


APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

**Texas Historical Commission
History Division
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711**

Title of Marker (subject to revision by THC staff) ▶ O.H. Methvin	County ▶ Gregg
Marker Location (from nearest town on state map) ▶ O.H. Methvin grave Greenwood Cemetery Longview, Texas	
Distance and direction of subject from marker site ▶ Placed at grave site	If not on post, type of surface to which marker ▶ comes w/ mounting will be attached (wood, stone, etc.) bar
Owner of Marker Site ▶ Descendants of O.H. Methvin	Address City, Zip 117 W. Edgefield Longview, TX 75602
Sponsor of Marker ▶ Beth Holloway Dodson	Address City, Zip 117 W. Edgefield Longview, TX 75602
Signature of County Chairman ▶ 	Address City, Zip 417 S. Mobberly Longview, TX 75602
Person to whom marker is to be shipped* ▶ Beth Dodson	Address City, Zip 117 W. Edgefield Longview, TX 75602

***NOTE:** Freight companies cannot ship to route or box numbers. If street address is unavailable, please provide a phone number. If marker is to be placed on highway right-of-way, it will be shipped to your district highway engineer.

Please consult the back of this page for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Approval of the application and narrative *must* be obtained from the county historical commission, as indicated by the county chairman's signature on this form, before forwarding the material to the Texas Historical Commission. Please *do not* send payment if ordering subject or building markers; funds will be requested once the application has been approved by the State Marker Committee. Sales tax of 6% must be added to the price, except if purchased by a tax-exempt organization. Applicants may order a marker with a socket to attach to their own post; however, the cost is the same as a marker furnished with a foundry post.

SUBJECT MARKERS

- 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) ... \$225 ^{With tax} \$238.78
- 27" x 42" subject marker with post \$650 ^{With tax} \$689.81
- 27" x 42" subject marker without post \$600 ^{With tax} \$636.75
- 18" x 28" subject marker with post \$375 ^{With tax} \$397.97
- 18" x 28" subject marker without post \$300 ^{With tax} \$318.38
- I(We) request that RTHL designation be considered for this marker.

BUILDING MARKERS

- 16" x 12" building marker with post \$350 ^{With tax} \$371.45
 - 16" x 12" building marker without post \$300 ^{With tax} \$318.38
- Applications for building markers will automatically be considered for the RTHL designation. Please read carefully Texas Marker Policies 13 through 18, and indicate that you have done so by signing below.

Signature of owner _____

PAPERWEIGHTS

Please indicate quantity desired.

- ____ 3" x 4" plastic paperweight
mounted with replica of marker \$90 ^{With tax} \$95.51
*Allow two months from completion of marker
for receipt.*
- ____ Medallion paperweight \$110 ^{With tax} \$116.74

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

- Please indicate quantity desired and give location(s) on form above:
- 24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign \$80 ^{With tax} \$84.90
*These will be shipped to and placed on your town's city
limits signs by the District Highway Engineer.*
 - ____ Black and White (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
 - ____ Green and White (for interstate highways)
 - 18" x 22" Historical Marker directional sign \$80 ^{With tax} \$84.90
In black and white only. For city and county roads.
Applicant must supply post and be responsible for placement.
 - ____ With arrow pointing straight ahead
 - ____ With arrow pointing left
 - ____ With arrow pointing right

OTHER

- National Register plaque \$ 50 ^{With tax} \$ 53.06
- 12" x 6" supplemental plate \$110 ^{With tax} \$116.74
- 16" x 12" building marker plate only
(see policy #15) \$190 ^{With tax} \$201.64
- Replacement medallion (see policy #15) \$110 ^{With tax} \$116.74
- Bronze stars (for replacement on 1936
granite markers) \$ 25 ^{With tax} \$ 27.14
- Bronze wreaths (for replacement on
1936 granite markers) \$ 25 ^{With tax} \$ 27.14
- Bronze seals (for replacement on
1936 granite markers) \$ 65 ^{With tax} \$ 68.98
- Bronze plates (for replacement on
1936 granite markers) \$110 ^{With tax} \$116.74

History of O. H. Methvin

by Beth Holloway Dodson
117 West Edgefield
Longview, Texas 75602

This history of O. H. Methvin has previously been documented and accepted by the Texas Historical Commission on the occasion of the placement of an official Texas Historical marker on the grounds of the Gregg County Courthouse in Longview, Texas.

