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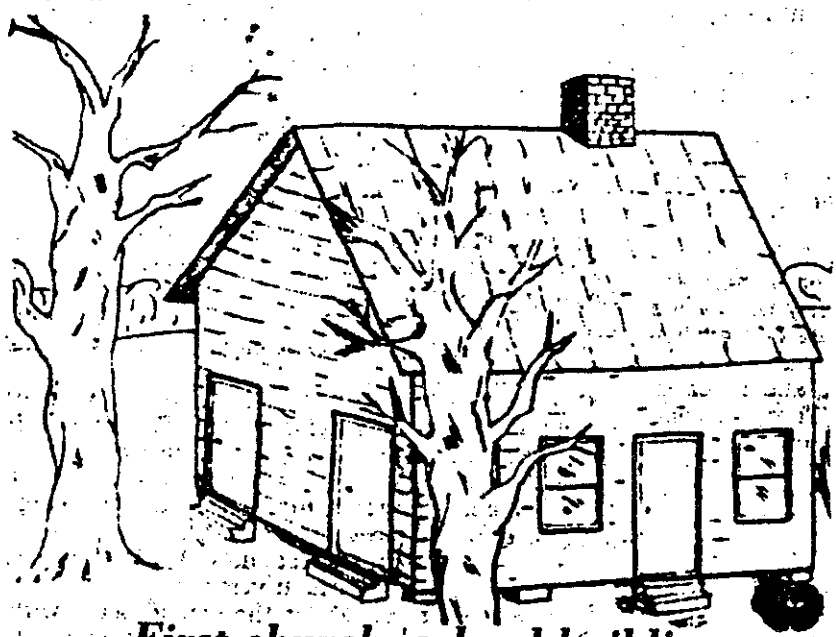

First church, school building

This drawing depicts the first church and school built in White Oak as described by Nobie Tuttle. It shows the two white oak trees for which the community was named.

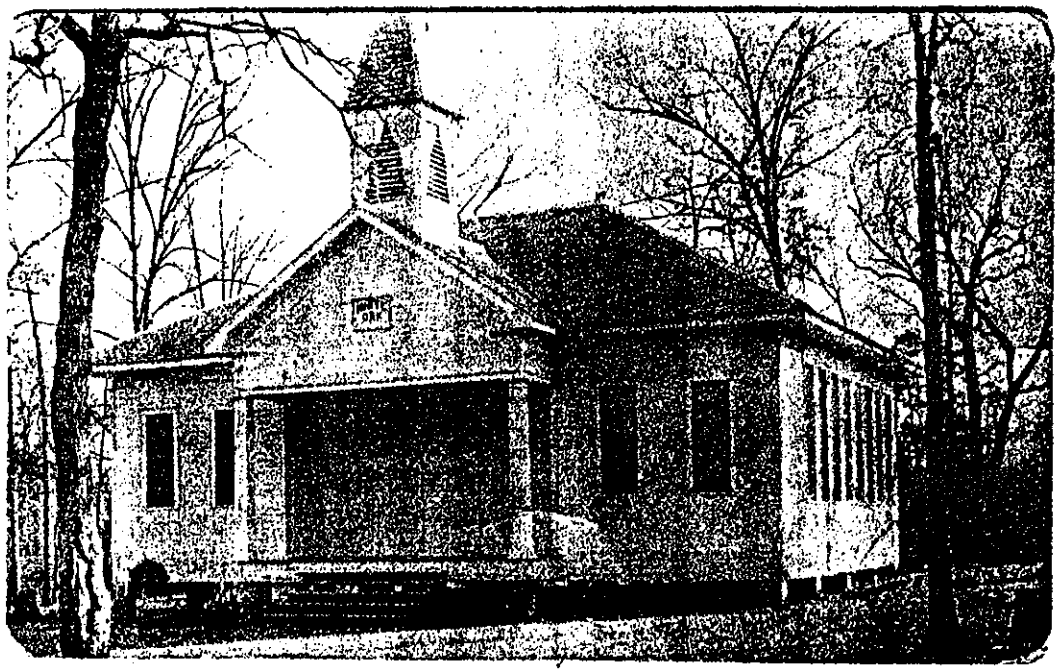

Photo of 1910 Church

J. Robie TUTTLE speaking

Robie Tuttle speaking ; Son of T.J. (Andrew) Tuttle. What I say may not be just exactly right, but it won't be far wrong.

In the year 1884, or there about, the community of White Oak was born. There were a very few families in the area at that time, not more than twelve or fifteen I'd say I can name most of them. they were T.J.Tuttle, JOHNBumpus Joe Persons, Jim Rucker, John Rucker, Marion Phillips, J.P.RAY Teague Todd, McBee Fisher, Kaleb Bumpus, Pleas Harris, and Austin Shelton, And perhaps two or three more. any way most of them had children and as they grew up they could see the need of a school, so the men of the community got together appointed a forman and erected a building forty by sixty feet facing west. It had four windows on each side, two in the rear, and a door on each side in front. Had a stage and blackboard in the rear, home made benches Had a boxwood stove on each side to heat the building in the winter time.

When they had it finished, the forman (John Bumpus) walked out in front and looked things over and said: gentlemen we are going to call this place WHITE OAK because of the two beautiful white oak trees, one at each corner about 20 feet from the door.

The first teacher's name was Alexander, he had about 25 students and his salary was $35.00 per month.

About the year 1905 another room was added and another teacher hired

The same building was used for school and church services for same 25 or 30 years.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Soon after I assumed the pastorate of White Oak Missionary Baptist Church, I saw the need for a revised and current directory of our church membership. At my request Barbara Bateman, Church Clerk, and Dot Proctor, Church Secretary, accepted the responsibility for this project. Shirley Goss and Lois Baird, both members of the church for many years and well acquainted with its history and membership, offered their assistance to obtain information necessary to the publication of this new directory and to bring our church membership records up-to-date.

Examination of old records, our current membership records, and many hours of contacting members and former members of the church went into their work. We express our appreciation to everyone who cooperated with them in providing addresses, telephone numbers and other information.

After the information had been collected, Barbara Bateman prepared the typescript for the printer.

We realize there are still inaccuracies and gaps in the records; we hope to overcome these deficiencies as further information is obtained.

I am sure I speak for the entire church when I say we are grateful to these women for their diligent work in providing us with this new church directory. -- James A. Kirkland

It had a boxwood stove on each side to heat the building in the winter time.

"When they had it finished, the foreman (John Bumpus) walked out in front and looked things over and said, 'Gentlemen, we are going to call this place White Oak,' because of the two beautiful white oak trees, one at each corner about twenty feet from the door.

"The first teacher's name was Alexander. He had about twenty-five students, and his salary was $35.00 per month.[2]

"About the year 1905 another room was added and another teacher hired.

"The same building was used for school and church services for some twenty-five or thirty years."

The history of the church[3] began in 1889 when L. P. Ray came from the New Hopewell Baptist Church in Upshur County to preach in the community. A Baptist church was organized as a result of Ray's ministry.

Division in the Texas Baptist denomination in 1900 caused the church to disband. For the next several years the community had only occasional services conducted by Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian preachers. Then in 1909, Albert Taylor from Van Zandt County gathered a congregation in the White Oak school house and preached there occasionally.

A HISTORY OF WHITE OAK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The early history of White Oak church and White Oak school are bound up together so that we can hardly speak of one without speaking of the other. J. N. Tuttle, affectionately called "Bro. Nobie" by members of the church, gave an oral history of the White Oak community and school a few years ago. Here are his comments:

"This is J. N. Tuttle speaking, son of T. J. (Andrew) Tuttle.[1] What I say may not be just exactly right, but it won't be far wrong.

"In the year 1884, or thereabout, the community of White Oak was born. There were a very few families in the area at that time, not more than twelve or fifteen I'd say. I can name most of them. They were T. J. Tuttle, John Bumpus, Joe Persons, Jim Rucker, Marion Phillips, J. P. Ray, Teague Todd, McBee Fisher, Kaleb Bumpus, Pleas Harris, and Austin Shelton, and perhaps two or three more.

"Anyway, most of them had children, and as they grew up they could see the need of a school. So, the men of the community got together and appointed a foreman and erected a building forty by sixty feet facing west. It had four windows on each side, two in the rear, and a door on each side in the front. It had a stage and a blackboard in the rear, homemade benches.

Taylor's daughter Georgia, who served as organist, later married Julius Tuttle. It was largely through her efforts and in answer to her prayers that the present White Oak Missionary Baptist Church was organized on the first Sunday in March, 1910. It was at this time that Nobie Tuttle and his sister Exa (Tuttle) Bander joined the church. They are the only remaining charter members of the church.

At that time the congregation met in the school house once a month for worship. Soon the original building was torn down and a new five-room school house and church building was constructed.

The first pastor of the church following its organization was Robert Marsh. He was succeeded by pastors Sin, T. S. Bomar, M. R. Cox, T. A. Johns, Low, Preston Taylor and Russell Taylor.

O. F. (Obie) Barton became the church's first full-time pastor in 1931. As the East Texas oil boom brought new people into the community, a new and larger church building was needed. The second building gave way to progress, and a new church auditorium with a full basement was erected on land contributed by M. C. Satterwhite across from the school on the site of the present church building. The church's first parsonage was also built during Barton's pastorate.

Deckert Anderson became pastor in 1938, and A. J. Kirkland followed him from 1941-46. During Kirkland's ministry the church built more Sunday School rooms, the north wing of the building.

A. J. Wall served as pastor from 1946-1948 when he was succeeded by O. H. Griffith. In 1955, the church completed a new building and expansion program; the new plant had complete air-conditioning and central heating.

The church experienced one of its best periods of growth under the leadership of James B. Powers from 1955-1959. In 1958, the south wing was added, containing an assembly room and nine classrooms. In 1959, the original parsonage was remodeled and redecorated.

In February 1959, Glenn Perry assumed the pastorate. Herbert Banks followed Perry as pastor from 1964-1966, and during his ministry the church built the new and modern parsonage.

In August 1966, C. Bill Voss assumed the pastoral work of the church. All indebtedness on the church's property and facilities was retired under Voss's leadership.

Don Shultz came to the pastorate in November, 1973 and later led the church in the erection of a new auditorium. During his pastorate the church also was served by Mike Honzell, Jim Wait, and Rick Albritton, respectively, as Music-Youth directors.

ahead, and to that ministry we dedicate ourselves anew.

James A. Kirkland
November 1, 1981

LIST OF PASTORS

1910-1931	Brethren Marsh, Sin, Bomar, Cox, T. A. Johns, Low, Preston Taylor, Russell Taylor
1931-1938	O. F. Barton
1938-1941	Deckert Anderson
1941-1946	A. J. Kirkland
1946-1948	A. J. Wall
1948-1955	O. H. Griffith
1955-1959	James B. Powers
1959-1964	Glenn Perry
1964-1966	Herbert Banks
1966-1973	C. Bill Voss
1973-1980	Don Shultz
1981-	James A. Kirkland

FOOTNOTES

1. Thomas Andrew Jackson Tuttle
2. Julius Tuttle, oldest son of Thomas Tuttle, was the first student

Shultz closed his pastoral work at White Oak in November, 1980.

