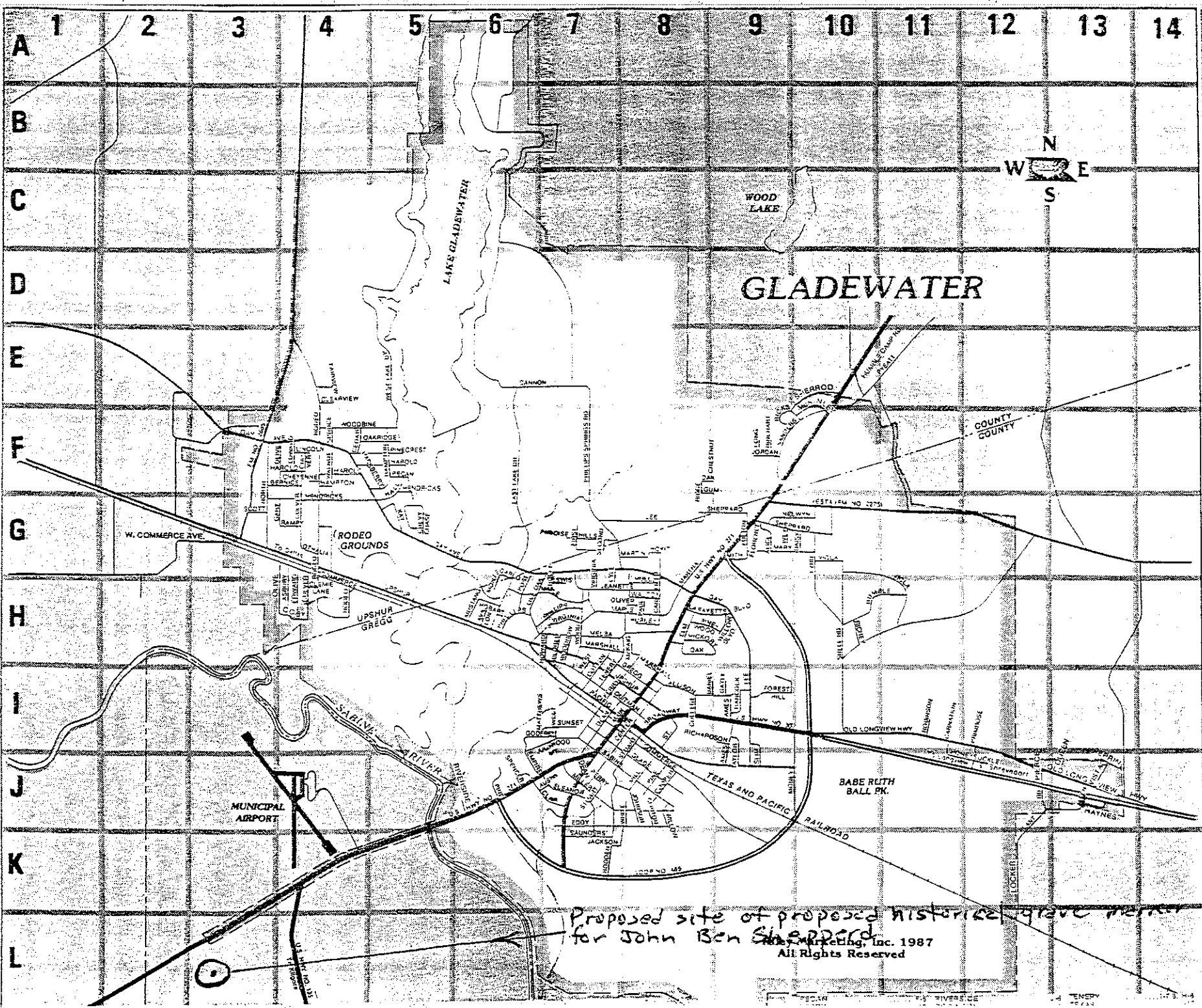
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CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

November 5, 1991

Dr. Norman Black, Chair
Gregg County Historical Commission
417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, TX 75602

RE: JOHN BEN SHEPPERD
Grave Marker

Dear Dr. Black:

