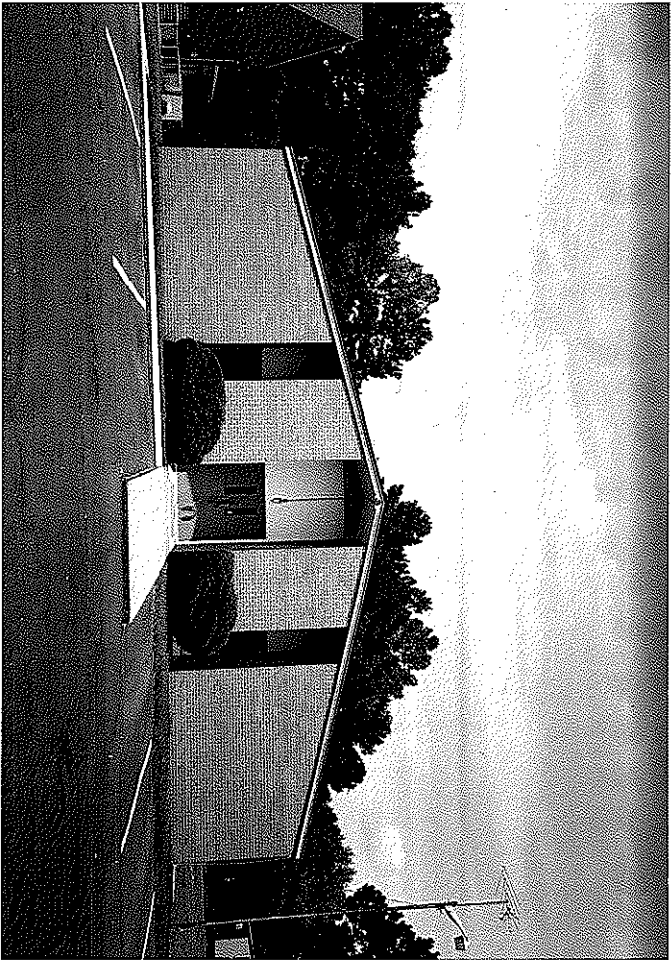




REV. TOM CROWE

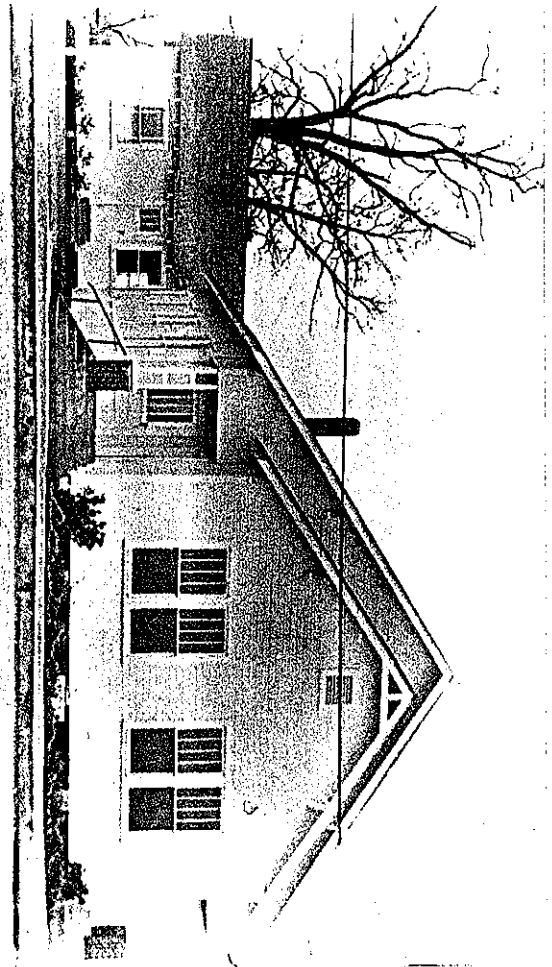
THIS DIRECTORY
IS DEDICATED IN LOVING MEMORY
TO TWO OF THE FOUNDERS OF
WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
MR. & MRS. G. B. (DODD) RICHARDSON
AND CHILDREN
BY THEIR DESCENDENTS
1975



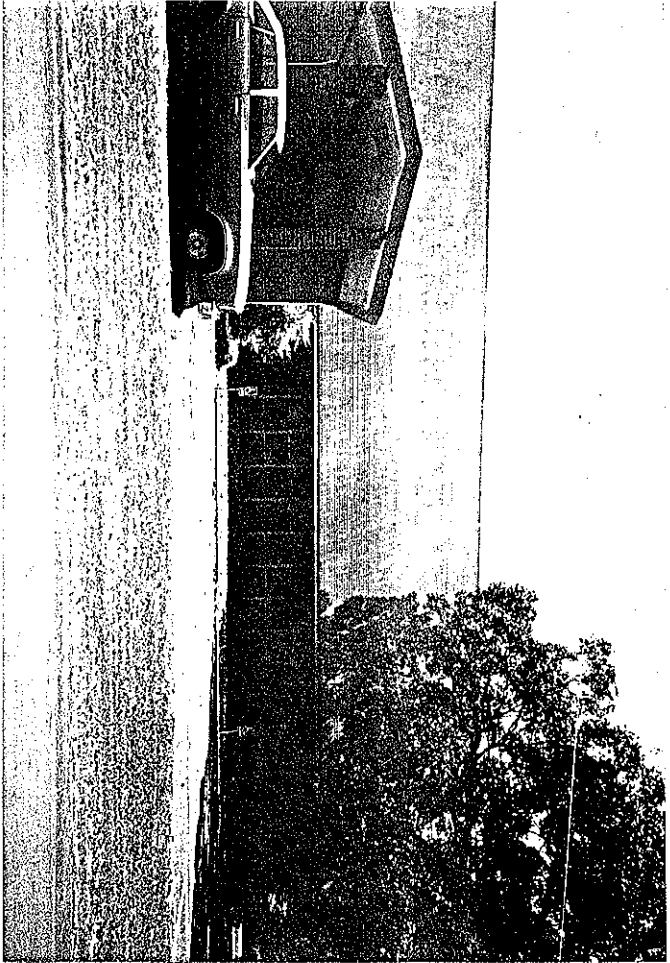


1898

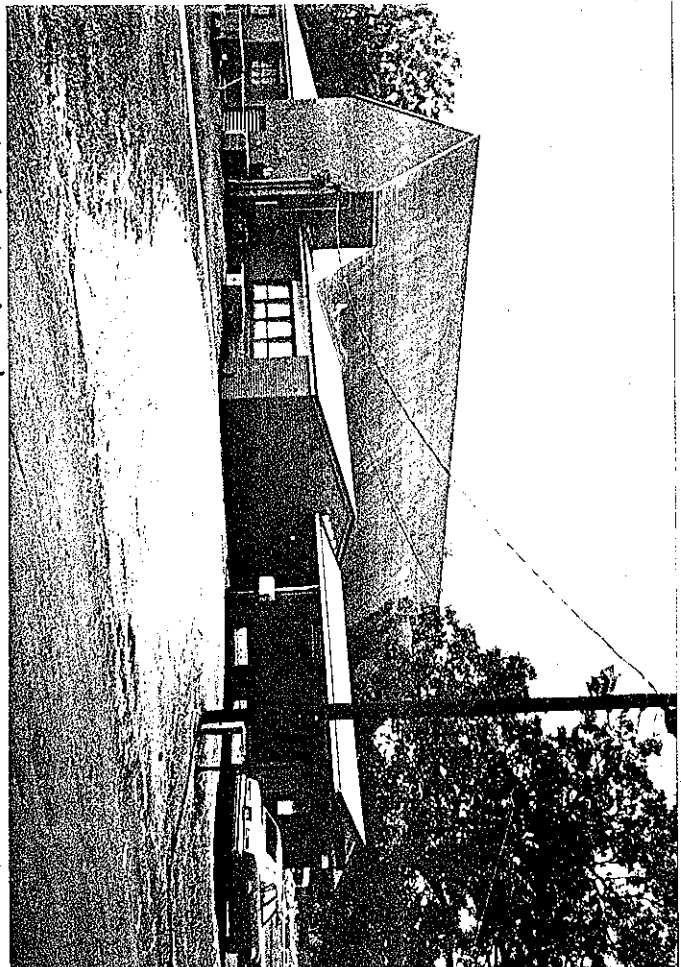
Winterfield Methodist Church



1929

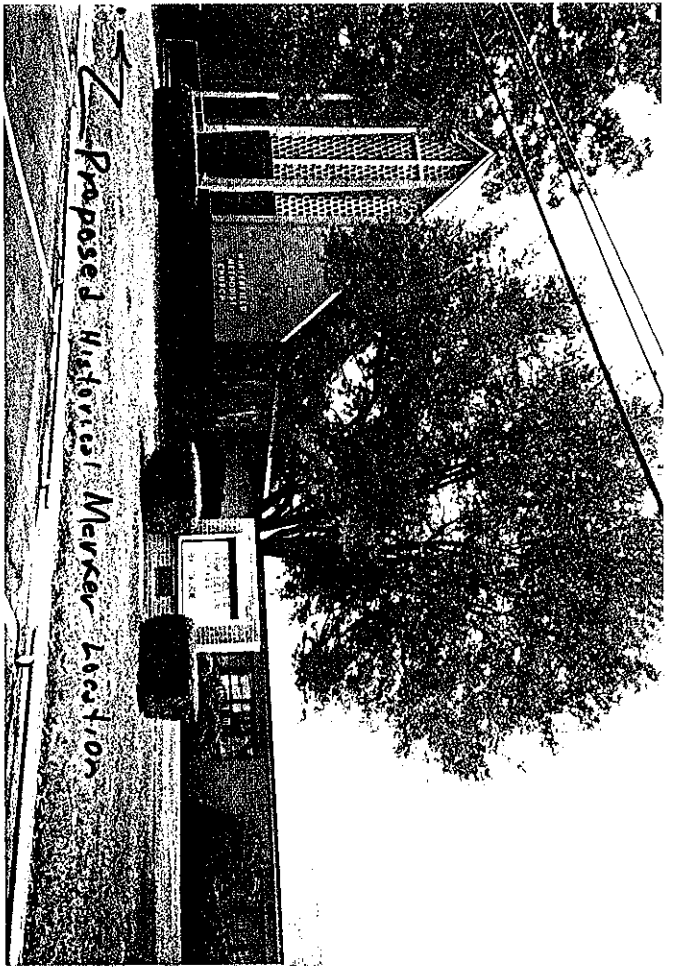


North side



Winterfield Methodist Church, Longview, Gregg Co.