James Kirkland, son of former pastor A. J. Kirkland, began leadership of the church on ~~February~~ January 8, 1981 after completing four years of ministry with the Parkway Baptist Church in Longview. Since he has come to the White Oak pastorate, the church has renovated the south wing of the educational facilities, and has extended the north wing to provide a new kitchen and fellowship hall and new classrooms. The church dedicated the new facilities on November 1, 1981. The church has also called Don Tropp as full-time Music-Youth Minister. He began his work with the church on September 1, 1981.

As we have traced the history of the church, attention has been focused on its material progress in property and buildings, only because these are the most tangible and visible evidences of the church's growth.

Throughout the congregation's long history the Lord has used their efforts to reach hundreds for Christ. The salvation of the lost and the maturing of Christians remain the primary reasons for the church's existence. We praise God that He has been pleased to use this church as an instrument of spiritual blessing to the White Oak community and in many parts of the world.

By His grace the best years of the church's ministry of the gospel lie

in White Oak school.

3. I am indebted to the booklet prepared for the fiftieth anniversary of the church, March 6, 1960, for much of the following historical material through that date.

White Oak Missionary Baptist Church
Homecoming - March 23, 1980

In 1884, Thomas Andrew Jackson Tuttle, John Bumpus, Joe Pearson, Jim Rucker, Teague Todd and others constructed a 40 by 60 building where White Oak School now stands. The building faced West. It had two front doors, four windows on each side, and two windows in the rear. In the rear of the building was an 8 by 16 stage and on the wall hung a blackboard. On the Northwest and Southwest corner of the building stood a white oak tree. When the building was completed, John Bumpus said, "Fellows, we are going to call this White Oak because of those white oak trees." Thomas Tuttle's oldest son, Julius, was the first student in White Oak School.

This building served as a house of worship on Sundays. Bro. L. P. Ray was the first preacher. This is the origin of White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. The New Hopewell Baptist Church extended an arm and White Oak Missionary Baptist Church was organized. Bro. Ray preached at the church once each month.

Division in Texas Baptist in 1900 caused White Oak Missionary Baptist Church to disband. For the next few years the community only had occasional services. Bro. Albert Taylor revived the congregation in 1909, and the White Oak Missionary Baptist Church was again organized. It was at this time that Bro. Nobie Tuttle and Exa Tuttle (Bander) joined the church. They are the only surviving charter members.

The original building was torn down and a new 5 room school house and church building was constructed. During the oil boom, a larger school building and church building was needed. The second building gave way to progress. Bro. M. C. Satterwhite contributed an acre of land across the road (the present site of the church building), a new auditorium and full basement and a parsonage was built.

A Time To Reflect

Only Living
Charter Member
Exa (Tuttle) Bander

HISTORY

In the year 1884, or thereabout, the community of White Oak was born. There were a very few families in the area at that time, not more than twelve or fifteen. The history of the church began in 1889 when L. P. Ray came from the New Hopewell Baptist Church in Upshur County to preach in the community. A Baptist church was organized as a result of Ray's ministry. The present White Oak Missionary Baptist Church was organized on the first Sunday in March 1910. It was at this time that Nobie Tuttle and his sister Exa (Tuttle) Bander joined the church. They are the only remaining charter members of the church.

At that time the congregation met in the school house once a month for worship. Soon the original building was torn down and a new five room school house and church building was constructed.

The first pastor of the church following its organization was Robert Marsh. He was succeeded by pastors Sin, T. S. Bomar, M. R. Cox, T. A. Johns, Low, Preston Taylor and Russell Taylor.

O. F. (Obie) Barton became the church's first full-time pastor in 1931. Deckert Anderson became pastor in 1938, and A. J. Kirkland followed him from 1941-1946. During Kirkland's ministry the church built more Sunday School rooms, the north wing of the building.

A. J. Wall served as pastor from 1946-48 when he was succeeded by O. H. Griffith. In 1955, the church completed a new building and expansion program; the new plant had complete air-conditioning and central heating.

The church experienced one of its best periods of growth under the leadership of James B. Powers from 1955-59. In 1958, the south wing was added, containing an assembly room and nine classrooms.

In February 1959, Glenn Perry assumed the pastorate. Herbert Banks followed Perry as pastor from 1964-66, and during his ministry the church built the new and modern parsonage.

In August 1966, C. Bill Voss assumed the pastoral work of the church. All indebtedness on the church's property and facilities was retired under Voss's leadership.

Don Shultz came to the pastorate in November 1973, and later led the church in the erection of a new auditorium. James Kirkland, son of former pastor, A. J. Kirkland, began leadership of the church on January 8, 1981, after completing four years of ministry with the Parkway Baptist Church of Longview. Since he has come to the White Oak pastorate, the church has renovated the south wing of the educational facilities, and has extended the north wing to provide a new kitchen and fellowship hall and new classrooms. The church dedicated the new facilities on November 1, 1981.

Throughout the congregation's long history the Lord has used their efforts to reach hundreds for Christ. The salvation of the lost and the maturing of Christians remain the primary reasons for the church's existence. We praise God that He has been pleased to use this church as an instrument of spiritual blessing to the White Oak Community and in many parts of the world.

Pastor James A. Kirkland

APPLICATION FORM
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): White Oak Baptist Church

County: Gregg

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map): 117 White Oak Road, White Oak, Texas 75693. White Oak Road intersects U. S. 80 approximately 4 miles east of Gladewater. Marker is proposed to be in ground below large white cross on east wall of sanctuary.

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.

Chairperson's Signature: Norman H. Black, D.D.S. Date: 7-23-97

Address: 417 Mobberly Ave., Longview, Texas 75602 Phone: 903-757-2261

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 Texas Department of Transportation.

Name: Rev. James A. Kirkland

Contact person (if applicable):

Mailing address:

Phone:

√Owner's Signature: James A. Kirkland

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: James Marcus Oliver

(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization, or public entity.)

Mailing address: 205 Monterrey

White Oak, TX 75693 Phone: 903-759-8329

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: Beth Dodson

Mailing address: NP 106 Lake Cherokee

Longview, TX 75603 Phone: 903-643-9509

(over)

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

July 23, 1997

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

Re: Application for an Official Texas Historical Marker for the White Oak Baptist Church

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed is the application for the above named subject in White Oak, Gregg County, Texas.

It is apparently important to some of the church members that two names be included in the text of the marker if the application is approved. They are the later-year's benefactors of the church: M. C. and (wife) Ada Satterwhite. They died in 1963 and 1966, respectively. Since they were the donors of the land where the present church buildings are located it may not be inappropriate to list them.

As you can see from the enclosed note from Beth Dodson, a Gregg CHC member, the author of the narrative particularly likes a phrase used in the deed, "...to promote the cause of Christianity,...".

Sincerely,

Norman

Norman Black, D.D.S.

Enc.

Petition for an Historical Marker

For

White Oak Baptist Church

White Oak Road
White Oak, Texas

Submitted by:

James Marcus Oliver
205 Monterrey Lane
White Oak, Texas 75693
903-759-8329

In the year 1884, or thereabouts, north of the Sabine River and west of Hawkins Creek, a small community was born. The sawmill community was located seven miles west of Longview and five miles east of Gladewater at the junction of U.S. Highway 80 and Farm Road 3272 in the Castleberry survey in north central Gregg County. [1] There were not more than fifteen families in the area, including the families of T.J. Tuttle, John Bumpus, Joe Persons, Jim Rucker, Marion Phillips, J.P. Ray, Teague Todd, McBee Fisher, Kaleb Bumpus, Pleas Harris and Austin Shelton. Most of these men had children; and they saw the need for a school as their children grew. They built a forty by sixty foot building facing west on the grounds of the present White Oak school. There were four windows on each side, two windows in the rear and a door on each side in the front. A stage, blackboard in the rear, and homemade benches completed the facility. A boxwood stove on each side provided heat in winter. [2] Mrs. Eunice Oliver Reynolds described a boxwood stove as a front loading stove made of iron and outfitted with a flue which allowed smoke to escape. Firewood served as fuel for the stove. [3] When the building was finished, the foreman, John Bumpus, remarked, "Gentlemen, we are going to call this place White Oak," because of the two beautiful white oak trees which were located at each corner about twenty feet from the door. [4]

The first teacher taught about twenty-five students and was paid a salary of $35.00 per month. About 1905, another room was added as the community grew. As was the custom in many small communities the same building was used for both church and school for the next twenty-five years. [5]

The history of the present church began in 1889 when L.P. Ray came from New Hopewell Baptist Church, near Gilmer in Upshur County, to preach in the community. A Baptist church was organized as a result of Ray's ministry. A division in the Texas Baptist denomination in the early 1900's caused the church to disband. For the next several years the community had only occasional services which were conducted by Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian preachers. In 1909, through the prayers and efforts of Brother Albert Taylor from Van Zandt County, the White Oak Baptist Church was again organized and once again met in the school. [6]

The present White Oak Baptist Church was formally organized on the first Sunday in March, 1910. It was at this time that Nobie Tuttle and his sister Exa (Tuttle) Bander joined the church, joining with Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Tuttle and Mrs. J.L. Spurrier to become charter members. [7] The old building was torn down in 1910, and a new five room combination school and church building was constructed at the site of the present school. [8] Carrie Satterwhite Whatley described the pews of the church as benches shaped with a one-by-four inch strip on the back. [9]

From 1910-1931, the church was led by Pastors Robert Marsh, Sin, T.A. Bomar, M.R. Cox, T. A. Johns, Griffin , Low, Preston Taylor and Russell Taylor.[10] Around 1913, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. (Ada Dickinson) Satterwhite moved from the Harleton area to White Oak. According to Agnes Satterwhite Oliver (M.C. Satterwhite's daughter), Mr. Satterwhite, who was a devout Methodist, joined the Baptist church because it was the only church in the area. He performed various

tasks for the church, including maintaining the lanterns and songbooks, as well as teaching the boys' Sunday School class. Many White Oak men fondly remember the camping trips Mr. Satterwhite led for the young boys. Mr. Satterwhite accompanied the boys on campouts until 1961 when he was 78 years old. He occasionally led the choir and often provided room and board for different itinerant preachers. [11] He served as Sunday School Superintendent and Church Treasurer at various times. He served the church as chairman of the deacons for at least thirty years. [12]