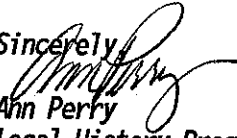
We have received the above-referenced marker application. The application will be reviewed and evaluated by the Texas Historical Commission staff in the order in which it has been received. Currently, there is a 2-3 month wait between the time subject marker applications are received and evaluated. Because applications for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designations (RTHLs) require an architectural review in addition to an historical evaluation, RTHL applications may take slightly longer. Should additional information be needed for the review, we will contact you and any parties listed below at that time. After any deficiencies have been corrected, we will send copies of the application to the members of the State Marker Review Board, who will make the final determination of the topic's acceptability for marking.

We will notify all parties as soon as the marker committee makes its decision. If the topic is approved for marking, payment will be requested at that time. If not approved, the application will be returned along with a letter of explanation.

Because of the variables involved in the marker process, and because we must coordinate our orders with the schedule of the contracting foundry, we suggest that the date of the marker dedication not be set until the completed marker is received.

We appreciate the effort made to record this topic. Should there be any questions about the status of this marker application, please contact me at the letterhead address and phone number above.

Sincerely,

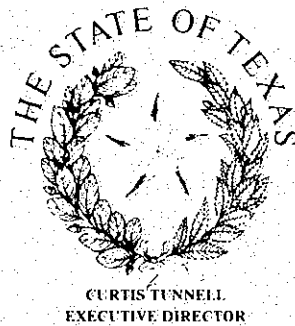

Ann Perry

Local History Programs

pc: Mamie S. Shepperd

P.S. Because we must have a narrative that includes footnotes and a bibliography, we can't accept the submitted version of the Handbook article. However, there should have been an earlier version of the Handbook of Texas article with footnotes. Please submit that as soon as possible. Also, please submit a photo of proposed marker location.

The State Agency for Historic Preservation



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

February 10, 1992

Mamie S. Shepperd
Route 3, Box 298
Gladewater, Texas 75647-9332

Dear Mrs. Shepperd:

It is an honor for me to announce that the State Marker Review Board has reviewed and approved an Official Texas Historical Marker for John Ben Shepperd for placement at his grave in the Shepperd Family Cemetery near Gladewater. A marker for John Ben Shepperd, sponsored by the Gladewater Historical Society, to be placed in front of the First State Bank Building in Gladewater also was approved.

Payment for the marker is due at this time. The Official Texas Historical Grave Marker you requested costs \$225, so a check in that amount, made payable to the Texas Historical Commission, should be mailed to the letterhead address at your earliest convenience.

Once payment is received, our staff will prepare the inscription, and a copy will be sent to you and any other parties listed below for review. The inscription will not be written until after payment is received.

The Texas Historical Commission is honored to be able to play a part in commemorating the contributions of John Ben Shepperd. It is particularly significant that this marker has been approved during the 30th anniversary year of the Texas historical marker program, which he had such a vital role in developing. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Frances Rickard, Director
Local History Programs

cc: Dr. Norman Black, Gregg CHC ✓

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

MARKER DEDICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

If you would like your marker dedication listed in the Calendar of Events in the agency's monthly newsletter, *The Medallion*, please complete the following items and return this form to the State Marker Program.

The form must be submitted no later than the 15th of the month that is two months prior to the month of the dedication. For example, information for a dedication in January should be turned in no later than November 15; for a May dedication, the form should be submitted no later than March 15.

TITLE OF MARKER: John Ben Shepperd Grave Marker

COUNTY: Gregg

CITY OR COMMUNITY: Gladewater

DATE OF DEDICATION: May 1, 1992

PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM: Dr. Norman W. Black

Name
417 Mobberly Ave.