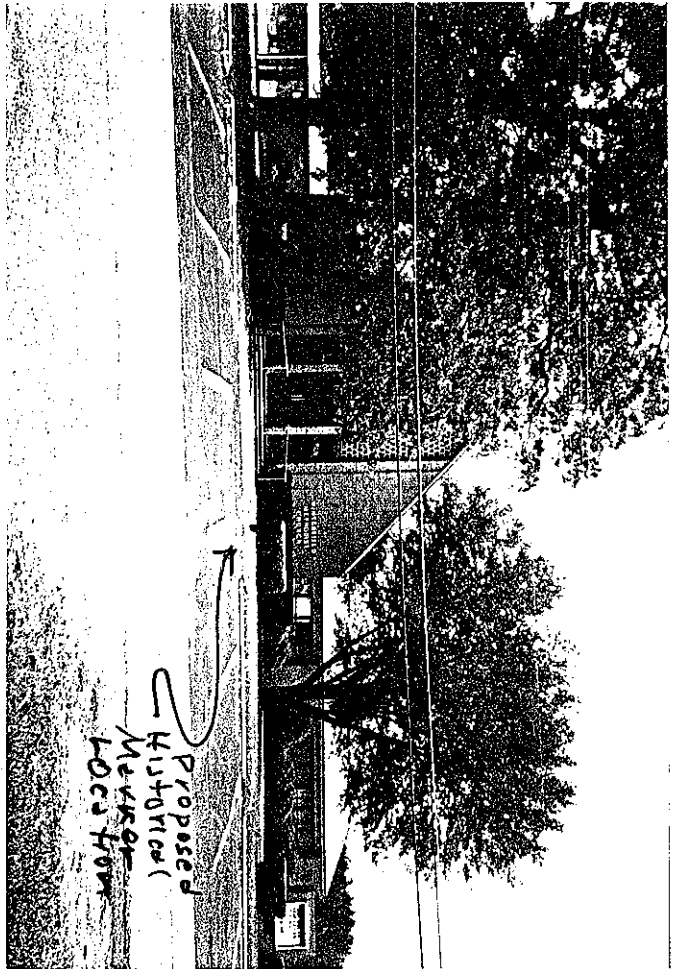
9-2-94



Front (west)

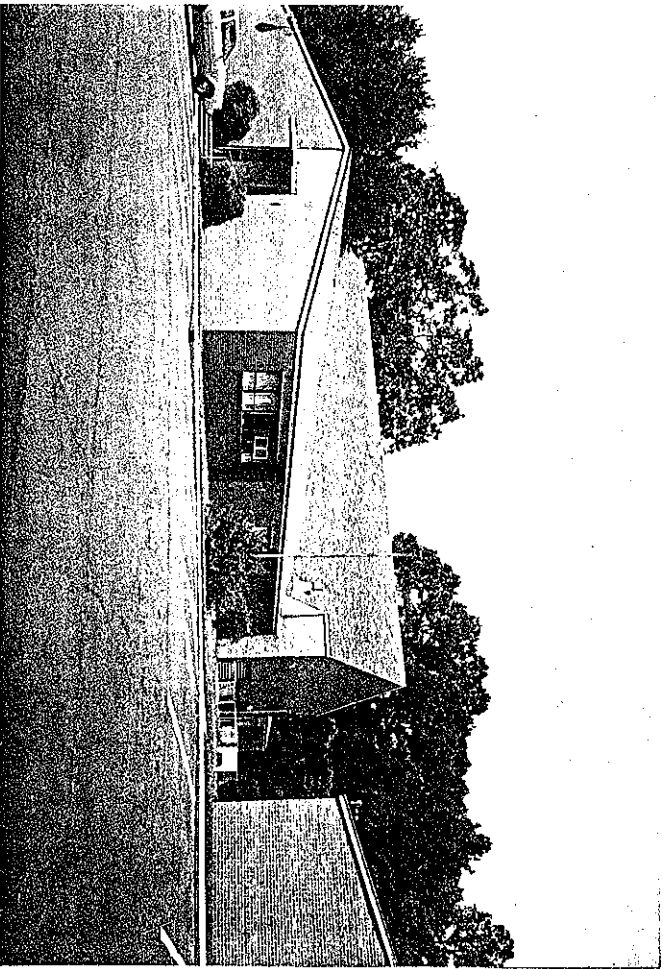
Winterfield Methodist Church, Longview, Gregg Co.

9-2-94

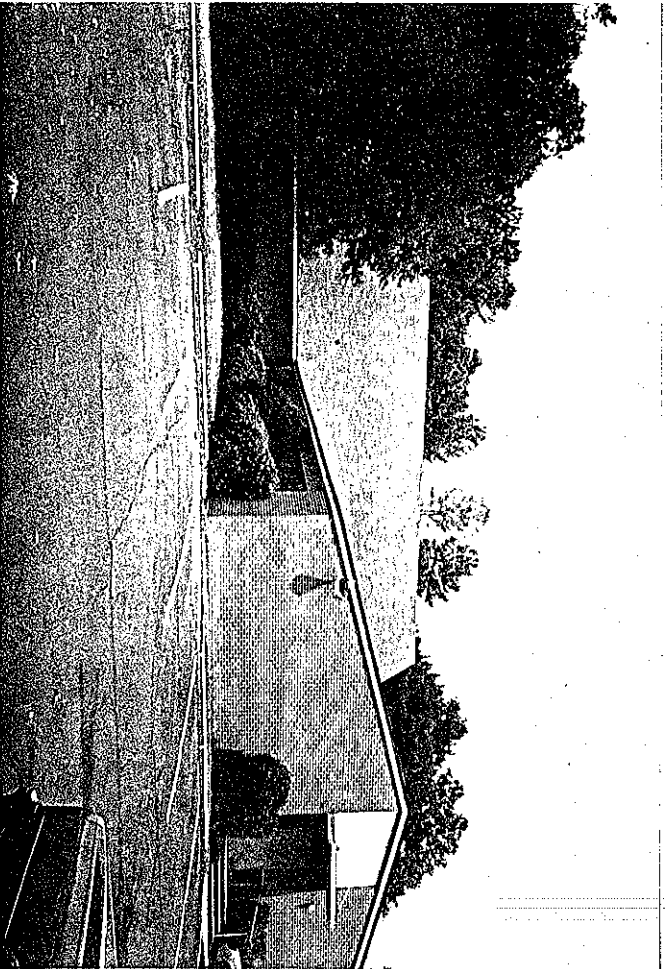


Front (west)

Proposed
Historical
Mercer
Location



South & east sides



South side

GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

COUNTY BLOCK

ALEX JORDAN SURVEY

ABSTRACT NO. 262

NO. 32

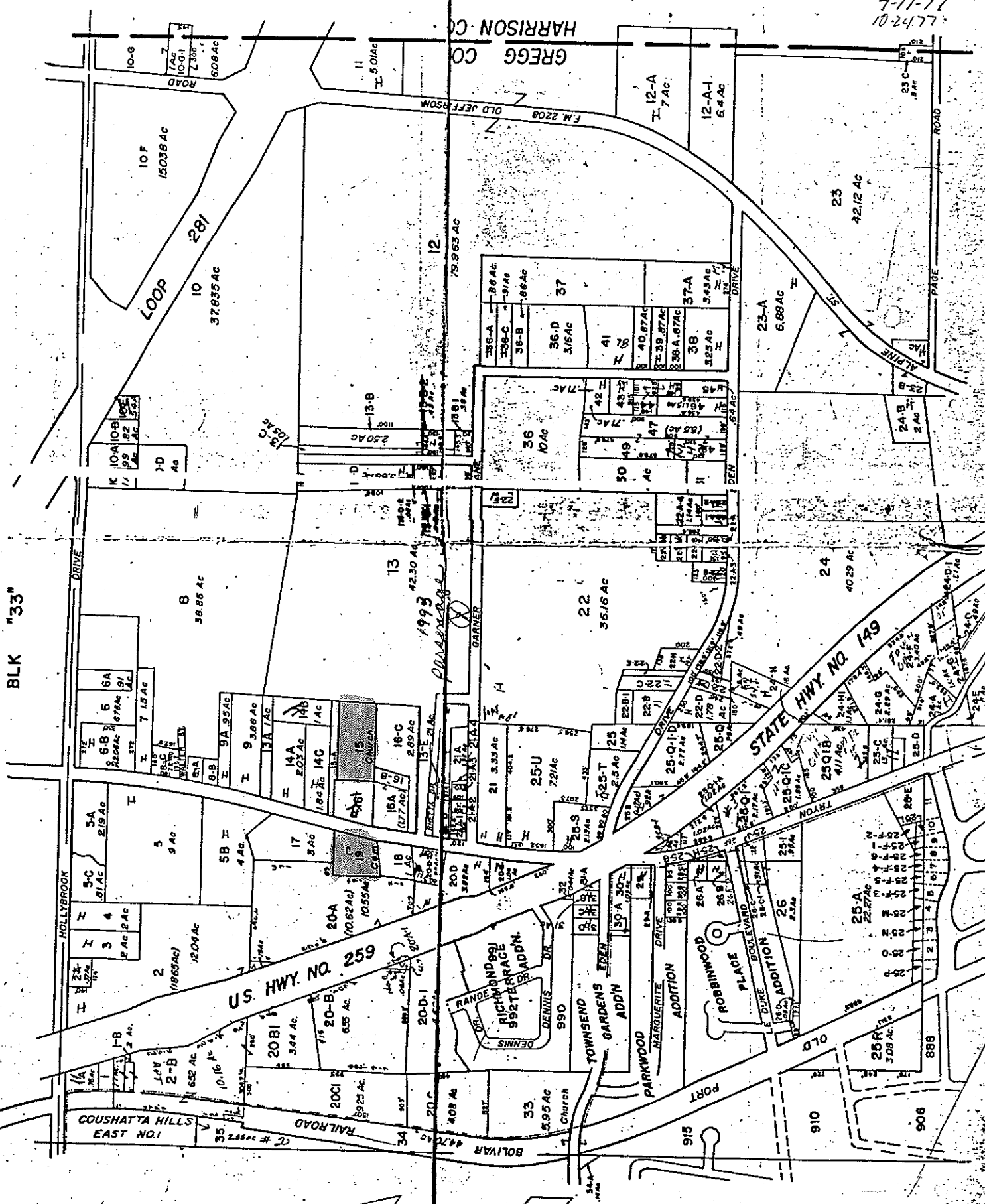
SCALE 1" = 500 FEET

3-15-76

6-5-76

4-17-77

10-24-77



OUR HISTORY...

WINTERFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

compiled
by

Rachael Garner
Historian

Winterfield United Methodist Church
2616 Tryon Rd Longview, Texas 75601

October 1988

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

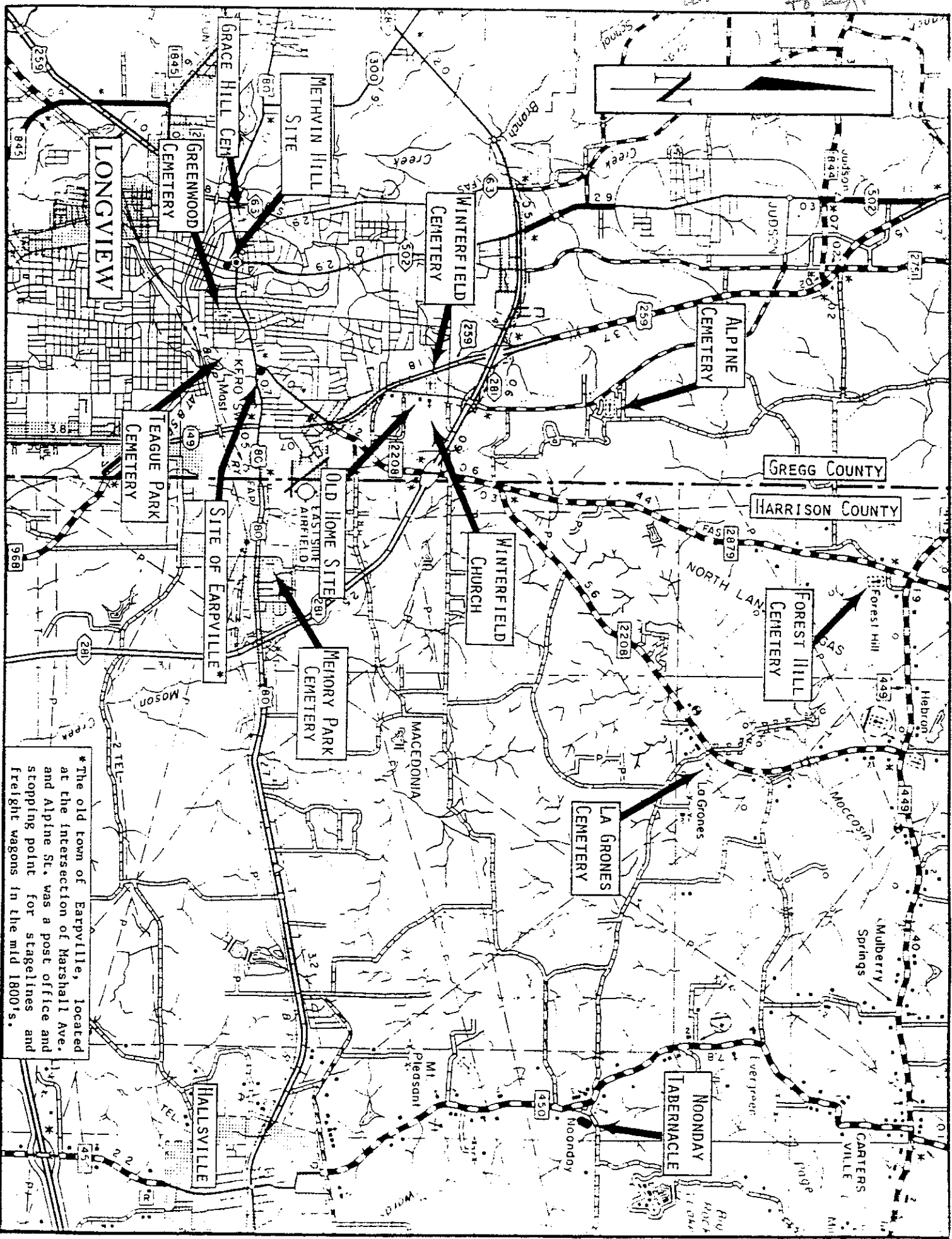
Much has been accomplished in the writing of this, the History of our church. From the beginnings to the present time, we have a history of over 110 years of which we can be very proud of, as members of the congregation of Winterfield United Methodist Church.

Reference material used to compile the history has come from various sources, Gregg County Clerk's office for the abstracts and original deed purchases, the Gregg County Tax Office for the original map of Gregg County dated July 1st, 1874, to Betty Landers who holds the original ledger of preachers and church members of LaGrone Chapel Methodist Church for the listings of early-day preachers, Longview Daily News for clippings on the ground-breaking and the ~~congregation~~ of the church, and early day Longview newspapers for articles regarding the church. A special thank you to C. O. Richardson, Jr., who has given the pictures of the early day churches to be used in this history.

To all of the members who have given of their time to answer questions, offer pictures to be used, a special thank you.

Rachael Garner
Historian
Winterfield United Methodist Church

unclear at side to left



* The old town of Earpville, located at the intersection of Marshall Ave. and Alpine St. was a post office and stopping point for stagelines and freight wagons in the mid 1800's.

ABSTRACT OF DEED

Complier _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Date Abstracted _____

County GREGG State TEXAS

Deed Book VOLUME G Page PAGES 508, 509 and 510

Repository COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, GREGG CO. COURTHOUSE, LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Grantor(s) THOMAS AND ELIZA HOPKINS Residence GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

Grantee(s) BOARD OF TRUSTEES WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH Residence GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

G. W. LAGRONE, N. D. DOWNS, J. W. BORING, A. A. WILKES, JULY GARNER, G. A. KELLY, D. W. ADRIAN, SOLOMAN ROWE, G. B. RICHARDSON.

Date of Deed June 8, 1883 Date Recorded June 13, 1883

Consideration Sum of Forty (\$40) Dollars

Signature(s) or Mark(s) THOMAS HOPKINS AND ELIZA HOPKINS (mark)

Witnesses (to mark of Eliza Hopkins) S. MAY and N. D. DOWNS

Description Beginning at the N.E. corner of July Garner's land, Thence N.E. 62 yards to a Red Oak stump, Thence S.E. 98 yards to a Black Jack, Thence in same direction 67 yards to another Black Jack, Thence in same direction 92 yards to a Hickory, Thence due West to a Stake on Said Garner's line, Thence North with his line to the Beginning containing four acres of land more or less.

Other Pertinent Information Said premises shall be used, kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of divine worship for the use of the Ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and herein before called the Methodist Church South.
Release of Dower _____

ABSTRACT OF DEED

Compiler _____ Surname _____

Address _____ Date Abstracted _____

County GREGG State TEXAS

Deed Book VOLUME H Page PAGES 213, 214

Repository COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, GREGG CO. COURTHOUSE, LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Grantor(s) THOMAS AND ELIZA HOPKINS Residence GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

Grantee(s) BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH Residence GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS
J.W. LAGRONE, N.D. DOWNS, J.W. BORING, A.B. WILKES, JULY GARNER
G.A. KELLY, D.W. ADRIAN, SOLOMAN ROWE AND G.G. RICHARDSON

Date of Deed September 3, 1884 Date Recorded September 4, 1884

Consideration Sum of Twenty (\$20) Dollars.

Signature(s) or Mark(s) THOMAS HOPKINS AND ELIZA HOPKINS (mark)

Witnesses (to mark of Eliza Hopkins) S. MAY

Description Situated in Gregg County, Texas about two and 1/2 miles north of Longview,
being a part of the Alexander Jordan H R Survey, and beginning at the N.E.
corner of the Camp Ground lot, Thence East at 18 yds a Stake, Thence South
at 124 yds a Stake, Thence West at 136 yds a Stake, Thence West at 12 yds
the S.W. corner of Said Camp Ground lot, Thence East with said line to the
S.E. corner of Same, Thence North with East line of Same to the beginning.

Other Pertinent Information Sold and conveyed unto said trustees and their Successors in
office, for the use and benefit of Methodist Episcopal Church South at
Winterfield, Gregg County, Texas.

Release of Dower _____

WARRANTY DEED

THE STATE OF TEXAS)

COUNTY OF GREGG) KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That We, G.W. Richardson & wife Ada Richardson of the County of Gregg State of Texas for and in consideration of the sum of Ten and No/100— DOLLARS and the exchange of land to us in hand paid by C. H. Richardson, G.W. Richardson, L. H. Richardson J. E. Blalock and D. H. Smitherman, Trustees for WINTERFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH,

have Granted, Sold and conveyed, and by these presents do Grant, Sell and Convey, unto the said C. H. Richardson, G. W. Richardson, L. H. Richardson, J. E. Blalock and D. H. Smitherman, Trustees for WINTERFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH of the County of Gregg, State of Texas all that certain tract of land situated in Gregg County, Texas, a part of the Alexander Jordan Survey about 3 miles North from Longview, Texas, located on both Sides of Winterfield Public Road, commencing at an iron stake in South fence of present cemetery tract, from which a sweet gum tree bears East 3 2/10 vrs.

THENCE East 165 varas to iron stake in edge of field;

THENCE North 102 6/10 vrs through field to an Iron stake for corner.

THENCE West at 165 varas an Iron stake in fence on G. A. Meadows east line.

THENCE South at 102 6/10 varas to place of beginning, containing three acres of land, more or less.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said G.W. Richardson, L. H. Richardson, C. H. Richardson, J. E. Blalock and D. H. Smitherman, Trustees for WINTERFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH their successors and assigns forever and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, to warrant and forever

defend, all and singular the said premises unto the said G.W. Richardson, L. H. Richardson, C. H. Richardson, J. E. Blalock and D. H. Smitherman, Trustees for WINTERFIELD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, their successors--- and assigns, against every person whosoever lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

WITNESS our hands at Longview, Texas, this 2nd day of June 1938.

G. W. Richardson

Ada Richardson.

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 G.W. Richardson and Ada Richardson, his wife, both known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they each executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and the said Ada Richardson, wife of the said G.W. Richardson having been examined by me privily and apart from her husband, and having the same fully explained to her, she the said Ada Richardson 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 2nd day of June A.D. 1938.

E. P. Burnett
Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas.

(L.S.)

FILED FOR RECORD June 2, 1938 at 3:01 PM

RECORDED June 4, 1938 at 11:10 AM (PB)

W. J. Stewart
COUNTY CLERK, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS



Recommendation for Re-admission into the Traveling Connection.

To the Bishop and Members of the _____ Annual Conference
of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to be held at _____
_____, 18____.

Dear Fathers and Brethren: _____ is hereby
recommended by the District Conference of _____ District,
of _____ Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal
Church, South, according to the rules and regulations of the same, as a suitable person for re-admission into the traveling connection.

Signed in behalf of said District Conference,

_____, President.

_____, Secretary.

Date, _____ 190____.

PREACHERS, PAST AND PRESENT

In the early beginnings of Winterfield United Methodist Church, circuit preachers were the primary means of worship through-out the area. They would have a "circuit route" so that they might be able to preach at various churches in their district, at least once a month at each church.

The preacher would stay with a church family for several days. His horse would be attended to by the man of the house. He received very little money for his services - extra food and clothing often were given - for many, the preacher was their only source of information to stay in touch with neighbors in the other communities, and they were eager for news of their families, happenings in the community.

In the early years of Winterfield, she shared the preacher with other community churches, such as LaGrone Chapel, Hallsville, Noon-day, and other area churches under Methodist guidance.

Following is a list of names of early day preachers obtained thru the original LaGrone Chapel ledger, newspaper accounts, memories of long-time members, and thru the Annual Methodist Directories.

Gus Garrison	appt	1900	died	Oct 18, 1923
W. L. Pate	"	1901	"	Nov 25, 1940
G. W. Riley	"	1902	"	Mar 5, 1925
J. W. Hall	"	1903		
William W. Horner	"	1904	"	Nov 11, 1931
I. F. Pace	"	1906	"	Apr 23, 1948
J. A. Carr	"	1908		
Jno. B. Bell	"	1909		
W. M. Wills	"	1910		
Major M. I. Brown	"	1911	"	Jan 10, 1950
Arthur L. Conner	"	1914		
Preston Florence	"	1917		
S. M. Dunnam	"	1918		
D. E. Snelter	"	1918	"	Oct 23, 1953
Bruce O. Gowan	"	1921		
James Leon McAdams	"	1922		
Joseph Henry Malone	"	1926	"	Jan 19, 1956
W. W. Hardt	"	1928	"	Apr 11, 1943
Irrie J. Waldon	"	1929-1934	"	Jun 29, 1965
McCain				
C. A. Perkins				
Gordon Alexander				

Full-time Methodist preachers for Winterfield church from 1935

thru the current time include:

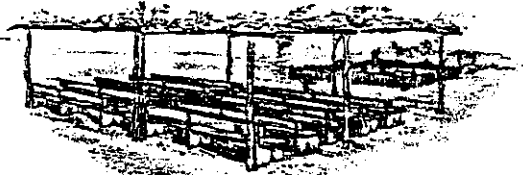
Chad Murry
James Bee Waggoner
Benjamin Wilson Waltman
W. Edward Mitchell
Roland T. Scales
Louis Gantt ?
William Hodge

Everett Hal McCombs
William^C Webb
Robert^W Herndon
Earl H. Dawson
EuGene[?] Stegar
Richard^W Goodrich
Tom Crowder

Fellowship has always been a part of Winterfield United Methodist church, a spiritually awakening that is needed by all. We have been very fortunate to have had good men, whose main concern was the well-being of the church, the community, the city and the District.