In 1931, the oil boom came to East Texas and White Oak. A new school building was built. In 1935, Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Satterwhite donated two acres of land to W.M. Lamb, J.D. Smith, J.L. Spurrier and J.M. Tuttle (who were deacons of the church) for a church building and parsonage. [13] The site was located on White Oak Road (Farm Road 3272) about one mile north of U.S. Highway 80 and across from White Oak School. This remains the present site of the church. O. F. Barton became the pastor from 1931-1938. In the 1930s Mr. Satterwhite, his daughter Agnes, and Pastor Barton's daughter, Charlene often sang together at services and funerals. [14] Around 1935, the Brotherhood of the church began to meet on a regular basis. Mr. Satterwhite was one of the founding members of this organization, according to E.B. Carrington, former superintendent of White Oak schools. [15] In 1938, Deckart Anderson became the pastor. Mrs. Aline Bingham reports that the Ladies' Auxiliary began in 1940 while Anderson was pastor. [16] In 1941, A.J. Kirkland became the pastor. The church grew and more Sunday School rooms were constructed. [17] Pastor A.J. Kirkland hosted a radio

program on KFRO during this time. Since the nation was embroiled in World War II, his theme was "an offering to this work means a message to a man in service." [18] Kirkland would go on to become president of the Texas Baptist Institute in Henderson, Texas, a seminary for training future pastors which is still in existence today. A. J. Wall became pastor from 1946-1948, followed by O.H. Griffith from 1948-1955. [19] In 1952, the Steadfast Class was founded. [20] This group of women, in conjunction with the Loyal Workers women's class and other members, cooked for the Lion's Club to earn money for kitchen supplies such as stoves and refrigerators, as well as a communion table and an organ. [21] The manual two keyboard Hammond organ is still in use today. [22] Under the leadership of Pastor Griffith in 1955, the church completed a new building and expansion program, including a building with central air conditioning and heating, which was rare at that time. [23] J. B. Powers became pastor in 1955. Homer Blue began to lead the choir during these years, with M.C. Satterwhite and Nobie Tuttle filling in for Blue, who had to work occasional Sundays. [24] Mary Lou Meissner began to play piano for the church in 1942 and remains the church organist today. [25] The south wing of the church, containing an assembly room and nine classrooms, was added in 1958, under the leadership of Rev. Powers. In 1959, the original parsonage located next door to the church was remodeled.[26]

In February 1959, Glenn Perry became pastor. Under his leadership, the church sponsored a 15 minute radio program during which the pastor delivered a short message. This was called the East Texas Baptist Broadcast and was

heard on KSIJ radio, which is now known as KEES radio, in nearby Gladewater, Texas. This program would continue on the air until the 1970s. [27] In 1964, W. Herbert Banks became pastor of the White Oak Baptist Church. The original parsonage, built in 1931, was demolished and a new modern parsonage was constructed on the same site. [28]

In 1966, C. Bill Voss became pastor of the church. Under Voss's leadership the congregation was able to pay off all debts on the property and facilities. Choir robes were purchased for the first time during this era. [29]

Don Schultz became pastor in November 1973, and led the church in the erection of a new sanctuary for worship in 1976. This sanctuary, located on the land donated by Mr. Satterwhite in 1931, was a larger, more modern structure, which faced White Oak Road and the school. The floor plan was almost opposite from the present floor plan. The pulpit and choir loft were located on the west side of the sanctuary. Two rows of pews were placed on either side of the front entrance to the worship center. [30]

In 1981, James A. Kirkland, son of former pastor A. J. Kirkland, assumed the role of pastor for the church. In the 1980s, the south wing of the church was remodeled, and the north wing was extended to provide a new kitchen, fellowship hall, and new classrooms. [31] The Men's Sunday School class was called the Nobie Tuttle class in recognition of his service to the church. Nobie was the youngest son of T.J. Tuttle, one of the church's founders. [32]

The annex multi-purpose building called the Nehemiah Project was a separate structure constructed in the 1990s behind the parsonage and a few feet

north of the church. The project was titled the Nehemiah Project because it was to be constructed by memorial gifts, donations, and current funds, thereby avoiding the need to borrow money to finance the building. [33]

The AWANA (Approved Workers Are Not Ashamed) program, an international program to provide biblical teaching, mission awareness and positive social activities for children, was started in the 1990s. Currently the church helps support numerous mission projects in the U.S. as well as foreign countries. Each year Pastor J.A. Kirkland and his wife participate in a summer mission trip to Romania. [34]

The current membership of the church includes many descendants of the founding members as well as newcomers to the community who have a found warm Christian fellowship in the church. The church's motto "in the heart of White Oak, with White Oak in our hearts" demonstrates the commitment to God and to the community shared by the congregation. [35] We seek to have an official historical marker from the Texas Historical Commission erected on this site in recognition, honor and memory of the commitment and Christian love shown by founding and present members of the White Oak Baptist Church.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marcus Oliver

James Marcus Oliver,
grandson of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Satterwhite,
in memory of my mother Agnes Satterwhite Oliver

Footnotes

1. The New Handbook of Texas, volume 6. Austin: Texas State Historical Association, c. 1996, p. 939.

2 Drawing of the original church provided by Nobie Tuttle. Copy attached.

3. Reynolds, Eunice Oliver. Oral History. From conversation with James M. Oliver. June 24, 1997.

4 Tuttle, Nobie. Oral History. Transcript of conversation with Pastor J.A. Kirkland, October, 1981.

5. Ibid.

6. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. Commemorating Fifty Years of Service, March 6, 1960, booklet provided by Agnes Satterwhite Oliver.

7. Ibid.

8. Photo of 1910 church building. Provided by Pastor James A. Kirkland from church archives. Copy attached.

9. Whatley, Carrie Satterwhite. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 10, 1994.

10. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church, Fiftieth Anniversary, op. cit.

11. Oliver, Agnes Satterwhite. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 11, 1994.

12. "Satterwhite Family Reunion held at Community Center." White Oak Independent newspaper, Vol. 2, No. 23, July 18, 1991, page 1.

13. County Clerk's office, Gregg County, Texas. Record of deed of land donated by M.C.and Ada Satterwhite to the deacons for a church. Volume 176, Pages 195-196.

14. Cockerell, Nina Satterwhite. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, May 15, 1997.

15. Carrington, E.B. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 12,1994.

16. Bingham, Aline. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 15, 1994.

17. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church, Fiftieth Anniversary, op. cit.

18. East Texas Baptist Hour. From copy of old calendar advertisement, January, 1945, provided by Mrs. R.E. Pearce, now deceased.

19. White Oak Baptist Church, Fiftieth Anniversary, op. cit.

20. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. History of the Steadfast Class. Booklet dated 1970-71, provided by Agnes Satterwhite Oliver.

21. Carrington, Mrs. E.B. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 12,1994.

22. Meissner, Mary Lou. Oral History. From conversation with James M. Oliver. June 24, 1997.

23. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church, Fiftieth Anniversary, op. cit.

24. Bingham, Aline. op. cit.

25 Meissner, Mary Lou. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 1, 1994.

26. White Oak Missionary Baptist Church, Fiftieth Anniversary, op. cit.

27. Oliver, James Marcus. Personal recollection, 1971-Present.

28. Kirkland, James A, A History of White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. Church directory, undated, circa early 1980's. Contributed by Agnes Satterwhite Oliver.

29. Ibid.

30. White Oak Baptist Church. Pictorial Directory, dated February, 1990.

31. Kirkland, James A. op.cit.

32. White Oak Baptist Church. Pictorial Directory. op.cit.

33. Kirkland, Judy Oliver. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, April 1, 1997.

34. Oliver, James Marcus. op. cit.

35. Ibid.

References

The New Handbook of Texas, volume 6. Austin: Texas State Historical Association, c. 1996, p. 939.

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Tuttle, Nobie. Oral History. Transcript of conversation with Pastor J.A. Kirkland, October, 1981.

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Oliver, Agnes Satterwhite. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 11, 1994.

"Satterwhite Family Reunion held at Community Center." White Oak Independent newspaper, Vol. 2, No. 23, July 18, 1991, page 1.

Reynolds, Eunice Oliver. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, June 24, 1997.

County Clerk's office, Gregg County, Texas. Record of deed of land donated by M.C.and Ada Satterwhite to the deacons for a church. Volume 176, Pages 195-196.

Cockerell, Nina Satterwhite. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, May 15, 1997.

Bingham, Aline. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 15, 1994.

East Texas Baptist Hour. From copy of old calendar advertisement, January, 1945, provided by Mrs. R.E. Pearce, now deceased.

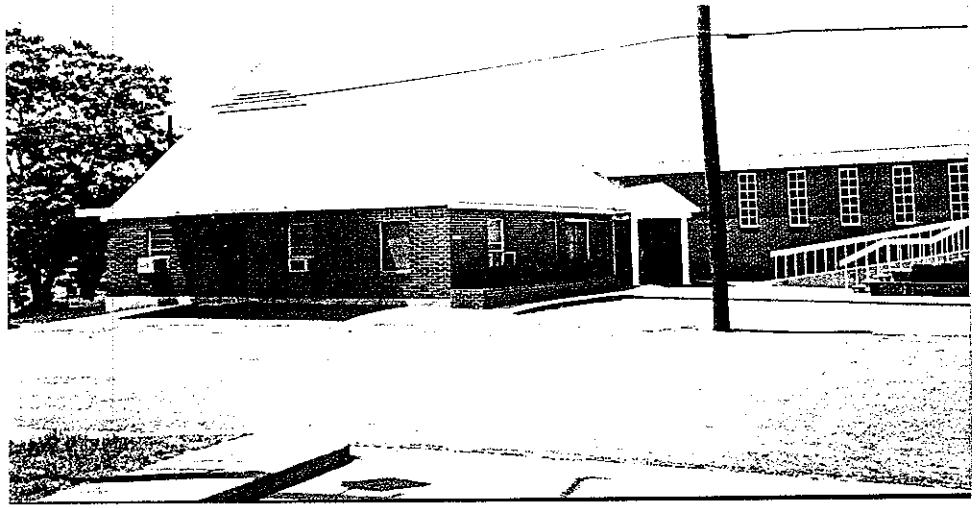
White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. History of the Steadfast Class. Booklet dated 1970-71, provided by Agnes Satterwhite Oliver.

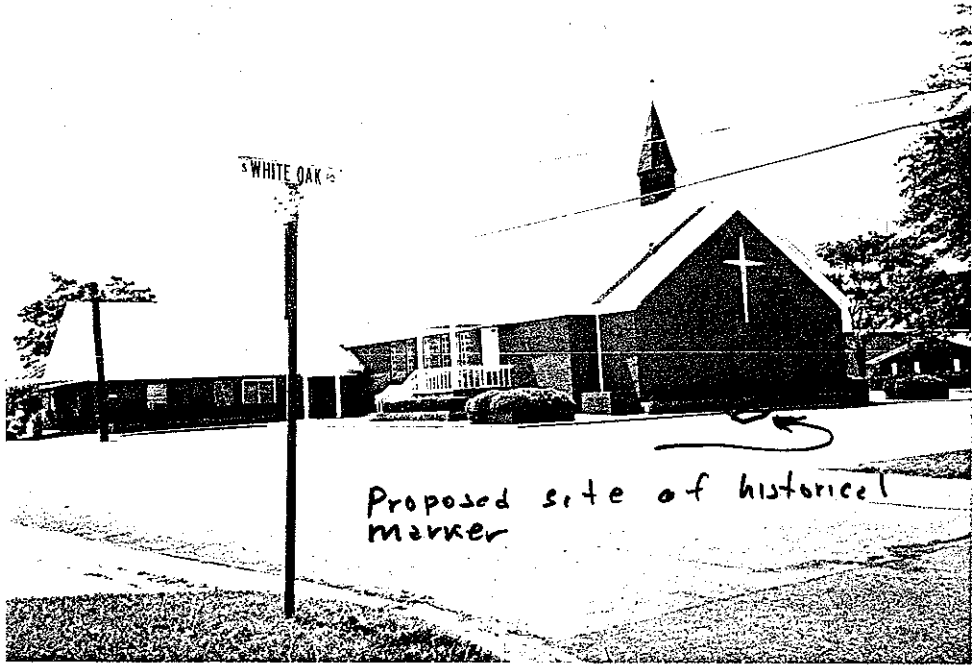
Carrington, Mrs. E.B. Oral History. From conversation with James Marcus Oliver, July 12,1994.