Address
Longview, Texas 75602

City, Zip Code
(903) 757-2261

Area Code and Telephone Number

MAIL TO: State Marker Program
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

*NOTE: This form replaces all previous marker dedication announcement forms.
Please discard all earlier forms.*

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CJB), 7/21/92, revised 10/19/92

Official Texas Historical Grave Marker

Gregg County (Job #06492)

Location: Shepperd Family Cemetery, Country Club Rd. & SH 135, 2.5 mi. S of
Gladewater

JOHN BEN SHEPPERD*
(OCTOBER 19,1915-MARCH 8,1990)***

GLADEWATER NATIVE JOHN BEN
SHEPPERD WAS APPOINTED TEXAS
SECRETARY OF STATE IN 1950,ELECTED
ATTORNEY GENERAL IN 1952 AND 1954,
HE RETIRED FROM PUBLIC OFFICE IN
1957 AND MOVED TO ODESSA,HE BE-
CAME A PROMINENT INSURANCE,
BANKING,AND PETROLEUM EXECUTIVE,AT
THE REQUEST OF GOVERNORS AND
PRESIDENTS,HE SERVED ON 7 STATE
AND NATIONAL BOARDS,INCLUDING THOSE
CONCERNED WITH THE ARTS AND
HISTORIC PRESERVATION,HE WAS TEXAS
AND U.S.JAYCEES PRESIDENT.**

RECORDED - 1992***

*1/2 inch lettering

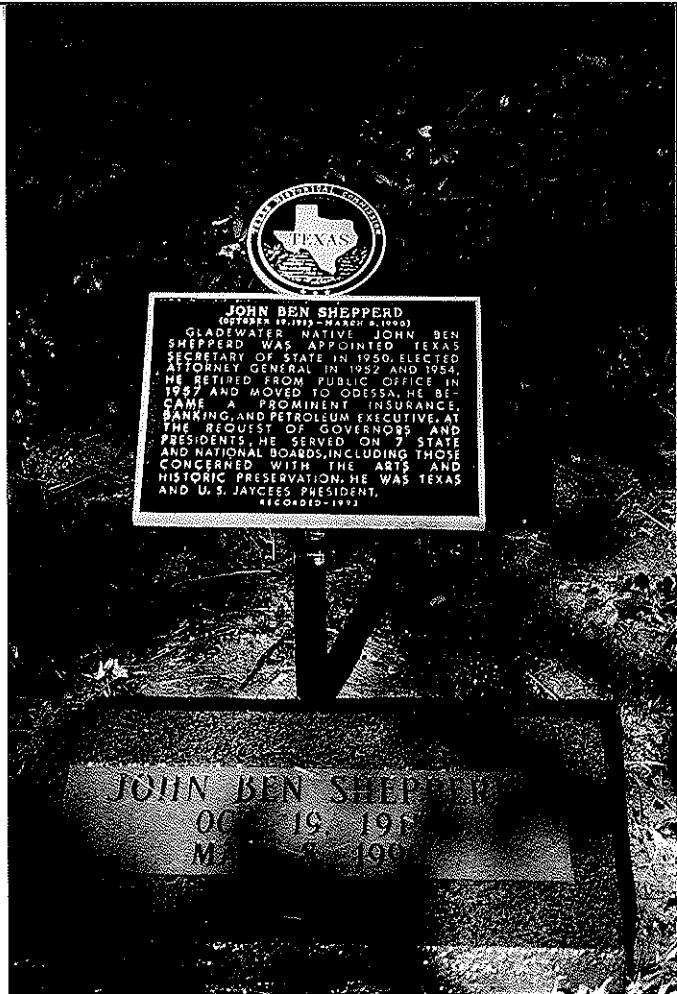
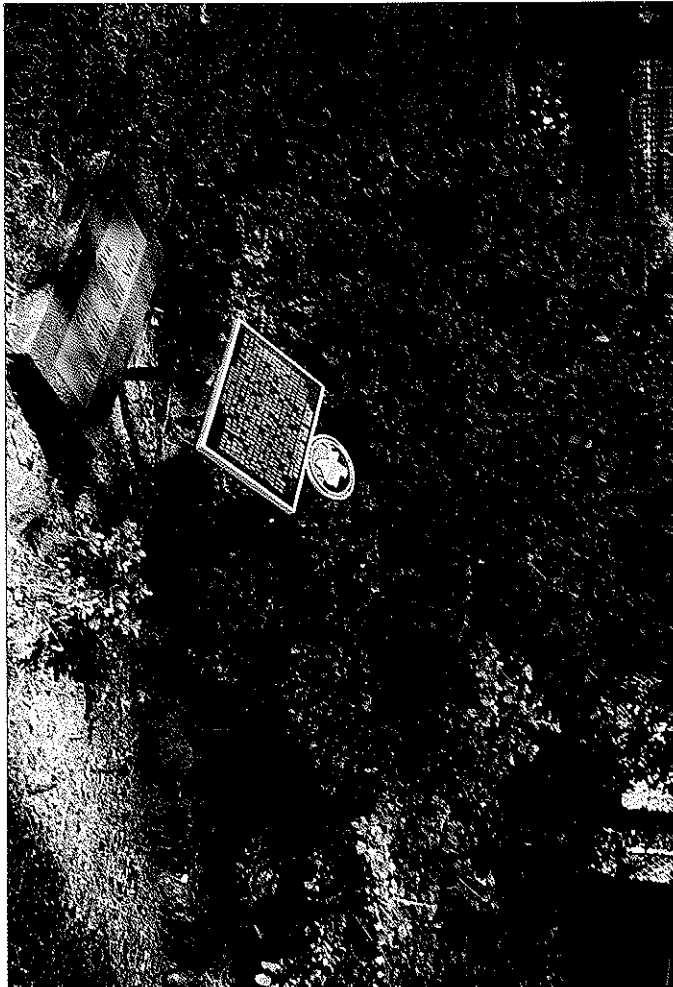
**3/8 inch lettering