To these men, the congregation as a whole, has benefited by the ministering and friendship.

from past to present



(1) Brush Arbor 1875-1880

(artist's conception.)

When Winterfield Church started church services over one hundred years ago, there was no constructed building for the members to worship in. Services were held under the trees, and if the weather was bad, no services were held at all. Only a few families were living in the area of the church grounds; the roads leading into the community were narrow trails, so when the day for services came, people would walk in as a family, ride horseback or come in wagons or buggies. Because of the times, since no qualified preacher was available to them, one of the well-known and honored men of the community would do the preaching.

As the community began to enlarge with the immigration of families from other parts of the country, mainly the southern states after the War between the States ended, a need was seen for the beginnings of a church building for worship.

About 1875, in the approximate area where Winterfield United Methodist church now stands, a brush arbor once stood. Busy farmers took time out from their own work in the fields to come together to erect a brush arbor so that they might worship. The arbor was framed by tree trunks and covered across the top with limbs to keep some of the weather out. The hard benches were made by hand, similar to those that are still in use at the Noonday Tabernacle Revival services. In those days, the camp meeting usually lasted from ten days to two weeks; several preachers and lay persons would be involved. Along with the fellowship of worship it was also the only opportunity of getting together with families and friends who lived great distances from the Winterfield community.

A second brush arbor was built about 1880, this being used as a place of worship until the first wooden church building was built in 1882. The brush arbor or "Methodist Camp" was officially organized as Winterfield Methodist church sometime prior to June 8, 1883 when the trustees of the church purchased four acres of land from Thomas and Eliza Hopkins for the first wooden church building.

The first frame structure built in 1882 was across the street from the present site, and by 1898 a second structure had been built just south of the site of the church now.

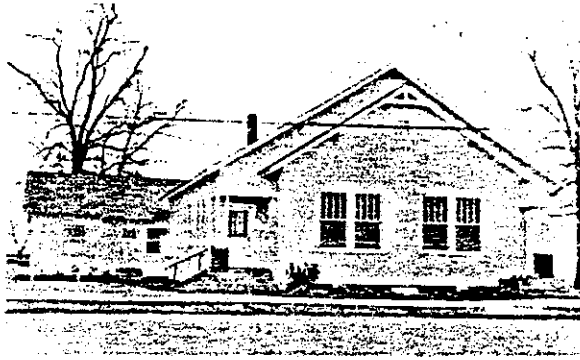


(2) One Room Church Constructed in 1898

The second wood frame building was a one room church about 30' by 50', containing the old and new wooden benches that had served well in the brush arbors and the first framed church. Monthly services were held by the preacher on circuit with Hallsville, La Grone and Summerfield Methodist churches. It has been said that the members of the early-day church would become quite emotionally, some of the women would come out of the pews singing praises to God for His goodness and begging sinners to repent their sins.

Their music, the old-time hymns they all knew from childhood would come thru the open windows in the summer-time, bringing strong stirrings to many of the growing membership.

A notice appeared in the Longview TIMES-CLARION dated Thursday March 16, 1905 ----"Our subject for next Sunday is as follows--at Winterfield at 11 a.m., "The Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man!" At La-Grone's Chapel at 3 p.m. the subject will be "Our obligations to God and our Fellowman." Both these subjects are of great importance and we hope to have full houses at both places. Come one, come all. W.W. Horner."



(3) Sanctuary Constructed in 1929

To accomodate an ever-growing congregation, a third wooden church was built in 1929. At that time, Winterfield was on a circuit with Hallsville and LaGrone Chapel, the parsonage located in Hallsville. It was not until around 1935-1940 that Winterfield had a full-time preacher. A parsonage was built behind the church, which was used until our present parsonage on Akin Drive was purchased in 1967.

In the early thirtie's services were still monthly with circuit preacher, but newly formed Sunday School classes were being held weekly in the church building. This building was very comfortable for the services held, for during the summer, four ceiling fans had been placed for use to cool the members. In the harsh winters, two large wood-burning stoves were used to heat the building, the wood being furnished by the members of the church. Additional Sunday School rooms had to be added to the back of the church.

This wooden church with it's additions was sufficient for the members of Winterfield about twenty-five years. In 1955 and 1956, the congregation began making plans for a larger church, this one being of brick construction. They, like their forefathers, had a vision and strong faith that with the help of God and Man, this dream would come true.

By May 18, 1958 when the new brick church was dedicated with the formal opening and Service of Consecration, that dream had come true. According to the Longview News-Journal that morning "The new brick edifi- with the sky pointing roof will see 300 worshipers in the mahogany pews. The transformation from the frame clapboard building which the new sanctuary replaced is startling, when viewed with the knowledge that the transformation was all wrought by a small congregation of only 270 members."



Three long-time members of the Winterfield Methodist Church, Tom Davis, Dan Smitherman, and Lewis Richardson turn the first spadefuls of earth Sunday November 10, 1957, during ground-breaking ceremonies for the construction of the church's new \$90,000 sanctuary and educational wing.

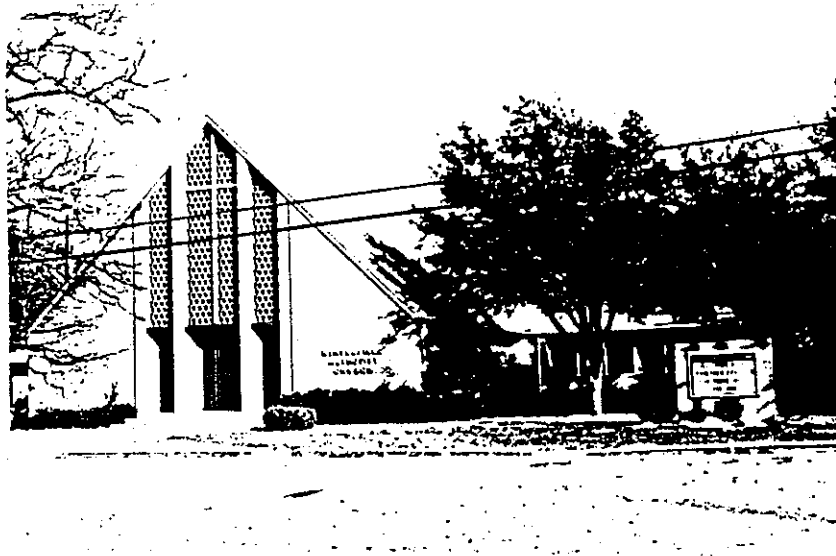
Construction of the new church and wing being done by the M. Clint Brown Construction Company of Longview began their work on Monday. The project was to be completed in 180 working days.

The Winterfield Methodist church's one hundred year history makes it one of the oldest congregations in the Longview area. At one time, it was on the same Methodist circuit with the church which later became

the First Methodist church of Longview.

Henry L. Foster, Sr., lay leader of the First Methodist church, reviewed the history of Winterfield Methodist church at the services following the ground-breaking ceremony. With the Rev. Bill Scales as pastor, the services took place in the old sanctuary of the church, which had been moved to the back part of the church lot. When the new building is completed, the old sanctuary will be converted into a fellowship hall.

The new building will include a sanctuary capable of seating 300, a pastor's study, a church office, seven church school rooms, and a cry room. Plans were drawn by Leland A. Guinn, a member of the congregation. The new building will be a brick construction. Laminated wooden arches will be used for the high ceilings.



FORMAL OPENING AND SERVICE OF CONSECRATION

Because of the foresight and fellowship of the congregation of less than three hundred members, a one-time rural church, that had has her humble beginnings, two brush arbors, a wooden frame church, a larger frame church building, became a reality with the formal opening and consecration services on May 18, 1958. Almost six months had passed since the ground-breaking ceremonies on Sunday November 10, 1957.

According to the newspaper article regarding the opening of the church....."erected in a beautiful setting of large oak trees, the new brick edifice with the sky-pointing roof will seat 300 worshipers in its mahogany pews....floor-to-roof glass stretches across the west end of the sanctuary. A grill work of solar tile filters sunlight through this glass deep into the building. The north wall of the sanctuary is of frosted cathedral glass. Sanctuary woodwork and furnishings are of Philippine mahogany. Aisle carpeting is of rose beige wool. Ceiling spotlights provide artificial lighting, controllable both from the pulpit and from the entrance end of the sanctuary....."

The north wing of the new building holds the church office and the pastor's study, the south wing contains seven classrooms for the purpose of holding Sunday School classes for children and adults alike.

The chancel has a pulpit and lecturn on each side with the altar at the center. The choir loft is above the altar, seperated by a brick

railing, which matches the exterior brick of the building.

All of the members of the congregation are to be congratulated on their faith and perserverance that has sustained them, and their ancestors for over seventy-five years. Without that fellowship, none of this would have come about.

Official board members at this time were Alvin Smitherman, Chairman, W. H. Wiginton, vice-chairman; Jerrell Huffman, secretary; W. E. Perkins, treasurer; Edward Richardson, superintendent of the Sunday school. Director of the choir was Lewis Richardson and Mrs. J. E. Blalock, Jr. as organist. Choir president was Clyde W. Barker.

Members of the building committee were Bedford Bardwell, chairman; Wilson Moore, Edward Richardson, Letcher Summers, Wiley Fleetwood, Harry O'Kelly, Mrs. Loyd Richardson, Tom Davis, Mrs. Mervin Moore, Mrs. Dave Gore, Eugene Richardson, Alvin Smitherman, G. W. Harbour, Joe Smitherman and Horace Veteto.

In the ^Anorthex area of the church is a desk that contains the Book of Remembrance that includes the many donations given for the new sanctuary by the congregation for memorials to family members. This listing includes donation of funds, altar items, pews in the church, furniture, landscaping and the sidewalks. The Book of Remembrance ^{was} given by Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Richardson, in memory of Mrs. Richardson's brother, Garland Cooper; Repository Case in memory of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Richardson and Mrs. Ethel Blalock by the children of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Richardson, J.E. Blalock, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Furman, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Blalock, Jr.; ~~two~~ cases with stands given by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Young in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Young.

Altar cases ^{were} given by children Grace, Bernice, Evelyn and Billy in honor of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis H. Richardson; The pulpit bible given by Mr. and Mrs. Dave Gore in memory of R. F. Findley; The cross and candlesticks on the altar were given by Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Rader, in memory of his parents. Four offering plates given by Ray and Laura Henderson "Because the Church has changed our lives." The flower stands at the altar were given by Mr. Thomas Davis and children in loving memory of Mrs. Thomas (Jodie) Davis - wife and mother. The communion set given in memory of Mervin O. Moore by his wife Gladys and daughter Jetta on October 12, 1966. *Recent altar candles were presented in honor of Robert (Bob) Walker by the congregation - Dave?*

Chancel furniture given by Miss Mary Belle Hughey, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Hughey. Furniture for the pastor's study given by Mr. and Mrs. Layman Sneed in memory of Leon Sneed, killed in a plane accident. Sanctuary clock by Mrs. J. A. Grammar and children in memory of husband and father, Mr. J. A. Grammar.