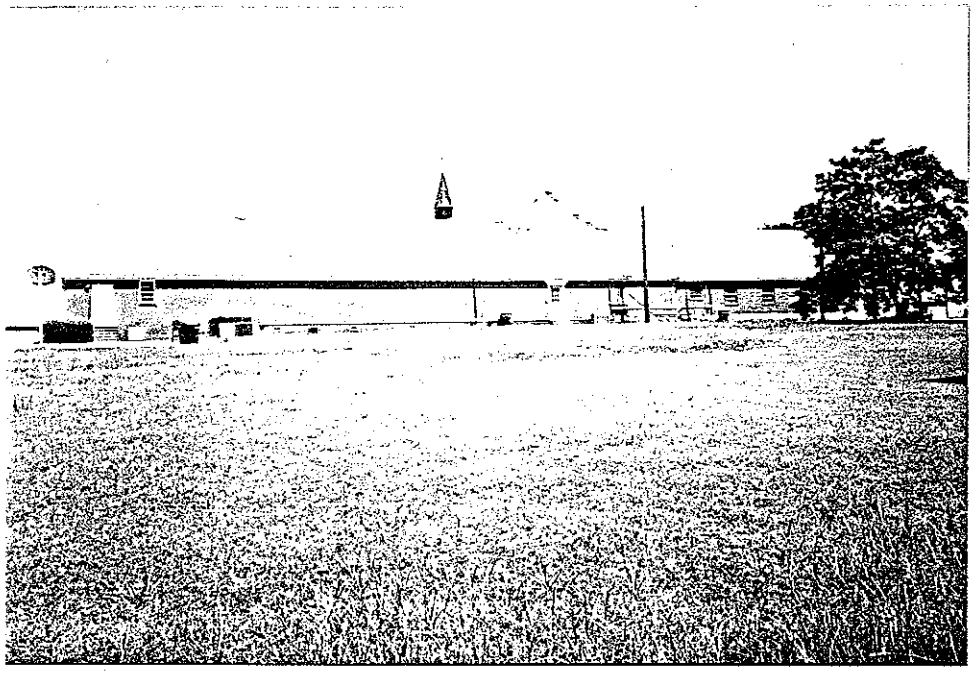
Meissner, Mary Lou. Oral History. From conversations with James Marcus Oliver, July 1, 1994 and June 24, 1997.

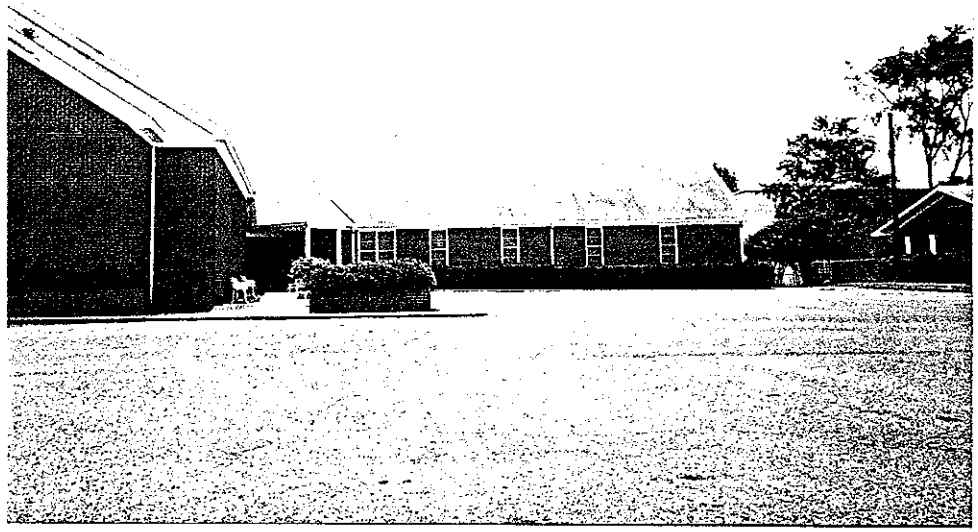
Kirkland, James A, A History of White Oak Missionary Baptist Church. Church directory, undated, circa early 1980s. Contributed by Agnes Satterwhite Oliver.

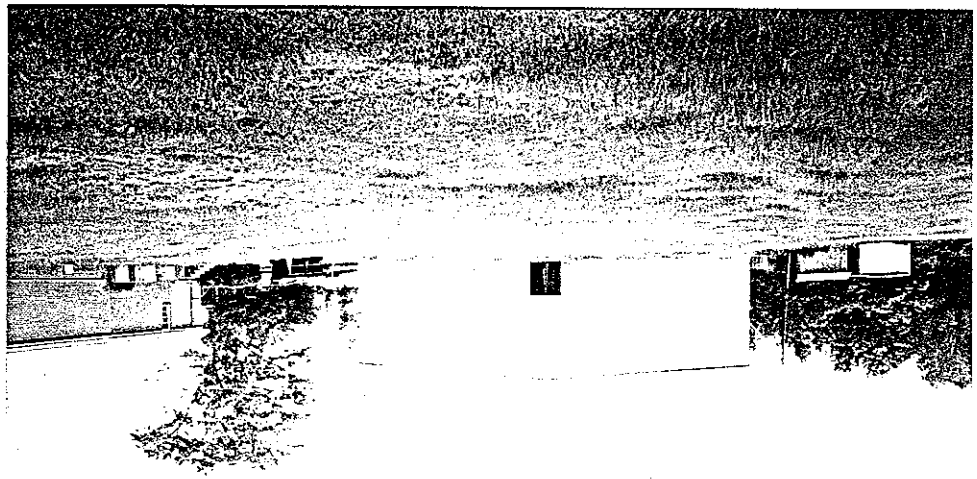
Oliver, James Marcus. Personal recollections, 1971- Present.