On April 7, 1870, O. H. Methvin and wife, Margaret R. Methvin, deeded 100 acres to the Southern Pacific Railway for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) for the purpose of laying their line, and opening up and developing the resources of the county. This land was in the Hamilton McNutt Survey, and was situated in Upshur County at that time but it later became a part of Gregg County in 1873.¹ The deed was filed on July 15, 1872, recorded in Volume 0, page 672 in Deed Records of Upshur County.² The deed was later recorded in Gregg County, Volume 59, page 301 in Deed Records of Gregg County.

We have, in our family, the original deed signed by O. H. Methvin, dated April 7, 1870.

We do not know the full name of O. H. Methvin, since he always signed it with only his initials. Records of several deeds listing him as O. H. Methvin have been found. His son, O. H. Jr. is listed as Ossamus on the census records, therefore, we believe his name was Ossamus Hitch Methvin.

O. H. Methvin was born March 10, 1815, in Lowndes County, which later became Baldwin County, Georgia. He was the son of Richard R. Methvin, who was the son of Nathan Methvin, the first Methvin to come to America from Edinburgh, Scotland in 1790.

Richard R. Methvin and his son, O. H. Methvin, Sr. came to Texas about 1848 and settled in Upshur County. On microfilm of the National Archives Library, the 1850 census of Upshur County lists Richard R. Methvin, age 56, born in Maryland; O. H. Methvin, age 35, born in Georgia; Margaret R. Methvin, age 32, born in Georgia.³ Margaret was the wife of O. H. Methvin, and they had three sons born in Texas. They are listed in the 1860 census of Upshur County as Alexander, age 10 years; Ossamus, age 8 years and Jefferson, age 7 years.⁴

O. H. Methvin bought many acres of land, reported to be 1200 acres in East Texas and farmed part of the land. Joseph Mark Sparkman came to this area in the 1860's, and he said the first person he met was O. H. Methvin plowing his cornfield where the courthouse now stands. This land was in the Hamilton McNutt Survey of Upshur County, and was granted by patent from the State of Texas in 1848.⁵ It was originally owned by James Earp.

In April 1870, O. H. Methvin and a railroad surveyor were standing on the porch of Methvin's home on Rock Hill looking out over the land. The surveyor exclaimed, "My, what a long view you have from here!" Methvin replied, "That's it! We'll name the new town Longview, and I'll deed you the land for it."

Footnotes

- 1 Patent to Hamilton McNutt by State of Texas - 1848 Upshur County Deed Records
- 2 Deed to Southern Pacific Railway for 100 acres Upshur County Deed Records, Volume 0, page 672
- 3 Upshur County Census Record of 1850
- 4 Upshur County Census Record of 1860
- 5 Upshur County Deed Records, Volume B, page 420

Bibliography

Gregg County History. Longview Junior Chamber of Commerce, 1957.

Longview Morning Journal Centennial Edition, May 3, 1970.

Longview Daily News, February 23, 1984.

Longview, Texas Centennial 1870-1970.

Southwestern Bell Longview Telephone Directories, 1964, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971.

The Gregg County Courthouse is located on a portion of the land that was donated for the founding of Longview. On February 29, 1984, a Texas Historical marker, sponsored by descendants of O. H. Methvin, was unveiled on the grounds of the courthouse.