Many pews were donated to honor and in memory of parents, among those included in the Book of Remembrance: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rogers, in memory of nephew, Reverend F. Colbert Harris; by Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Bardwell and Gary, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ponder, and Jeanne Black, in honor of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bardwell; by the children in memory of father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Richardson; by J. E. Blalock, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Fred Furman, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Blalock, Jr., and Donnie, in memory of wife, mother and grandmother, Mrs. Ethel Blalock, by the children in loving memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Richardson

Mr. Thomas Davis donated the concrete sidewalks in front of the church and donations given specifically for landscaping by Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Richardson in memory of Mr. Frank Richardson. Other specific donations for nursery furniture by Mrs. Bertha Harbour and children G. W. Harbour and Mrs. Guy McClendon in memory of their daughter and sister Royce Bardwell, also for husband and father Mr. J. K. Harbour.

Memorial donations were many, given in memory of parents, husband, children, who had been a part of the church family. Given with the spirit and love that abounds at Winterfield for use in future purchases for the good of the church. This love continues today with funds being generated for specific areas, such as building funds, memorial funds.

With this, Winterfield is able to expand and add to the property, another educational building for use as Sunday School classes for the children, and a large open area to be used for meetings, and gatherings with a kitchen area available. A Scout and Youth building is available at the back of the property. And a recent addition was a Van Port to park the two vans used by church members for various activities. *Barbecue pit?*

In a series of trades and purchases over the years, the church fathers exhibited foresight in acquiring six acres of land surrounding the church itself. In 1967, a parsonage for the use of the preacher and his family was purchased at 1000 Akin Drive, Longview, Texas. Our preachers have come a long way from the circuit rider of the 1880's.

New land purchase

FIRE DAMAGES CHURCH

An early morning fire Thursday, December 4, 1975 in the church secretary's office and the Pastor's study at Winterfield United Methodist Church, was the possibility of arson as there was definite evidence of vandalism prior to the fire, according to Fire Chief Joe Causey of the Longview Fire Department.

He credited fast action on the part of his fire crews for containing the early morning blaze to two rooms and a hallway, comprising the northeast wing of the church. No flames reached the sanctuary or other parts of the church, but Causey said that heat and smoke damage was heavy through-out the building.

The single-story brick church, was reported ablaze at 1:45 a.m. and four Longview Fire Department units were at the scene, the last unit leaving nearly five hours later.

The Reverend Bill Webb, pastor, said that the official church records were essentially destroyed, although there are partial records kept elsewhere. The church would continue to meet on the property, holding services in the Fellowship Hall behind the damaged main building.

With the spirit of love for one another, the fellowship continues to be present among all of the congregation of Winterfield Church. No matter the difficulty - they are always there in time of need, in time of sorrow, in time of joy.

MEMORIALS - HONORAIUMS

Within the church itself, many memorials exist in honor of members, past and present. Because of their devotion to Winterfield church, with love and fellowship, they have been honored, and will continue to be so, by family members and fellow members for their services to God and their country.

HONOR ROLL SCROLL

In the Northex hall room is the Honor Roll Scroll of members who have served their country faithfully in her time of need.

Sam Reuben McFarland	1898 - 1979	Winterfield Cem.
Charlie Lee Moore	1921 - 1948	Winterfield Cem.
Harry Johnston		
Wardie Richardson	1919 - 1984	Winterfield Cem.
James Holland		
A. J. Bassett		
Bruce Johnston		
David Wilson Moore	1916 - 1975	Winterfield Cem.
Woodrow Allen		
Eugene Richardson		
William F. Grammer	1874 - 1947	Winterfield Cem.

STAINED GLASS MEMORIALS

At the entrance to the sanctuary are, at present, six beautiful stained glass partitions. These have been given by family members in memory of the following:

Mr and Mrs W. G. Richardson
Mr and Mrs R. E. Faulk
Clay Reynolds
Nellie R. Swetman
Ruby Faulk Schloer

The sixth existing panel does not as yet have a name at this time for dedication, although was donated by James Reader.

*and the sister who began
5/20/82
and the sister who began
5/20/82*

DEDICATION OF THE ETERNAL LIGHT

On Jun 20, 1982, Winterfield United Methodist Church honored Mrs. Thelma Gore for her faithful love and service to her church by presenting and dedicating the Eternal Light at the right side of the altar in her honor.

ORGAN CHIMES

In 1972, services were held at the Church for the presentation of the Chimes in the choir loft - dedicated to the Glory of Almighty God and for service in this church. Memorials were given

in loving memory of the following:

Mrs. Janet Seeders	Rev. Hal McCombs
Mrs. Harriett Bardwell	Mr. Robert Gambill
Mr. and Mrs. Arden Hughes	Mrs. Nancy Barrett
Mrs. Amanda Pearl Tutt	Mr. Hugh Camp
Mrs. Clyda Killingsworth	Mr. R. D. Waldrop
Mr. and Mrs. John Koch, Sr.	Mrs. Letah Dennis
Mrs. Ineva Brittian	Mrs. Louis Butler
Mr. Perry O. Lowrey	Mrs. Minnie Curbo
Mr. F. C. Dodd, Jr.	Mr. J. E. Henson
Mrs. Mattie L. Turner	Mr. Wilson Moore
Mr. Edwin L. Bigby	Mr. Harold Jones
Mr. Lawrence Rogers	Mr. Leon Everett
Mr. Letcher Summers	Dr. Phil Gates
Mrs. Charlie Barkett	Mr. H. S. Horaney
Mrs. G. A. Shadowin	Mr. H. C. Tindall
Mr. A. J. Bassett	Mrs. Lelia Wood

IN HONOR OF:

Mrs. Linda Nash
Mrs. Bonnie Barker
Mr. and Mrs. Hollice Richardson
Mr. John Koch
Mr. Bedford Bardwell
Mrs. Virginia Marks
Mrs. Charlene Stevenson

HAND BELLS

In the services on October 17, 1982, the gifts of Hand Bells were presented to the congregation for dedication for the Glory of God in loving memory of the following:

Mrs. Nina Adrian	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Davis
Mrs. Dorothy Dawson	Mr. Fred Dominy
Mr. R. C. Edwards	Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Finley
Mr. Ogie Hiett	Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Johnston
Mr. Mervin Moore	Mrs. Jewel Morrison
Kim Raywinkle	Mrs. Alene Richardson
Mrs. Ruby Schloer	Mr. T. E. Tucker

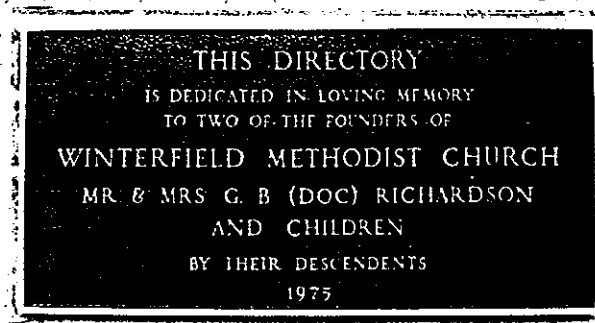
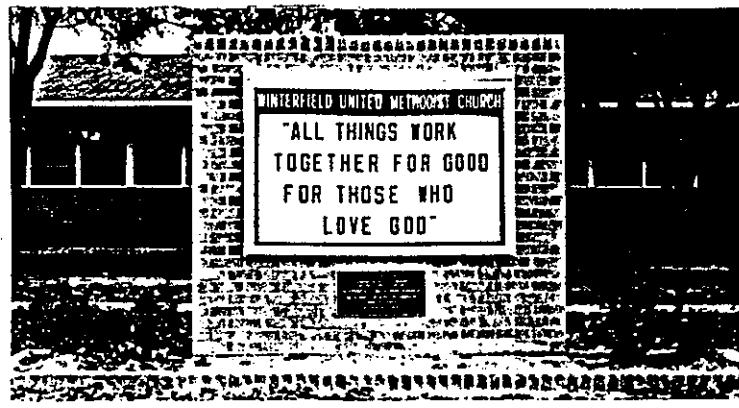
IN HONOR OF:

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Baumgardner	Mr. and Mrs. Audra Bigby
Mrs. Norma Boddie	Mrs. Mamie Carlisle
Rev. and Mrs. F. D. Dawson, Jr.	Mrs. R. C. Edwards
Mr. J. W. McClintock	Mrs. Mamie Richardson
Amanda Lynn Satterwhite	Mr. and Mrs. Troy White
Mrs. Libby Williams	Mark and Debbie Wright
Scott, Jeff, Jana, Robin, Mike, Todd and Penny Wright	

HYMNALS

According to the church bulletin dated June 24, 1982, the Worship Committee brought to the members of the Congregation, a request for fifty new Cokesbury Hymnals to add or replace hymnals that are

placed in the back rack of each pew. Immediate response made the purchase of 104 hymnals available. Another call in August 1983 allowed the purchase of more Hymnals. These books have a label at the inside front cover stating "In loving Memory of" and "In Honor of". Check to see your pew copy next Sunday and keep special prayers for the person for whom that book is dedicated to. What better way for a continuing memorial than in a Book of Hymns Praising the Lord.



In 1975 Winterfield church celebrated her 100th birthday. Many events occurred at that time for our church. A church directory was erected in front of the church and dedicated in loving memory to two of the founders of Winterfield church, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. (Doc) Richardson by their descendants. Many of their grandchildren, great grandchildren and even great-great-grandchildren still worship in the same way their ancestors did, with love for God and man.

An enclosure was built to hold a time capsule containing messages, records and mementoes of our daily life in the church and the community. It is placed behind the directory. And is to be opened in the year 2025.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Within the church itself, many of the congregation are involved with groups and activities for the benefit of all. In these groups, there exists the need to share with each other, the love and grace received from our Heavenly Father. By joining together, strength is gained by all.

Every Sunday morning the faithful gather for the lessons to be learned in the Sunday School classes held for both children and adult alike. The adult classes are Loyal Workers, Fellowship, Windmore and Genesis II. The children's classes are held in the Fellowship Hall *(Edna 3129)* by grades. For morning worship, many others are involved with the services: Greeters, Ushers, Acolytes, the large member choir with their blended voices singing well-known hymns, the organist and the pianist. *Volunteer*

Other areas of ministry of love and fellowship involved with the programs at Winterfield meet daily, weekly or monthly. These include: Committee Chairpersons and members, the Quilters, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Sterling Club, Bible Studies, Caring Committee, The Boy Scouts, Prayer Chair committee, Mothers Day Out, the Methodist Youth Fellowship for the teenagers and WOW the program for young children. *TOT's*

Behind all of these people are others who remain in the background, yet their presence is seen and felt in the daily lives of Winterfield. The lawns and landscaping need to be looked after, the church and all the building have to be cleaned, a special person called in when something breaks.

In the office, the church secretary is there daily to keep the church records, to answer questions of many who might be interested in joining Winterfield. She must be a Jack of all trades, must know immediately who to contact in case of a building problem, who to call for assistance for a family problem. At times, decisions must be made, using her judgment to the best of her ability.