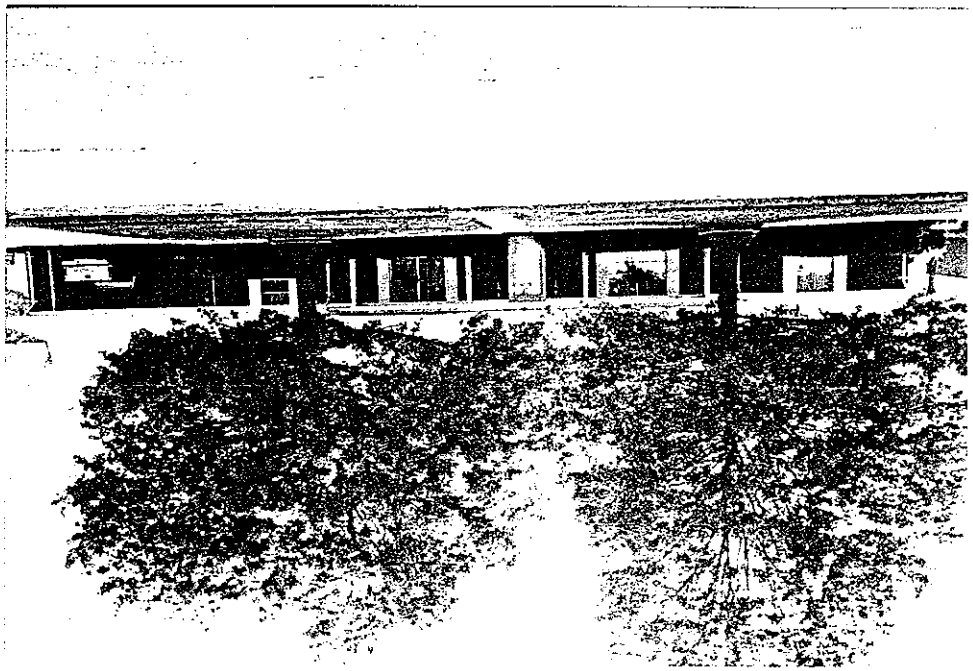


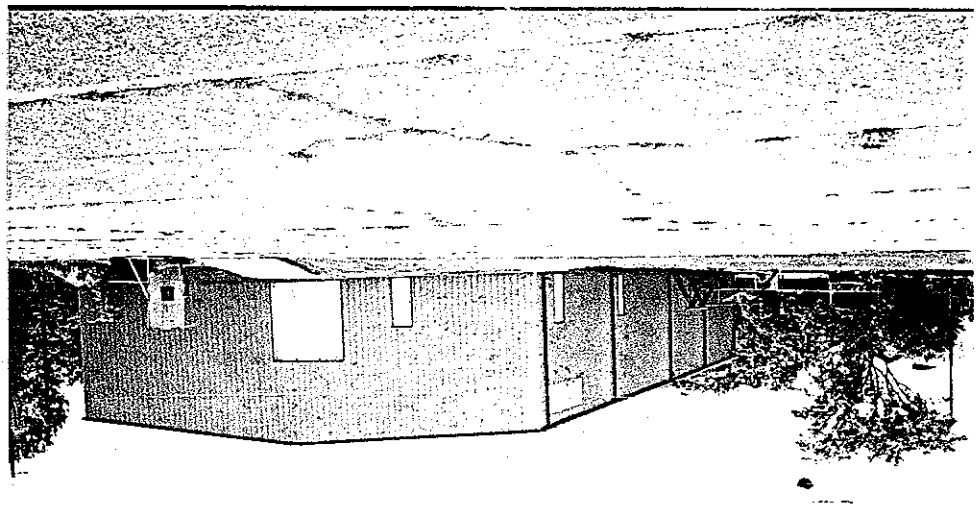

WHITE OAK
Proposed site of historical marker

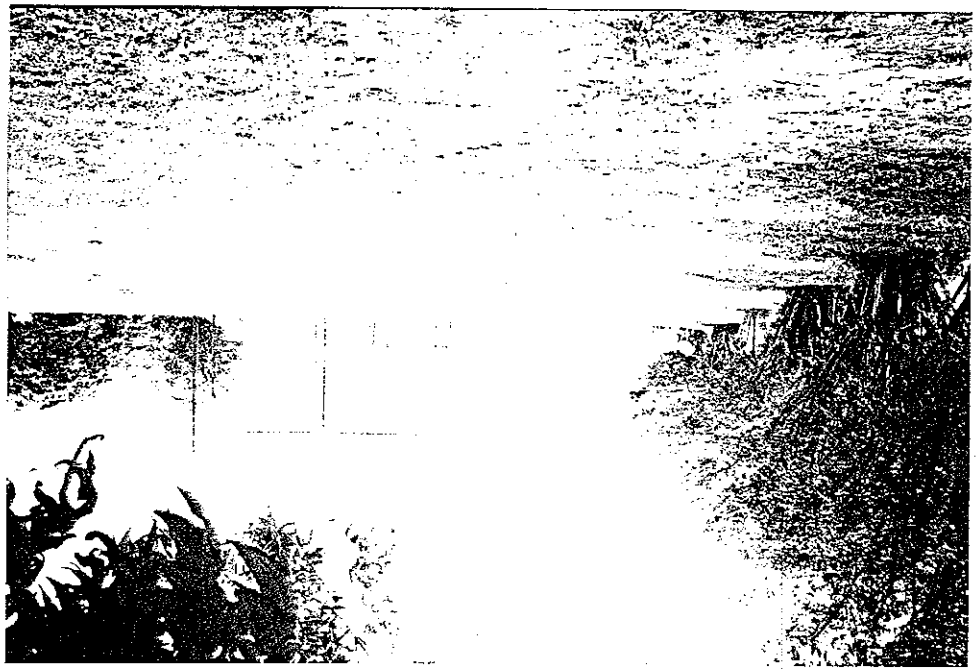












7/2/97

Norman:

Please indicate marker location whereever you think. I drove out there and can see two sites possible: in center of end brick wall, under cross, or grassy area facing White Oak Road. What ever you think. see attached

Please let me know what you need.

Because of the tie of James Marcus Oliver to his grandfather, M.C. Satterwhite (who gave this land) we would like to have M.C. & Ada Satterwhite's names on marker, if possible. Possibly stating their gift "on this site" type of notation, etc. This is very important in this particular situation.

I would appreciate your help on this if you can.

Thank you so much

James liked the statement on the deed reading "to promote the cause of Christianity", etc.

Beth

PS There will be a memorial plaque on the back. Please let me know when you need this wording.

→ NOTE: This letter is from Beth Dodson, member of the Gregg C.H.C. relating information concerning the application for an Official Texas Historical Marker. Addressed to Dr. Norman Black, Ch. Gregg C.H.C.

WHITE OAK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
"Sharing Our New Life In Christ"

117 White Oak Road
White Oak, Texas
759-4196

duly authorized hereunto, and the corporate seal to be hereunto affixed the day and year first above mentioned.

Fred A. Williams
Fred A. Williams
FIRST PARTY

G. S. & I. CORPORATION
BY R.G. Trippett
President
SECOND PARTY

ATTEST:
A. H. Meadows
(SEAL) Secretary.

STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public, on this day personally appeared FRED A WILLIAMS, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and considerations therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 11th day of January 1935.

William Greene
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas.

(L.S.)

STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned, a Notary Public, on this day personally appeared R. G. TRIPPETT, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same as the act and deed of G.S. & I. CORPORATION, and as the President thereof, and for the purposes and considerations therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this 11th day of January, 1935.

William Greene
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas.

(L.S.)

FILED FOR RECORD Jan. 15, 1935 at 9:33 AM

RECORDED Jan. 19, 1935 at 10:20 AM (PB)

Hugh Shaw
COUNTY CLERK, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

-0472-

Warranty Deed.

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG) KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT WE, M. C. SATTERWHITE AND WIFE, ADA L. SATTERWHITE, in consideration of ONE DOLLAR and of our religious duties to promote the cause of Christianity, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, convey and deliver unto W. H. LAMB, J. M. TUTTLE, J. L. SPURRIER AND J. D. SMITH TRUSTEES OF THE WHITE OAK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF WHITE OAK in Gregg County, Texas, the surface of the following described 2 acre tract of land, so long as a church is maintained and religious worship conducted therein, said land being described as follows:

Situated in Gregg County, Texas, on the W. H. Castleberry Survey, and being a part of the 51 acre, more or less, M.C. Satterwhite Tract, said 2 acres more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron stake on the West side of the White Oak Public Road;

THENCE South 300 feet to iron stake;

THENCE West 290½ feet to iron stake;

THENCE North 300 feet to iron stake;

THENCE EAST 290½ feet to the place of beginning.

It is further understood and agreed that this conveyance does not convey any oil, gas and mineral rights whatsoever, but merely conveys the right to use the surface of the above land for church purposes only. In this connection it is understood that this property is encumbered with an oil and gas lease.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE Surface of the above described land unto the above described Trustees, and their successors in office, so long as a church building is maintained thereon and religious worship is conducted therein.

WITNESS OUR HANDS, This 5th day of January, 1935.

M.C. Satterwhite
M.C.Satterwhite.

Ada L.Satterwhite
Ada L. Satterwhite.

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 Ada L.Satterwhite, wife of M.C. Satterwhite, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her , she, the said Ada L. Satterwhite acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed, and she declared that she had willingly signed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and that she did not wish to retract it.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 9th day of January, 1935 A.D.

Julia Bassett
Notary Public in and for Gregg County,Texas.

(L.S.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF PALO PINTO)

BEFORE ME, W. P. Smith, a Notary Public in and for Palo Pinto County, Texas, on this day personally appeared M.C. Satterwhite, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the above and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this the 7th day of January A.D. 1935.

W. P. Smith
Notary Public in and for Palo Pinto County,Texas.

(L.S.)

FILED FOR RECORD Jan. 15, 1935 at 10:01 AM

RECORDED Jan. 19, 1935 at 10:36 AM (PB)

Hurl Shaw
COUNTY CLERK, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

-0478-

RELEASE OF LIEN

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG) KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, on the second day of Nov. A.D. 1922 J. H.Fisher of the County of Gregg State of Texas, did execute, acknowledge and deliver to Tude Watts of the County of Gregg, State of Texas, a certain deed on the following described real estate, lying and being situated in the County of Gregg State of Texas, to-wit:

Lot No. 1 in Block No. 19 of Northcutt Heights Addition to the City of Longview, Texas, which said deed is of record in Vol. page Deed Records of Gregg County,Texas, and did in said deed retain a vendors lien to secure the prompt payment of one certain promissory note executed by the said Tude Watts and payable to the order of J. H.Fisher as follows:

In the sum of Two hundred and fifty Dollars- due and payable Nov. 1-1923.

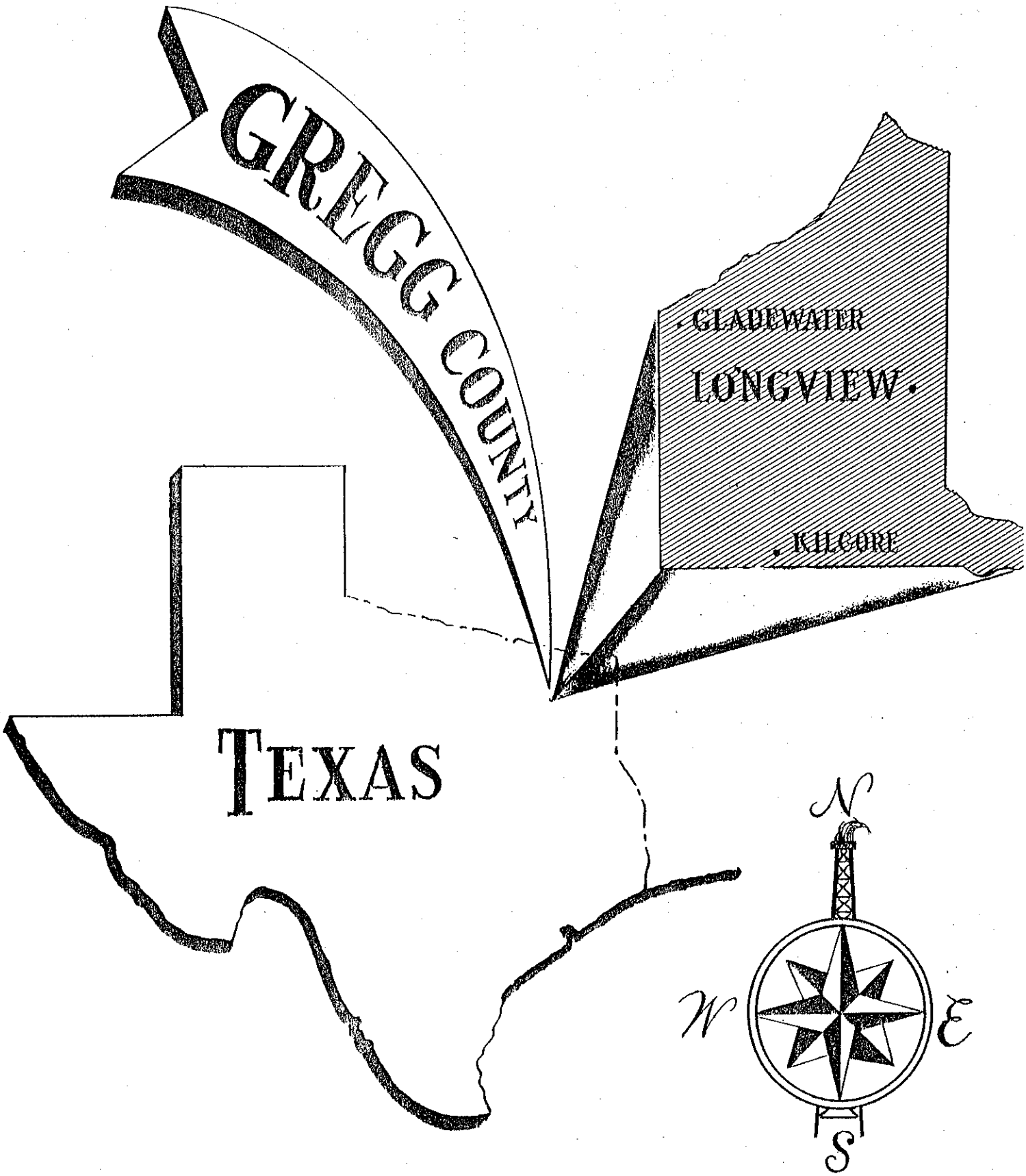
AND, WHEREAS, Said note with accrued interest thereon, has been fully paid to me, J. H.Fisher the legal and equitable holder and owner of such note

NOW , THEREFORE, KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That I, J. H. Fisher of Gregg County, State of Texas, in consideration of the premises, and of the full and final payment of said note, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have this day, and do by these presents RELEASE, DISCHARGE AND QUITCLAIM unto the said Tude Watts, her heirs or assigns, all the right, title, interest and estate in and to the property above described, which I have or may be entitled to by virtue of said note and Vendor Lien and do hereby declare the same fully released and discharged from any and all liens created by virtue of said note and vendors lien, above mentioned.