Printed in the foreword of the Longview Telephone Directory it stated: "Longview was founded in 1870, by O. H. Methvin, incorporated in 1871, and became the county seat of Gregg County in 1873." This statement can be found in directories dated 1964, 1967, 1969, 1970, and 1971.

The final resting place of O. H. Methvin is in Greenwood Cemetery in Longview, Texas, under a large, very old cedar tree. His grave is marked by a granite stone reading O. H. Methvin, Born March 10, 1815 - Died February 9, 1882. We, as descendants, feel, this being the Sesquicentennial of Texas, this gravesite of this early Texas pioneer, deserves this honor of placing a Texas Historical marker to commemorate the founder of Longview.

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

J uary 27, 1988

Dr. Norman Black
417 S. Mobberly
Longview, Texas 75602

RE: O.H.METHVIN
16 x 12 grave marker (Job #37287)

Dear Dr. Black:

This letter is to notify you that the State Marker Committee has reviewed and approved the above-referenced topic for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

At this time, payment for the marker is due. A check, in the amount of \$243.00 (\$225.00 if paid for by a tax-exempt organization), should be made payable to the Texas Historical Commission and sent to the letterhead address at your earliest convenience.

Once payment is received, the application will be placed in line to have the marker inscription written. The inscription will not be written until after funds have been received. When the text is prepared, a copy will be sent to you and any parties listed below for review and approval.

The Texas Historical Commission wishes to congratulate you for your efforts to record and preserve Texas history.

Sincerely,

Frances Rickard, Director
State Marker Program

cc: Beth Holloway Dodson

P.S. Please provide a street address or directions to Greenwood Cemetery. Thank you.



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512) 463-6100

May 12, 1988

Dr. Norman Black
417 S. Mobberly
Longview, TX 75602

Re: O.H. METHVIN
16" x 12" Grave Marker

Dear Dr. Black:

Enclosed is the proposed inscription for the above referenced marker. Please review and verify the information contained in the inscription. In particular, be sure to check all names and dates, and make certain we have used the correct marker location. Please contact other sponsors of this application to discuss the wording of the marker. If you approve the inscription, sign and return your own enclosed card.

If you have corrections or changes to suggest, please make a copy of the inscription and return it to us with the marked corrections. Please do not type a new version of the inscription. We will make changes to meet our style and spacing requirements. Documentation of any changes in this inscription, particularly of names and dates, is required for our permanent file.

Note that this is a working copy, including filing and foundry instructions. The right-hand margin is uneven on this copy, but will be justified on the finished marker.

The marker will not be ordered for casting until the county historical commission and other persons or groups listed below have approved the inscription. You may retain this inscription copy for your files.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Beeman

Cynthia J. Beeman, Historian
State Marker Program

CJB/crl

cc: Beth Holloway Dodson 753-2940

*Checked with Beth
June 1, 1988 (9:00 P.M.):
"O.K., send it in"*

TB

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CJB), 5/10/88

Official Texas Historical Grave Marker
Gregg County (Job #37287)
Location: Greenwood Cemetery, Longview

O.H.METHVIN*
(MARCH 10,1815-FEBRUARY 9,1882)***

GEORGIA NATIVE O.H.METHVIN CAME
TO TEXAS ABOUT 1848 WITH HIS
WIFE MARGARET AND HIS FATHER,
RICHARD R.METHVIN,THEY SETTLED ON
LAND IN UPSHUR COUNTY WHICH
WOULD LATER BECOME A PART OF
GREGG COUNTY,IN 1870 METHVIN
GAVE 100 ACRES OF LAND TO THE
SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD TO FOUND
THE CITY OF LONGVIEW,THE TOWN
BECAME THE COUNTY SEAT WHEN
GREGG COUNTY WAS ORGANIZED IN
1873,O.H.AND MARGARET METHVIN
WERE THE PARENTS OF THREE SONS,**

(1988)***

*3/4 inch lettering
**1/2 inch lettering
***1/4 inch lettering