While the congregation is the backbone of the church, the preacher is her leader. Without his inner strength, his ability to be gentle but firm at times, able to make friends, to be available when needed in an emergency, the church would become just an empty building. Winterfield United Methodist Church has been very fortunate over the past 110 years, to have had preachers who have "cared", their support and encouragement has kept our church roots stronger than ever before.

SCHOOLS

Education for the young children was uppermost in the minds of the settlers in the early Winterfield community, much as it is today. Except in the early 1900's, most of the classes were held in a one room wooden frame building, one teacher would be responsible for grades one thru eight. All ages of children would attend classes, averaging 20 to 30 students at times. Many would be late in starting because they helped their parents with the crops, be they vegetables or cotton.

At the Acme school, located near the Gum Spring Branch on Page Road classes were held until mid 1920's. Two rooms held the Big Class from 5th to 7th or 8th grades, the Little Class for 1st thru 4th grades, two teachers held classes there. Educational classes did not include all the curricular studies as we see in our schools today, but all of the students were given the basic education in "readin - writin - and rithmatic" Language classes (similar to modern day English) and Geography were part of their education. Holiday celebrations were time for fun for all the students and they put on plays, sang songs, other activities for their parents. At the end of the school year, another celebration was held as students were "passed" onto the next grade level, sadness was ever-present to say goodbye to friends they would not see anymore because family would be moving, the graduating students would say good-bye to their teachers, and some would continue with their education, attending Longview High School, then located at Foster Junior High school.

Some of the names of the teachers are remembered by older church members as being strict but good teachers, devoted to her job and with a lot of love and care, passed onto her students all of her knowledge to help to prepare them for their adult years. Principal Ras Hickey, also served as teacher, as well as Mozelle Johnston, Mrs. Emma Henderson, Louise Hall, and Mrs. Mabel Pryor to mention some of the teachers.

Teachers, like our preachers, have a responsibility to prepare her children mentally, while the preachers have a spiritual responsibility to fulfill.

FINALE

To sum up this, the history of Winterfield United Methodist church, from the brush arbor days of the late 1870's to the present \$100,000 brick church building, faith and hope have carried the congregation through the hard times, of weather, crop failures, epidemics, depression times, four wars, births, deaths and the marriages of many of the members.

Without the love and fellowship for all, the church would cease to exist. May our children, their children and their children to follow ~~continue~~ ^{continue} the tradition of worship and caring for one another at Winterfield United Methodist church.

For the original Board of Trustees when the first purchase of land was made in 1883, we give thanks.

Longview:	RICHARDSON, Goin Bell	Sep 1, 1847 - Apr 18, 1919	Winterfield
	GARNER, July	Jul 14, 1842 - May 3, 1913	Mt. Bethel Carthage, Tx
	DOWNNS, N. D.	Dec 30, 1814 - Jan 28, 1894	Greenwood
	BORING, J. W.	Apr 7, 1932 - Nov 9, 1885	Grace Hill
	KELLY, G. A.	Oct 17, 1832 - Oct 2, 1909	Greenwood
LaGrone:	LaGRONE, George W.		Old LaGrone
	ROE, Solomon		
Summerfield:	WILKES, A. B.		Alpine
	ADRIAN, D. W.		Old Summerfield

BRUSH ARBOR DAY

Sunday, October 4, 1992

WINTERFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Good Afternoon,

If this place we are honoring could speak, think of all the stories we would hear; about life on the old Winterfield road, of the neighbors, the families, and friends who would gather here under a brush arbor for fellowship and worship whenever the circuit rider made his rounds.

Two brush arbors served as a meeting place between 1875 and 1882. Built by busy farmers who took time from their fields and work places to clear the area of brush, the arbors were framed by surrounding trees with large limbs on top to keep some of the weather out. Be they pine or pin oak limbs, they served the purpose. The benches were hand-made from spare lumber donated by families so that all who desired to worship and to know the Lord could gather together.

At times, if a preacher was not available, one man, who was well-known and highly respected among his community, would commit himself to preach to the gathering.

Little, if anything, is known of the names of the many circuit riders who ministered to the needs of the community "Brush Arbors". When a revival was in progress, it lasted one to two weeks, involving several preachers along with lay persons. Families would provide a place in their homes for the preacher to eat and sleep; he knew his horse or mule would also be cared for. Little money was given to him as pay, but he was able to be provided with food, clothes and oftentimes food for his animal.

Sometime prior to June 8, 1883, Winterfield Methodist Episcopal Church South was officially organized. The sum of \$40 bought 4 acres more or less from Thomas and Eliza Hopkins by the Board of Trustees as a place of divine worship.

The original trustees were community leaders, well-known by their neighbors, G. B. Richardson, July Garner, N. D. Downs, J. W. Boring, G. A. Kelly, George W. Lagrone, Solomon Roe, A. B. Wilkes and D. W. Adrian.

The first frame church was built across the street from the present site. It soon was too small for the needs of the congregation. September 3, 1884, another 3 acres more or less was purchased from Thomas and Eliza Hopkins by the Board of Trustees for the sum of \$20.

In 1898, a new frame building was built south of the present site. Measuring about 30' by 50', the front had 2 framed windows with double doors opening into the sanctuary. Wooden benches, new and old, were in place for the worship services. On a designated Sunday, families would travel by foot, wagons or buggies down a narrow dusty trail later known as Winterfield Road. In front of the Church,

children ran and played where all the wagons and buggies would be parked, the horses and mules would be tied to trees or posts.

Inside the church, men would hang their hats on nails or place at their feet. Pallets would be put down for the little ones who slept thru services.

There are early memories of this one-room church with open windows and hand-held fans during summer days and one or two pot-belly stoves spreading warmth throughout the room in colder weather. Whoever entered the church first would take the responsibility of building the fire when it was needed.

In the south corner of the room, by the doors, were two or three wooden benches, known as the AMEN BENCHES. These ladies who sat there quietly with their hands folded, eyes closed, listening to the Word of God, would become so emotionally involved, they would come down the aisles, singing praises to God, asking Him to forgive all sinners past and present. "Amens" resounded throughout the church during the long sermons.

The names of some of these pious and saintly ladies are familiar to their descendants of today: Mat Garner, Ada and Ophelia Webb, Richardsons, Shoultz, Garners, Davis's, Smithermans, Bardwells, and others.

To add to the singing of the old time gospel songs, Mrs. Edna Smitherman played an old organ. Never were services more joyful with the loud voices of this congregation in this one-room, wooden, frame church.

After services, weather permitting, Dinner on the Ground began, set up by the ladies who brought what they could, fried chicken, home-grown vegetables, breads, biscuits and a few sweet cakes when possible.

For those with a dire need, down a small trail, through the trees in back of the church, the familiar "outhouse" could be found, busy at times.

In 1929, to accomodate an ever-growing congregation, another larger frame church was built. Sunday school classes were held in the early 30's with additional rooms being added to the back of the church.

This church was sufficient for the members of Winterfield until 1955 when plans were being made for a larger church, this time being constructed of brick. This new church was formally dedicated May 18, 1958. According to an article in the Longview News-Journal, "The transformation from the frame clapboard building to this new brick sanctuary was all wrought by a small congregation of only 270 members." With church offices, pastor's study, 7 Sunday school rooms and a cry-room in the church itself. Other buildings include the Fellowship Hall, a large dining room, with kitchen, for meetings, along with children's Sunday school classrooms.

Located beyond the Fellowship Hall are the Scout and Youth Building, vanport for two vans, storage area, and play area surrounded by a cyclone fence.

The inscription on the cornerstone of this Church states "Built to the Glory of God". Those of our ancestors who toiled 117 years ago to build this church from two brush arbors, three frame churches to our present church, have been blessed many times over.

May we continue to grow and build for the Heritage of the next generation so that they may continue on for Winterfield United Methodist Church.

PRAISE ALWAYS BE TO GOD.

Rachael Garner
Church Historian
Winterfield United Methodist Church

13 February, 1994

Dr Black,

Enclosed find the rest of the information and hopefully this will be the best yet in order for you to get the rest of Winterfield History together and get the paper work in for the application for the Marker for the Church.

For the Church History Footnotes, I went to the library this past Wednesday and went thru the microfilm of the newspapers for page numbers, etc., and found to my enjoyment, the clipping regarding the 100th anniversary of the church celebration. Had already had the program copied, but somehow, had missed this very important article, so it is also included in this envelope.

Footnotes:

- (1988)
- Page 1. Original LaGrone's Chapel ledger was in the possession of Betty Landers, Rt 2 Box 38K Ab Carter Road, Hallsville, Tx 75650. (she lives across the road from us). The ledger now is in the possession of James Huffman, a former member of the church. (They have not been able to retrieve it as yet.) *but trying to get it back.*
- Page 3. Richardson History written by Charles O. Richardson, Jr. You have his address in the folder.
- Page 4 Paragraph 5.
Times-Clarion Newspaper Thurs Mar 16, 1905 page 1 (lower right hand corner.) Longview Public Library
- Page 5 Paragraph 1
Richardson Family History
Paragraph 4
Longview Daily News Sunday May 18, 1958 page 5B
- Page 6-7 Longview Daily News Sunday Nov 10, 1957 pages 1B ~~6~~ and 6B
- Page 9 Book of Remembrance at office at Winterfield United Methodist Church.
- Page 10 Longview Daily Newspaper clippings.

Hope all this is clear for you. If you need anything else, give me a call. Please let me know the progress when you can and I again thank you for everything you can do for us.

Rue Garner

WINTERFIELD CHURCH MARKS 100 YEARS

by Sandra Langsford
Staff Writer

Winterfield United Methodist Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a homecoming service Sunday.

"What we will be celebrating is 100 years of Christian worship at this site," say the Rev. Bill Webb, minister

The history has been lost as to when the church was actually organized.

Rev. Webb reports that "as early as 1875", we've got history that far, we know that Methodist were having brush arbor meetings at this site.

There is history through three church buildings located on the present site.

At one time there was a school on the land which is now used by the church, but the name of that school has been lost. *****

The land for the church was given by the Richardson family and the whole tract of land surrounding the area belonged to them. There was an old farm here," reported Rev. Webb.

Many descendants of the Richardson family are member's of today's church.

Two other historical families still represent members in the church, the Bardwells and Huffmans.

The congregation will celebrate this Sunday mornings with Special Worship Services led by the Rev. Bill Hodge, of Katy. Rev. Hodge is a former minister of Winterfield, having served the church from 1964 until 1968.

The Rev. E. Hal McCombs, former minister of Winterfield, will also participate.

Following the worship services a time capsule will be placed in the front yard of the church. This capsule is to be opened in 50 years.

Each class and organization has placed something in the capsule. There will be historical papers, a pictorial directory of the church, Bicentennial items and letters written by youth.

Dinner on the ground will be served following burial of the capsule.

The congregation of Winterfield Methodist stands at \$575. Chairman of the executive board is James Raney; church lay leader is Troyce Dennis, and John Hewson is serving as Sunday School superintendent.

*****Dr. Black. My early newspaper notes speak of two schools in this area. Excelsior school, built by General James as written in the Times-Clarion Thursday Sep 24, 1903. Other school is the Winterfield School, teacher Miss Jodie McClure, Times Clarion Thursday Oct 13, 1904. Miss Lena Schaffer is the teacher listed for the Excelsior school. I have no further documentation or deeds for these two school buildings other than my notes from newspaper microfilm stored at Longview Public Library.