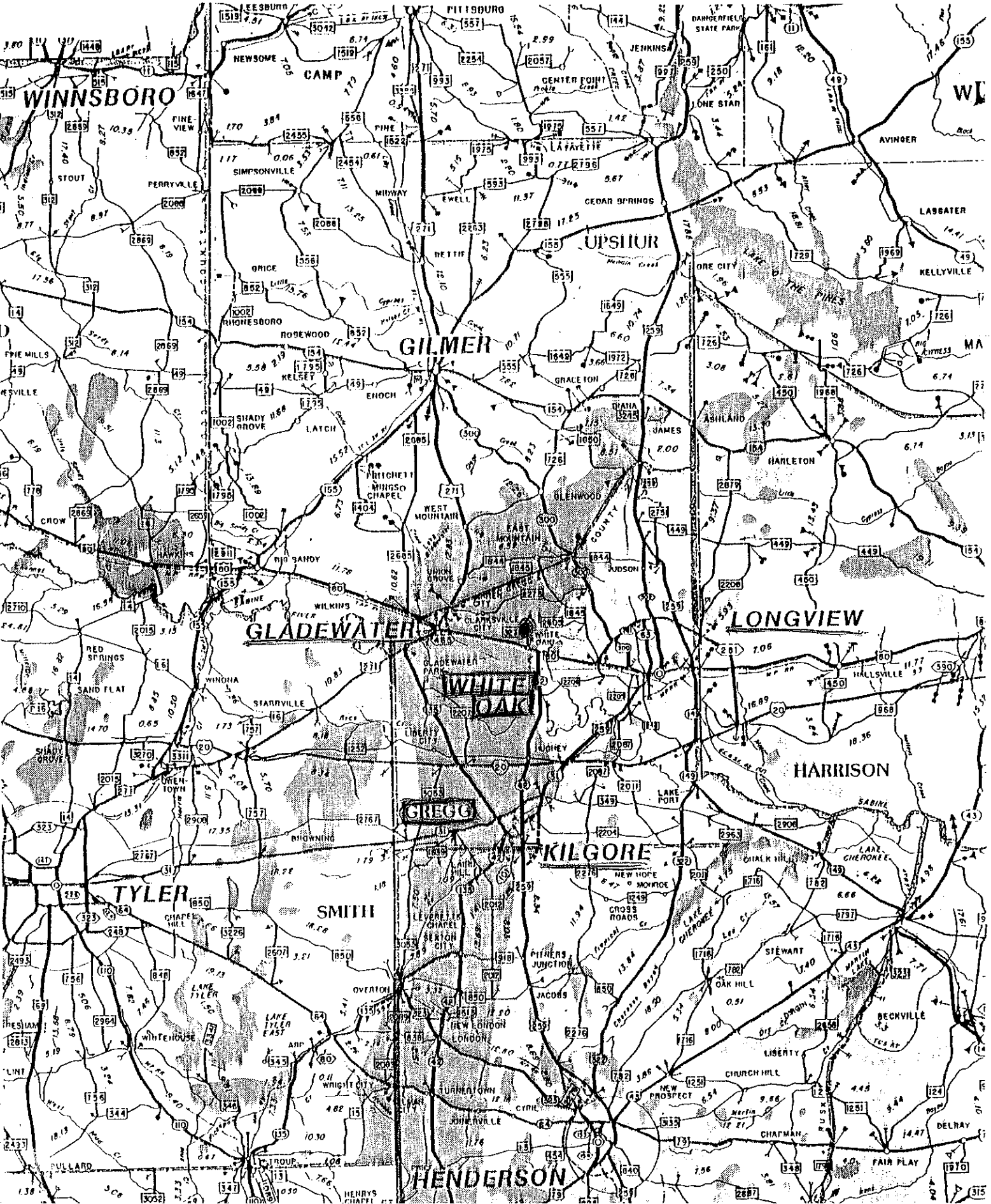
WITNESS my hand, this 14th day of January A.D. 1935.

J. H. Fisher.

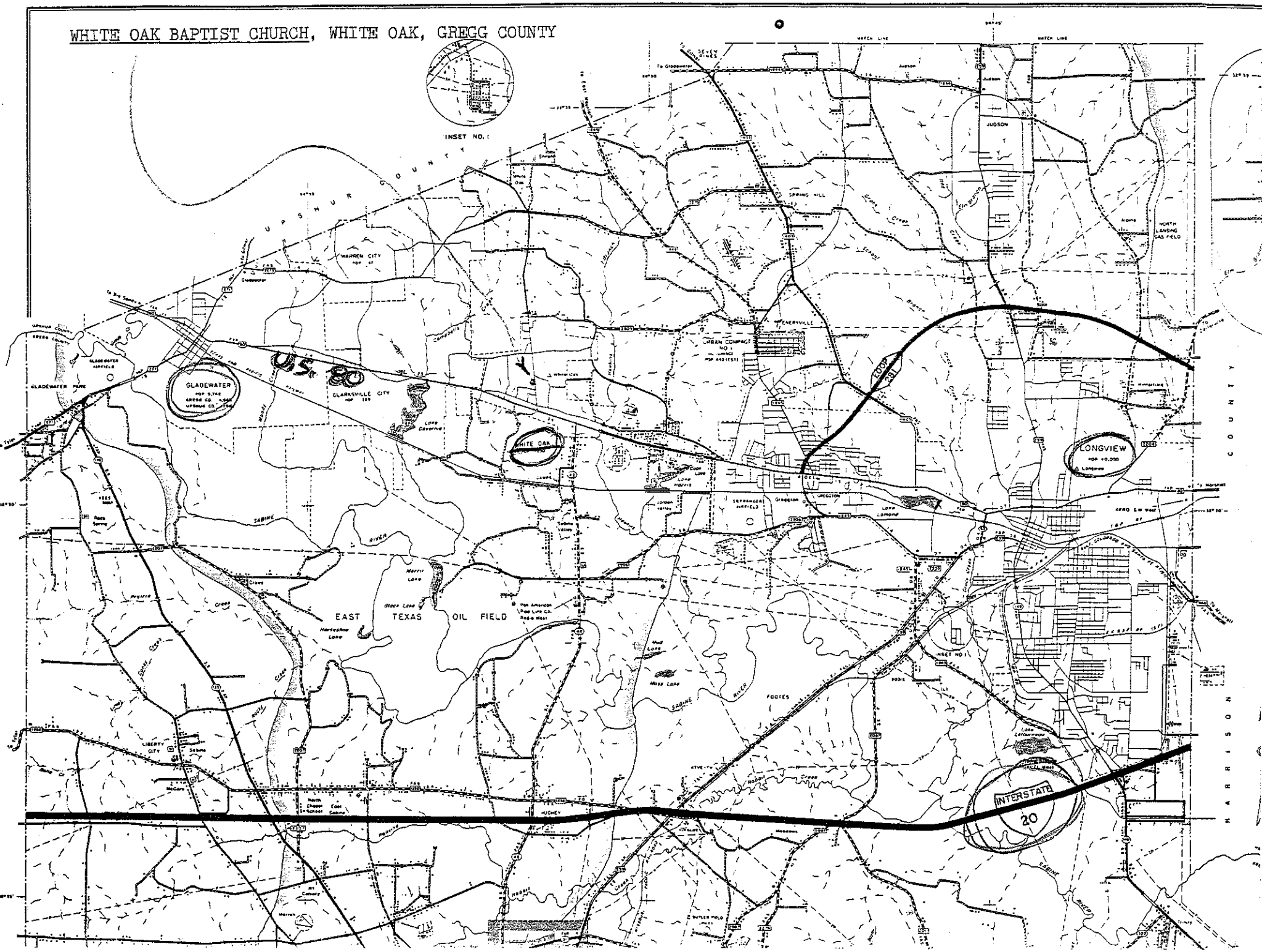
Witness E. P.Burnett.

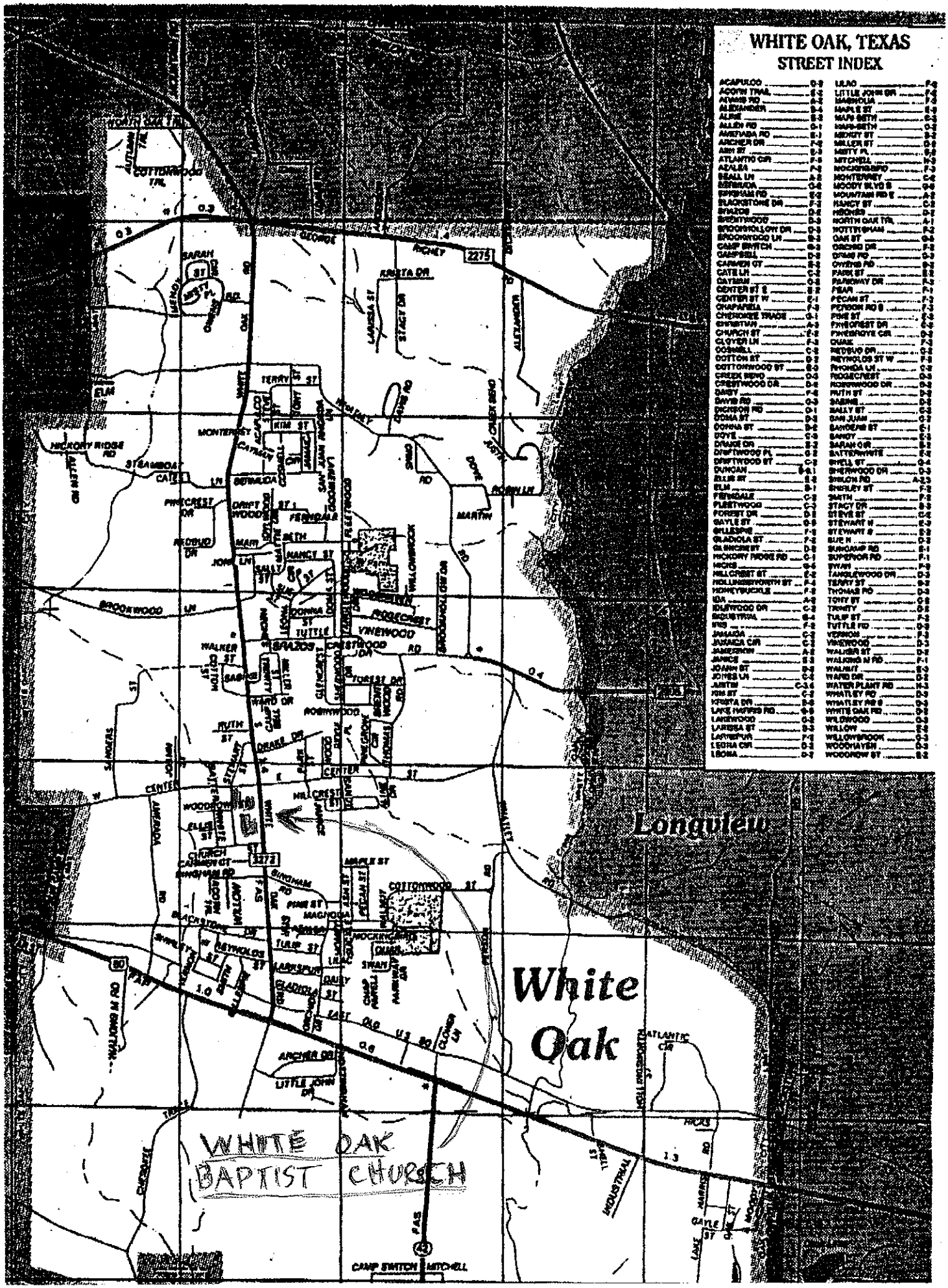

GREGG COUNTY
GLADEWATER
LONGVIEW
KILGORE
TEXAS
N
W
E
S

GREGG COUNTY



WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH, WHITE OAK, GREGG COUNTY




WHITE OAK, TEXAS
STREET INDEX
Longview
White Oak
WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

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

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

July 30, 1997

Dr Norman Black, Chair
Gregg CHC
417 Mobberly
Longview, TX 75602

RE: WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 29597; Received: 07/25/97

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 was received. Currently, there is about a 30-45 day wait between the time subject marker applications are received and evaluated. 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 Board 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 512/463-5853.