***1/4 inch lettering

JOHN BEN SHEPPERD

(OCTOBER 19, 1915-MARCH 8, 1990)

**GLADEWATER NATIVE JOHN BEN SHEPPERD
WAS APPOINTED TEXAS SECRETARY OF
STATE IN 1950. ELECTED IN 1952 AND
1954 AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, HE RETIRED
FROM PUBLIC OFFICE IN 1957 AND
MOVED TO ODESSA. HE BECAME A
PROMINENT INSURANCE, BANKING AND
PETROLEUM EXECUTIVE. A TIRELESS
VOLUNTEER, HE SERVED ON 7 STATE AND
NATIONAL BOARDS AT THE REQUEST OF
GOVERNORS AND PRESIDENTS. HE WAS
TEXAS AND U. S. JAYCEES PRESIDENT
AND ORGANIZED THE STATE'S ARTS
AND HISTORICAL MARKING AGENCIES.**











JOHN BEN SHEPPERD

(OCTOBER 19, 1914 - MARCH 8, 1990)

A NATIVE OF GLADEWATER, JOHN BEN SHEPPERD BEGAN A LAW PRACTICE IN LONGVIEW SOON AFTER HIS GRADUATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS LAW SCHOOL IN 1941. AFTER SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II, HE GAINED PROMINENCE AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE JAYCEES. HIS PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER BEGAN IN 1946, WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED TO FILL HIS FATHER'S UNEXPIRED TERM AS COUNTY COMMISSIONER.

GOVERNOR ALLAN SHIVERS APPOINTED SHEPPERD SECRETARY OF STATE IN 1960. HE WAS ELECTED ATTORNEY GENERAL IN 1962 AND WAS REELECTED IN 1964. AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, HE ATTACKED POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN DALLAS COUNTY AND THE MISUSE OF STATE VETERANS' BENEFITS.

AFTER RETIRING FROM PUBLIC OFFICE IN 1967, SHEPPERD MOVED TO GRESSDA, WHERE HE PRACTICED LAW AND SUPPORTED NUMEROUS CIVIC AND CHARITABLE ENDEAVORS. HE WAS APPOINTED TO A NUMBER OF STATE AND NATIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, INCLUDING THE TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMISSION (NOW TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION). HE WAS THE DRIVING FORCE IN THE KNOWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM, WHICH BECAME NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED DURING HIS TERM AS CHAIRMAN. HE RENOVATED HIS GLADEWATER BOYHOOD HOME AND FARM. AFTER HIS RETIREMENT, HE IS BURIED IN THE FANNY CEMETERY SOUTH OF TOWN.

1992