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WINTERFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 October 12, 1975 Langview, Texas
 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

AWAITING THE PRELUDE: Let us prayerfully give thanks for one hundred years of Christian heritage.

PRELUDE "Old 100th"
 INTROIT Combined Choirs of Winterfield and Congregation
 "We Are The Church"

INVOCATION Minister
 *HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 38 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"
 *CENTENNIAL RESPONSE

Minister: The Lord Has Blessed This Church.
 People: OUR HERITAGE IS A BLESSING INDEED.
 Minister: The Word Of God Has Been Our Light.
 People: TO FOLLOW THE LIGHT IS GOOD.
 Minister: The Spirit Of God Has Moved Over Us.
 People: OUR HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH LOVE.
 Minister: Let Us Give Thanks To The Lord.
 People: WE THANK THEE O LORD!

*GLORIA PATRI Rev. C. Hall McCombs
 SCRIPTURE LESSON "Standing On The Promises"

HYMN NO. 221
 REQUEST AND TESTIMONIES FROM THE CONGREGATION

ALTAR PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
 ANTHEM "Some Of These Mornin's"
 SERMON Rev. Bill Hodge

HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 223
 "When We Walk With the Lord"

FELLOWSHIP OF SERVICE
 DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS
 OFFERTORY "How Great Thou Art"
 Piano and Organ Duet

*DOXOLOGY
 *HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP NO. 306
 "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

*BENEDICTION
 *CHORAL BENEDICTION Chancel Choir
 POSTLUDE "Festival Postlude"
 *Congregation Will Please Stand.

LUNCH TO BE SPREAD OUTSIDE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE. WE HOPE ALL OF YOU WILL PLAN TO STAY. ALSO, THE CENTENNIAL TIME CAPSULE WILL BE PLACED IN POSITION FOR SEALING. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE A MESSAGE IN THE CAPSULE, WRITE IT ON THE BACK OF THE BULLETIN. THE CAPSULE WILL BE OPENED FIFTY YEARS FROM TODAY.

WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE ALL OF YOU PRESENT THIS MORNING AND ESPECIALLY WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE TWO OF OUR FORMER MINISTERS HERE, THE REV. BILL HODGE AND THE REV. E. HAL MCCOMBS.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO OUR CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE THIS A MEANINGFUL CELEBRATION. THOSE WHO SERVED ARE AS FOLLOWS:
 Charles Huffman, Chairman
 Gladys Moore
 Mary Ann McWhorter
 Ken Clark
 Dean McDowell
 KEN AND DEAN BUILT THE ENCLOSURE FOR THE TIME CAPSULE. MANY OTHERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS DAY AND ESPECIALLY THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE HERE.

CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY
 9:45 a.m. General Assembly in Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 12:00 Noon Homecoming Dinner
 4:30 p.m. Celebration Rehearsal
 5:30 p.m. U.M.Y.F.
 7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

MONDAY
 7:00 p.m. Methodist Men

SATURDAY
 7:00 - 11:00 a.m. Choir Pancake Breakfast
 William C. Webb, Jr., Minister 753-4825 or 753-7796
 Linda Nash, Director of Music 757-6564
 Quida Henson, Organist and Secretary 758-7538
 John Henson, Secretary 758-7538



Homecoming Slated

Winterfield Methodist Church will celebrate 100 years of worship Sunday. The Rev. Bill Webb, minister, pictured above, reported several activities are slated during the day, including dinner on the ground. The Rev. Bill Hodge, former minister, will conduct special morning services.

THE ACT OF PASSING OUR HERITAGE

1975 to 2025

- MINISTER: The heavens declare the glory of God: And the firmament sheweth his handiwork.
- PEOPLE: THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT CONVERTING THE SOUL: THE TESTIMONY OF THE LORD IS SURE, MAKING WISE THE SIMPLE.
- MINISTER: The way of the Lord liveth from generation to generation. His truth remains forever.
- PEOPLE: HIS LIGHT HAS GONE BEFORE US AND WILL LIGHT THE WAY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.
- MINISTER: Praised be the name of the Lord!
- PEOPLE: YES, LET ALL MEN PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME!

OUR GIFT TO THE FUTURE CHURCH

October 11, 1975

To our friends in Christ of the twenty first century:

Greetings in the name of the Lord! We are celebrating one hundred years of Christian worship in this place. Our parents and grandparents were among the first to settle this land and till this soil. They gave us a heritage which we want to pass on to you. This capsule contains records and mementoes of our daily life in the church and community.

We have been blessed in many ways by our life in this great country. We have had more than the average citizen of the world. While many are starving in today's world, we are striving to find answers for their relief. We hope by your day those answers are found.

We give you our testimony that God helps every generation and every nation of people who put their trust in him. While troubles stalk the highways of our nation, we hope in the Lord.

May these contributions from the twentieth century be of interest to you. May they serve to continue the light one age can pass to another age.

May God bless you all.

Winterfield United Methodist Church

THE BENEDICTION: The Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

WINTERFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Longview, Texas
OCTOBER 12, 1975
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

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"We Are The Church" Minister

INVOCATION
*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 38 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee Minister
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William C. Webb, Jr., Minister 753-4825 or 753-7796
Linda Nash, Director of Music 757-6564
Quida Henson, Organist and Secretary 759-7530
John Henson, Scott Minister 759-7530

MINUTES OF WINTERFIELD CEMETARY ASSOCIATION

May 21, 1994

The Winterfield Cemetary Association met Saturday, May 21, 1994, in the Fellowship Hall of Winterfield United Methodist Church for its annual covered-dish luncheon and business meeting with sixty-one signing the register.

After lunch Frankie Butler presided over a short business meeting. Mrs. Butler recognized those present for the first time.

In the absence of Ruby Strong, Gladys Moore was appointed acting secretary only for this meeting.

Minutes of the May 15, 1993, minutes were read and approved.

In appreciation of his work work done on the cemetary, Frankie Butler presented Mr. Sam Carter with a beautiful quilt.

The financial report given by Charlotte Hawkins was accepted and approved. A copy of this report will be filed with and become a part of these minutes for future reference.

A motion was made by Doris Tutt to give Gene Grammer authority to examine interest rates and to place all monies of the Association where he decides is best based on interest rates. The motion was seconded by Charlotte Hawkins and carried.

Frankie Butler read a letter from Rae Garner regarding information to secure an historical marker for the cemetary.

A motion was made by Iva Neie that Mrs. Garner be allowed to proceed in securing the marker at a cost of \$550. The motion was seconded by Lottie Allen and carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gladys Moore
Acting Secretary

(A narrative is being prepared for an historical marker for the cemetary.)

ONE HUNDRED YEARS

First

Methodist

Church

LONGVIEW, TEXAS

1850

1950

The Rev. D. F. Fuller was appointed to the Longview charge in 1874, and he found the small frame building inadequate. He began at once to try to persuade the church leaders to build a brick church. Dr. John H. McLean, the Presiding Elder, came to preach and hold the First Quarterly Conference. His sermon topic that night was "The Wild Man of Gadora." There was so much noise made by the hogs grunting and scratching fleas on the sills under the church that the sermon could hardly be heard. Finally, a large part of the Official Board, Joseph Boring, Quincy Boring, Alex Methvin, Tom Buttrill and others armed themselves with bricks and drove the disturbers away. The next morning the pastor met Joseph Boring on the street and asked how much he wanted a good brick church. He replied, "Five hundred dollars worth this morning". Mr. Buttrill, Mr. Methvin, and Dr. Taylor each gave \$500, and the pastor kept soliciting until, before night-fall, he had \$7,000, and the first brick church in this area, probably the first brick church in Texas, was begun.

Early in 1875, Bishop Pierce preached in the new building and dedicated it. In order that the church might be finished on time for that service, Captain May prepared the flooring plank and Mr. Sam Whitehead, Mr. Buttrill, Mr. Methvin, and the pastor, the Rev. D. F. Fuller, laid in the floor.

About this time, the Rev. B. W. Brown, a local Methodist preacher, with his wife, three sons, and five daughters moved to Longview. The Rev. Mr. Brown was a representative from Upshur County to the 13th State Legislature. He was active in bringing about the adoption in 1874 of the Act creating and naming Gregg County, which was detached from the southern part of Upshur and the northern part of Rusk Counties.

The children of the Rev. and Mrs. Brown were active in the work of the church. The sons, Oscar, Newt, and Walter, and the daughters Mattie (Carroll), Emma (Boring), Lulu (Crain), Mittie (Bruce), and Mary (Stinchcomb) did much to sustain and increase the growth and influence of the church.

The first organ was purchased a few years after the brick church was built. It was an old-style Mason and Hamlin pedal-operated instrument, which was originally used in the Sunday School, since some of the old-timers objected to its use in the regular church service. Miss Alice Kelly (Yates) was the first organist, and Miss Mollie Chaney was assistant.

Baraca Hall, constructed in 1909, was one of the most modern structures for the church school program at that time.

Wesley Hall was built in the fall of 1927 primarily as a meeting place for the Men's Bible Class. It served the church as a general purpose building until about 1935 when the present educational building was constructed and opened for services with 1,125 present.

Another high light came in the late 1920's when the Men's Bible Class, with W. N. Blanton as teacher, reached a peak of 525 men present, winning an attendance contest with the Men's Bible Class of First Methodist Church, Marshall.

After the new educational building came into use Wesley Hall was donated to the women of Longview and used by them as a community center until the new Community Center building was completed, at which time it was given to St. Mark's C. M. E. Church. It is still being used for a church kindergarten and community library.

The list of Sunday School Superintendents since 1870, our earliest records, are as follows: Captain Steven S. May, Joseph W. Boring, C. P. Carter, Gaines B. Turner, Samuel Proud, R. M. Kelly, 1899-1920; W. P. Carlock, 1920-21; Henry C. McGrele, 1921-23; H. L. Foster, 1923-49; Clarence Richardson since 1949.

IV.

NOTABLE REVIVALS

The Methodist Church was founded on revivals beginning with John and Charles Wesley. Revival meetings were held once or twice a year in our local church and were helpful in its spiritual growth and in the extension of its membership.

Some of the best known evangelists in the church have held meetings in the Longview area.