Sincerely,

Ronald C Kaase

Ronald C Kaase
Local History Programs

pc: James Marcus Oliver
Beth Dodson

P. O. Box 12276 • Austin, TX 78711-2276 • 512/463-6100 • Fax 512/475-4872 • TDD 1-800-735-2989

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

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

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

September 23, 1997

James Marcus Oliver
205 Monterrey
White Oak, TX 75693

RE: WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 29597, Gregg County

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am pleased to notify you that the State Marker Review Board has reviewed and approved the above-referenced topic for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

Payment for the marker, in the amount of $550.00, is now due. Please complete and return the enclosed payment form at your earliest convenience. Once payment for the marker 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 congratulates you on your efforts to record and preserve Texas history.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Beeman

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Marker Program

pc: Dr. Norman Black, Gregg CHC
Beth Dodson

P.O. Box 12276 • Austin, TX 78711-2276 • 512/463-6100 • Fax 512/475-4872 • TDD 1-800-735-2989

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

September 30, 1997

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

Re: WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
18" x 32" marker w/ post
Job # 29597, Gregg County

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed are two checks: one for the $550.00 marker w/post and the other for $72.25 for an 86 character inscription for the back of the marker. The inscription should read:

IN MEMORY OF
M. C. & ADA SATTERWHITE
AND
ROY & AGNES OLIVER
BY
JAMES MARCUS OLIVER & JUDY OLIVER KIRKLAND

Sincerely,

Norman

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.

Enc. - 2.

AGNES OLIVER
LIC. 2966350
401 S. WHITE OAK RD. PH. 759-4922
WHITE OAK, TEXAS 75693

6006

88-2248/1119

July 2 19 1997

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Texas Historical Commission $ 550.00

Five hundred fifty and no/100 DOLLARS

Texas National Bank
3400 West Marshall Avenue/Longview, Texas 75608

MEMO White Oak Baptist Church marker

James Marcus Oliver

⑆111922488⑆ 6006⑈6⑈3890⑈0⑈

AGNES OLIVER
LIC. 2966350
401 S. WHITE OAK RD. PH. 759-4922
WHITE OAK, TEXAS 75693

6021

88-2248/1119

September 29 19 97

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Texas State Historical Commission $ 72.25

Seventy Two Dollars and 25/100 DOLLARS

Texas National Bank
3400 West Marshall Avenue/Longview, Texas 75608

MEMO

James Oliver

⑆111922488⑆ 6021⑈6⑈3890⑈0⑈

The White Oak Independent
October 2, 1997

WO Baptist Church designated historical site

White Oak Baptist Church has been designated by the Texas Historical Commission as a state historical site.

Through the efforts of White Oakian James Oliver and Dr. Norman Black of the East Texas Historical Commission a marker has been approved and formal ceremonies will be held early spring, 1998, to honor the history of the first church built in White Oak.

The White Oak Independent

ite Oak Homecoming 1997 — Special Editi

October 2 199
Vol. VIII, No. 34

One Section This Wee
Offices at 201-B Hwy. 80
P.O. Box 445; White Oak TX
(903) 759-4410 • Fax: (903)
e-mail: newman@longview

50¢

Remembering a 1937 White Oak graduate

On the 60th anniversary of the first graduating class of White Oak High School family and friends will miss a familiar face during Homecoming activities ... that of Agnes Satterwhite Oliver. Mrs. Oliver passed away on September 18, 1995.

Agnes Satterwhite was born in White Oak to M.C. and Ada Satterwhite, one of the founding families of the community; her father was a farmer.

Agnes and her brothers and sisters attended White Oak schools and Agnes was among the first graduating class of 1937, a fact that she was proud of. She was a member of the first girl's basketball team under coach Velma Knowles. E.B. Carrington was a teacher at the time and Maurine Taylor taught Homemak-

Roy Oliver of Gilmer. They married and had two children, Judy and James Marcus.

Roy was the owner of Oliver Appliance and Furniture in Greggton. After his death in 1969, Mrs. Oliver managed the family business until she retired in 1981. Although she worked Agnes was active in the Community Club of White Oak and the Chamber of Commerce.

Agnes and Roy were both avid Roughneck fans and passed the tradition on to their children who are both involved in White Oak schools and are in turn passing the tradition on to their own children.

She was often seen at ball games watching her granddaughters and grandsons participate in sports and band activities.

The White Oak Baptist Church was an early and important influence in Agnes' life. She joined the church at the age of twelve and remained a member for over 63 years until her death. As a youngster, she loved to sing with her father and classmate, Charlene Barton.

One of her dreams in life was to see that the church was recognized for it's historic value. Through the efforts of her son, James, and Dr. Norman Black of the Gregg County Historical Society, that dream will come true as the church has just recently been recognized as an historical site and plans for a marker to be placed in the spring are well underway.

Blood drive at

WO Baptist Church designated historical site

White Oak Baptist Church has been designated by the Texas Historical Commission as a state historical site.

Through the efforts of White Oakian James Oliver and Dr. Norman Black of the East Texas Historical Commission a marker has been approved and formal ceremonies will be held early spring, 1998, to honor the history of the first church built in White Oak.

Texas Historical Commission (ECB), 11/17/97

18" x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker with post
Gregg County (Job # 29597)
Location: 117 White Oak Road, White Oak

WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH*

FORMALLY ORGANIZED IN 1910, WHITE

OAK BAPTIST CHURCH TRACES ITS

HISTORY TO AN EARLIER CONGREGATION

FOUNDED IN THE SAWMILL TOWN IN

1889. PASTOR ROBERT MARSH LED THE

CONGREGATION IN 1910. THREE YEARS

LATER, M. C. AND ADA (DICKINSON)

SATTERWHITE JOINED THE CHURCH.

INSTRUMENTAL IN WHITE OAK LIFE

FOR MUCH OF THE 20TH CENTURY, THE

SATTERWHITES DONATED TWO ACRES OF

LAND FOR A CHURCH BUILDING IN 1935.

THE MEN'S BROTHERHOOD WAS FORMED

IN THE MID-1930s;THE LADIES' AUXILIARY

BEGAN IN 1940. CHURCH FACILITIES GREW AS

NEEDED. WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH

REMAINS ACTIVE IN FELLOWSHIP AND

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS.**

(1998)***

* ¾ inch lettering
** ½ inch lettering
*** ¼ inch lettering

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

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

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

November 24, 1997

Dr. Norman Black, Chair
Gregg CHC
417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, TX 75602

RE: WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 29597

Dear Dr. Black:

Enclosed is the proposed inscription for the above-referenced marker. (Please note that this is a working copy, including filing and foundry instructions. The right-hand margin, which is uneven in this copy, will be justified on the finished 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 noted the correct marker location. Please contact other sponsors of this application to discuss the wording of this marker. If you approve the inscription, sign where indicated and return it to me. You also may want to make a copy of the inscription for your files.

If you have corrections to make or changes to suggest, please do so on the enclosed copy of the inscription and return it to me with the marked corrections. To ensure that I catch all your suggested changes, I ask that you not type a new version of the inscription. The revised wording will need to meet style and spacing requirements; suggestions for new information not documented in your narrative history must be sent with appropriate reference notes.

The marker will not be ordered for casting until the county historical commission and other persons or groups listed below have approved the inscription. For that reason, we will expect to receive signed copies of the inscription from each person; in order to avoid possible delays, you may want to consult with each other and discuss approvals or possible revisions and coordinate the return of all of the copies.

Sincerely,

Emily Cole Bell, Historian
Official Texas Historical Marker Program

pc: James Marcus Oliver
Beth Dodson

P. O. Box 12276 • Austin, TX 78711-2276 • 512/463-6100 • Fax 512/475-4872 • TDD 1-800-735-2989

Gregg County Job #29597, page 2

Incise on back:

IN MEMORY OF

M. C. & ADA SATTERWHITE

AND

ROY & AGNES OLIVER

BY

JAMES MARCUS OLIVER & JUDY OLIVER KIRKLAND

TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

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

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

December 9, 1997

Dr. Norman Black, Chair
Gregg CHC
417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, TX 75602

RE: WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post - Job # 29597
Shipment to the above address

Dear Dr. Black:

We have ordered the above-referenced marker for casting. It is currently taking 6 - 8 weeks for delivery from the foundry. **However, this is just an estimate; a final shipment date will depend on the foundry's workload**. A copy of the final inscription as it was sent to the foundry is enclosed for your files. According to our records, the marker should be shipped to the address above. If these instructions have changed during the marker process, please let me know as soon as possible so that I may notify the foundry.

If you have not already done so, this would be a good time to begin planning the marker dedication ceremony. However, please avoid setting the dedication date until the marker is received. The estimated shipping date above does not take into account potential shipping problems or other unforeseen delays, and the best laid dedication plans could be upset if planned around this time estimate. We will notify you and all parties listed below once the marker has been shipped from the foundry. A guide to planning a dedication ceremony is available from our office upon request. Since this is a state program, we suggest that your state senator and/or representative be included in the program, as well as your county judge and commissioners who have appointed your county historical commission.

Enclosed is a form for announcing the dedication in the THC's bi-monthly newsletter, The Medallion; in the marker dedication calendar, which is distributed to agency commissioners and staff; and in the monthly News for County Historical Commissions, once details have been finalized.

Again, please let me know if there has been a change in the shipping address, or if you would like a marker dedication guide.

Sincerely,

Egina

Egina G. Reyes
Office Manager
Local History Programs

pc: James Marcus Oliver
Beth Dodson

P.O. Box 12276 • Austin, TX 78711-2276 • 512/463-6100 • Fax 512/475-4872 • TDD 1-800-735-2989

☐ SEE BACK OF DELIVERY RECEIPT

DATE 01/02/98

SNT 057 JMJ C1LVY105

FREIGHT BILL # XXXXXXXXXCFL#99392429-9

Central Freight Lines, Inc.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
P.O. BOX 2638
WACO, TX 76702-2638
PHONE (254) 772-2120

SHIPPER 6600 D BT
SOUTHWELL CO
928 N ALAMO
SAN ANTONIO TX 78215

SCAC CFNF

CUSTOMER COPY

ROUTING
0520250001 FB# 993924299

IL

CONSIGNEE 4800
DR NORMAN BLACK
417 MOBBERLY AVE
PH 903/757-2261
LONGVIEW TX 75602

REF. #
BL 29597

0000000000 LBS

UNITS	P	HM	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT IN LBS	RATE	CHARGES
1			HISTORICAL MARKERS WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH CRT W/ POST ** DECLARED VALUE $ 600.00 5 SHIPEMENTS PICKED UP CENF 25 TEX 00340 @@@SYN	60	M	
1			*PREPAID CHARGES ON INVOICE COPY ONLY*	60		

1.
2.
3.
DRIVER
UNITS
DATE
TIME

RECEIVED IN GOOD ORDER EXCEPT AS NOTED
X Dr. Norman W. Black

RECEIVING CO. NAME

SURCHARGE

PRINT LAST NAME

SEAL #

INTACT ON RECEIPT X

AMT. DUE

AMT. COLLECTED

WHITE OAK BAPTIST CHURCH

"Ordinary people on an extraordinary journey."

Telephone (903) 759-4196

117 S. White Oak Road
P.O. Box 415
White Oak, TX 75693-0415

March 9, 1998

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

Dear Dr. Black,

On behalf of White Oak Baptist Church I want to express appreciation for your assistance to James Oliver in securing the historical marker for the church. James told me of your coordination of the effort between here and Austin, oversight of the preparation of the materials and examination of them, and your advice to him as to what he could and could not do. All of that was going "the second mile" for him and for us.

We are expecting a memorable homecoming day on Sunday, May 3. We invite you and your family to be with us for the morning worship service (10:30), which will be followed by lunch at noon and the historical marker service at 2:00 p.m.

We look forward to this opportunity for Christian fellowship with you.

Sincerely,

James A. Kirkland

James A. Kirkland

JAK/ad

STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GEORGE W. BUSH
GOVERNOR

April 1, 1998

Greetings to:

White Oak Baptist Church

Congratulations as you celebrate the dedication of a state historical marker on May 3. This important designation of your church will help preserve a valuable piece of Texas history.

The celebration of faith is central to the lives of Texans. Your church plays an important role in your community and our state. Texas will remain strong as long as we have churches dedicated to the ministry of God and His faithful. I commend you for your many acts of charity and service.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes on this special occasion.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White Oak Independent
April 30, 1998

THIS WEEK IN WHITE OAK

WOBC to receive historical marker this Sunday

The Texas Historical Commission and the Gregg County Historical Commission will dedicate an official historical marker for White Oak Baptist Church this Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m. Dr. Norman Black, president of the Gregg County Historical Commission, will head up the ceremony.

The ceremony will take place at the church located at 117 White Oak Road. Rev. James Kirkland, pastor of White Oak Baptist, will give a history of the church during services held at 10:30 that morning.

The public is invited to both the worship service and the dedication.

PASTORS

1910-1931	Brethren Marsh, Sin, Bomar, Cox, T. A. Johns, Low, Preston Taylor, Russell Taylor
1931-1938	O. F. Barton
1938-1941	Deckert Anderson
1941-1946	A. J. Kirkland
1946-1948	A. J. Wall
1948-1955	O. H. Griffith
1955-1959	James B. Powers
1959-1964	Glenn Perry
1964-1966	Herbert Banks
1966-1973	C. Bill Voss
1973-1980	Don Shultz
1981-	James A. Kirkland

sketched by Kimberli Kirkland

Dedication

of an

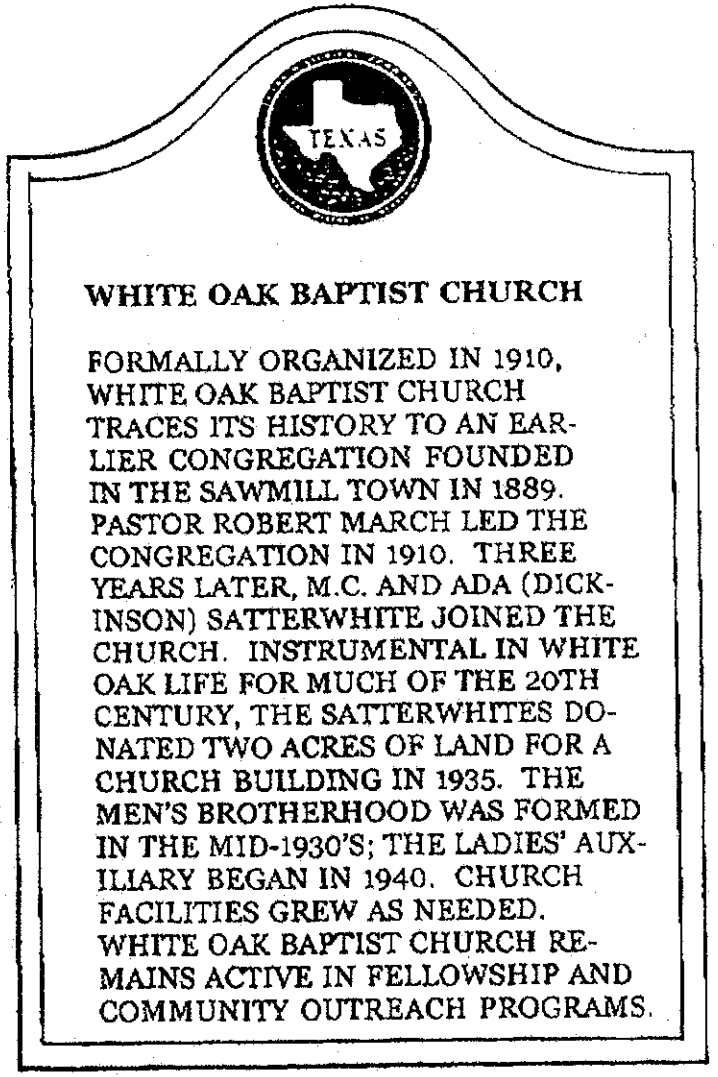
Official Texas Historical Marker

White Oak Baptist Church
White Oak, Texas

First Church, sketched by Nobie Tuttle

Sunday, May 3, 1998
2:00 p.m.

Sponsored by
The Texas Historical Commission
The Gregg County Historical Commission



This marker is given in memory of
M.C. & Ada Satterwhite
and
Roy & Agnes Oliver
by
James Marcus Oliver & Judy Oliver Kirkland

Program

Welcome	Dr. Norman W. Black Chairman, Gregg County Historical Commission
Invocation	Rev. James Kirkland Pastor, White Oak Baptist Church
Introduction of Guest	Dr. Black
Musical Selection	Alisha Kirkland Accompanied by Valerie Berge Bury
Remarks & Introduction of Marker Reader	James Marcus Oliver
Reading of Marker	Nina Cockerell
Dedication of Marker	Dr. Black
Unveiling of Marker	James Oliver & Judy Oliver
Benediction	Rev. Kirkland

Gregg County Historical Commission

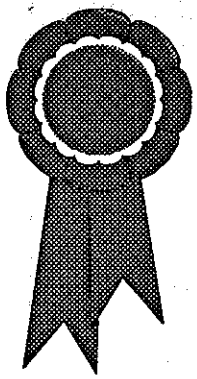
Dr. Norman W. Black, Chairman
Mrs. Mildred Wood Barker
Mr. Jack Buchanan
Sue Martin Brown
Mrs. Pauline Cox
Mrs. B. W. Crain, Jr.
Beth Holloway Dodson
Dr. Ken Durham
Helen McHaney Griffen
Carol Morris Little
Mrs. H. L. Long
Anne P. Mackenzie
Nauty Byrd Mayer
Amanda Pratt Nobles
Dr. W.D. Northcutt, III
Mrs. John W. Osteen
Mr. Joe White
Mr. W. A. Williams

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to

Dr. Norman Black

For Assistance in the Dedication of an
Official Historical Marker for
White Oak Baptist Church
May 3rd, 1998



Presented by

James Marcus Oliver

The White Oak Independent

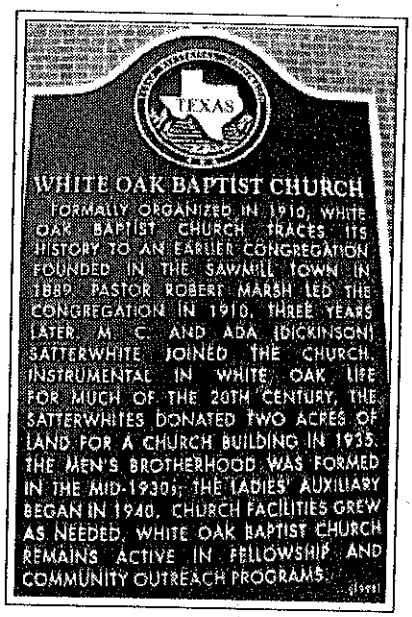
White Oak Baptist Church recipient of historical marker

By WINNIE NEWMAN
Independent Editor

Another piece of White Oak history was recorded Sunday, May 3, when White Oak Baptist Church became the recipient of an official Texas Historical Marker.

Sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission and the Gregg County Historical Commission the marker was given in memory of M.C. and Ada Satterwhite and Roy and Agnes Oliver by James Marcus Oliver and Judy Oliver Kirkland. James Oliver spent years researching the history of the church in preparation for his petition for the marker. This was done at the request of his mother, Agnes Oliver, before she passed away last year.

The day's festivities began with the morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Norman W. Black, chairman of the Gregg County Historical Commission, was opening speaker at the services. "The histories of Texas and Baptists are closely intertwined," he began. "When Stephen F. Austin, under the Mexican Constitution of 1824, was able to bring hundreds of families from the United States into Texas, many of these immigrants were Baptists. But six years later, in 1830, when Santa Ana became dictator, all immigrants had to profess to be Catholics," he explained.



RECORDED — WOBC is now included in Texas history when it was granted this historical marker last Sunday.

"In the Eastern part of Texas, being more remote, this policy was known, but quietly ignored. Baptists bravely preached the faith. Times were very hard for these frontier Baptists, as you, who know your own church history, are aware. One can see, today, that the same, strong Christian pioneer attitude and perseverance of your physical and spiritual ancestors still exists and prevails," he added.

Among the honored guests was Rev. O.H. Griffith, who pastored at the church from 1948 until 1955.

See MARKER on page 7