Prior to 1880, an old time Methodist Camp Meeting was started in the Winterfield Community; three miles northeast of Longview. G. B. "Doc" Richardson and his family inspired this religious movement. Longview Methodists gave hearty support, led by "Uncle Dokey" Downs. A four-acre site was secured from Thomas Hopkins and family. A tabernacle was built and a number of camping cabins. These summer camp meetings were well attended and were an inspiration to churches in this area. The meetings were continued several years, and the camp was then merged into the present thriving Winterfield Methodist Church.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH Longview, Texas

Pastors and Lay Preachers From The
Earliest Records To Date

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE, MARSHALL DISTRICT			
Year	Appointed Pastors	Presiding Elder	Bishop
1846	Robert D. Wyehe	S. A. Williams	Robert Paine
1847	occasional preachers		
1855	Dr. Ellis (physician and lay preacher)	S. A. Williams	Wm. Caners
1856	Dr. M. Stovall	J. T. P. Irvine	Geo. F. Pierre
1860	Dr. Job Taylor (Lay preacher and physician) Lay church abandoned for new church at Emoryville.	J. T. P. Irvine Richard Lane	Robert Paine J. O. Andrew
TRINITY CONFERENCE, JEFFERSON DISTRICT			
1870	T. B. Norwood	S. J. Hawkins	E. M. Marvin
1871	T. B. Norwood	John H. McLean	E. M. Marvin
1872	T. B. Norwood	John H. McLean	J. C. Keener
1873	Emoryville church moved to Longview. T. B. Norwood	John H. McLean	H. H. Kavanaugh
NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE, JEFFERSON DISTRICT			
1874	D. F. Fuller	John H. McLean	H. N. McTyre
1875	D. F. Fuller	J. C. Smith	Geo. F. Pierre
1876	First brick church completed.	J. C. Clark	D. S. Duerell
1877	J. E. Terry, Supply A. C. McDougal	L. B. Ellis	W. M. Waghman
EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE, MARSHALL DISTRICT			
1878	J. S. Matthews	R. W. Thompson	J. C. Keener
1879	D. P. Cullen	R. W. Thompson	H. N. McTyre
1880	H. M. Booth, Supply D. P. Cullen	S. W. Turner	H. H. Kavanaugh
1881	H. M. Booth, Supply D. P. Cullen	S. W. Turner	H. H. Kavanaugh
1882	J. T. Smith	John Adams	Linus Parker
1883	J. T. Smith	John Aspley	Linus Parker
1884	Station! H. M. Booth, Supply J. T. Smith	R. W. Thompson	H. N. McTyre
1885	G. A. LeClere	R. W. Thompson	H. N. McTyre
1886	H. M. Booth, Supply G. A. LeClere	R. W. Thompson	Jos. S. Key
1887	H. M. Booth, Supply G. A. LeClere	R. M. Sproule	W. W. Dunnean
1888	S. H. Nettles	T. P. Smith	W. W. Dunnean
1889	L. M. Fowler	T. P. Smith	Jos. S. Key
1890	L. M. Fowler	T. P. Smith	C. B. Galloway
1891	L. M. Fowler	John Adams	O. P. Fitzgerald

In 1886, the Rev. Mr. Burnett, assisted by Evangelist Abe Mulkey, conducted a revival in the first brick church. A few years later, Abe Mulkey held a tent meeting here, preaching to great crowds and bringing many souls into the kingdom.

In 1898, the Rev. George R. Stewart, a co-worker with the great Sam Jones, conducted a tent meeting which inspired and revived the Longview church.

In 1901, the pastor, Dr. Isaac Alexander, invited a Salvation Army group that was holding street services here to conduct a Sunday service in the new church. They were well received and stayed to hold a revival.

(Dr. Alexander organized Alexander Collegiate Institute in Kilgore in 1873 and it was noted for its character building as well as education. After Dr. Alexander entered the ministry the institute was moved to Jacksonville, and later was named Lon Morris College.)

Mrs. Zehner, of Dallas, an eloquent evangelist and temperance worker, came here to address the Woman's Aid Society. She made such an impression that she was invited to hold a two-weeks meeting.

In 1908, a tent was erected on the courthouse lawn, and Dr. John E. Brown, noted evangelist, conducted a union revival that was a pronounced success.

In 1915, the Rev. Glenn Flinn, pastor, conducted a "One to Win One" campaign, and on Easter Sunday received 165 members into the church.

Judge John M. Duncan, of Longview, and Attorney Cone Johnson, of Tyler, member of the State Highway Commission, delivered a number of brilliant inspirational lay sermons that were a blessing to the church.

Revivals were held in our church by the Rev. R. C. Flowers in 1927 and by the Rev. Leland Clegg in 1929.

The Church for All. All for the Church

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual riches. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake, (2) For his children's sake, (3) For the sake of his community and nation, (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.



Gregg County Historical Commission

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

417 Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone
903-757-2261

September 15, 1994

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

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed is a historical marker application for Winterfield Methodist Church of Longview. The original narrative was written by Rae Garner, a member of this church. Carol Little, a member of the Gregg County Historical Commission did a fine job in further researching and verifying the data.

I believe everything is in order.

Sincerely,


Norman W. Black, D.D.S.

Enc.

**APPLICATION FORM
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER**

This marker is for (title or subject): Winterfield Methodist Church

County: GREGG

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):
2616 Tryon Road, Longview, Texas 75601

Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable):
On site; right side of main walkway to front of church building.



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: Wayman H. Beck, D.D., F.D.S. Date: 9-15-94

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: Winterfield United Methodist Church

Contact person (if applicable): The Rev. Tom W. Crowe

Mailing address: 2616 Tryon

Longview, TX 75605

Phone: 753-4825

Owner's Signature: Tom W. Crowe, Pastor

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: Winterfield United Methodist Church

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

Mailing address: 2616 Tryon

Longview, TX 75605

Phone: 753-4825

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: _____

Winterfield United Methodist Church

Longview, Gregg County, Texas

Prepared by Rachael Garner and Carol Little

Anglo-American colonists in the Mexican province of Texas were compelled by law to become Roman Catholics. While many settlers were not Catholic by conviction, any public expression of religious faith other than the Catholic faith was forbidden. When William Stevenson, the Methodist presiding elder in Arkansas, expressed a desire to send missionaries into eastern Texas, Stephen F. Austin responded "If a Methodist or any other preacher except a Catholic was to go through this [Austin's] colony preaching, I should be compelled to imprison him."¹ Austin later warned, "The subject of preaching must be managed with prudence, for I do assure you that it will not do to have the Methodist excitement raised in this country."²

Less than a decade later, Colonel William B. Travis expressed a very different attitude regarding Methodism in Texas. In a letter published on October 16, 1835, in the *New York Christian Advocate and Journal*, Travis complained, "We are very destitute of religious instruction in this extensive country [Texas]. I regret that the Methodist Church . . . should have neglected so long this interesting country."³ Colonel Travis died one year later in the Battle of the

Alamo, but after the Texian victory at San Jacinto, the "Methodist excitement" could no longer be contained and protestant missionaries poured across the Texas border.

By 1850, many Texas towns had either a Methodist church building or a Union meeting house that was shared by several denominations. Census records indicate that by 1860 Texas Methodists had 410 church buildings. (Texas Baptists, who comprised the second largest denomination, had 280 church buildings.)⁴ Nevertheless, old-time camp meetings held under open-air brush arbors continued to provide the predominate means for reaching the unchurched and reviving believers in rural Texas. These camp meetings reached their zenith in Northeast Texas between 1850 and 1900. During this period, a group of Methodists living in Gregg, Upshur, and Harrison counties established an encampment in the farming community of Winterfield on property belonging to Thomas and Eliza Hopkins. This encampment formed the nucleus of a church fellowship that today is known as Winterfield United Methodist Church.

The following nostalgic account of the old encampment is recorded in a 1950 history of the First United Methodist Church of Longview:

Prior to 1880, an old time Methodist Camp Meeting was started in the Winterfield

Community, three miles northeast of Longview. G. B. "Doc" Richardson and his family inspired this religious movement. Longview Methodists gave hearty support, led by "Uncle Dokey" Downs. A four-acre site was secured from Thomas Hopkins and family. A tabernacle was built and a number of camping cabins. These summer camp meetings were well attended and were an inspiration to churches in this area. The meetings were continued several years, and the camp was then merged into the present thriving Winterfield Methodist Church.⁵

The date of the first camp meeting held at Winterfield is not known, but a 1912 obituary written by Winterfield pastor M. I. Brown and published in the *Texas Christian Advocate* confirms that meetings were held as early as August 1881:

Mrs. M. E. Davis began her earthly career in Panola County, Texas, June 3, 1857, and ended it in Gregg County near Longview, August 19, 1912. She was married to W. H. Davis November 5, 1871. . . . Sister Davis was converted at Winterfield camp meeting in August 1881, and joined the Methodist Church at that place and was ever afterwards a faithful member of Winterfield Church.⁶

Nine original trustees for the Winterfield encampment purchased from Thomas and Eliza Hopkins on June 8, 1883, a four-acre tract in the Alexander Jordan Survey "lying about three miles in a northerly direction from the City of Longview." The property was to be used as "a place of divine worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South."⁷ The following year, on September 3, 1884, the same nine trustees purchased from Thomas and Eliza Hopkins an additional tract in the Alexander Jordan Survey. This deed identifies the grantees as "trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Winterfield, Gregg County, Texas," and the purchased site was situated adjacent to "the camp ground lot."⁸

Most of the original trustees were Southerners who came to Texas from the Southeast after the Civil War. David W. Adrain (June 12, 1834 - December 19, 1920) and his wife Elsie Williams Adrain were both natives of Georgia. They married in 1860, and after Adrain served in the Confederate Army, the couple settled in East Texas to farm in the community of Summerfield. On January 19, 1921, Elsie Adrain applied for a Confederate Widow's Pension, stating that she was a 50-year resident of Gregg County.⁹ According to the *Historical Encyclopedia of Texas*, David W. Adrain "helped in the organization of Gregg County, and was very active in all early day affairs, being among other things, a charter member of the first branch of the Masonic Lodge in East Texas, and

an Honorary member of the Longview Chapter at the time of his death."¹⁰ David and Elsie Adrian are buried in the Old Summerfield Cemetery north of Longview.

Joseph W. Boring (April 7, 1832 - November 9, 1885) was a native of Georgia who served in the Confederate Army under General John Gregg. His wife, Emma Reansus Brown Boring, came to Texas in 1869 with her parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Bluford W. Brown. Rev. Brown also served in the Civil War under General Gregg, and later, as a member of the state legislature, he introduced the bill creating Gregg County and naming it in honor of his old commander.¹¹ J. W. Boring and Emma Brown married in Gregg County on December 21, 1875.¹² Boring became a successful dry goods merchant who was prominent in the growth and development of Longview. He served as a trustee of the Longview Male and Female High School, and in 1874 he became the city's second mayor.¹³ Mrs. Boring was a founder of the Longview Shakespeare Club and served as a dedicated worker in the First Methodist Church of Longview. She was described as a lady "known for her charity and welfare work here in Longview, where she contributed liberally to every worthwhile project."¹⁴ The Emma Brown Boring Sunday School Class at First United Methodist Church of Longview is named in her honor. Mr. and Mrs. Boring are buried at Grace Hill Cemetery.

Very little is known of N. D. Downs other than his life

dates, which are recorded on his grave stone at Greenwood Cemetery in Longview. He was born December 30, 1814, and died January 28, 1894.¹⁵ The 1890 Gregg County tax list records him as a resident of precinct 1, owning 1/4 acre in the H. McNutt Headright.

July G. Garner (July 14, 1842 - May 3, 1913) and his wife, Martha Ann Howard, were natives of Alabama. They married in Tusculoosa County on January 17, 1860. After the war, they moved to East Texas, where they both lived until their deaths. Mrs. Garner is buried in the Winterfield Cemetery. Mr. Garner, who died at Gary in Panola County, is buried in Carthage at Mount Bethel Cemetery. According to older family members, his body could not be brought to Longview for burial because of inclement weather.¹⁶

George Addison Kelly (October 17, 1832 - October 2, 1909) was born in Tennessee. In 1850, he married Lucy Ann Stewart of Virginia in Nachitoches, Louisiana. Kelly was founder and owner of G. A. Kelly Plow Company, for many years the largest and best equipped plow and implement factory west of the Mississippi. The famous Kelly Blue and Kelly Red plows sold for \$3.50 in 1860, and they eventually helped farmers break sod throughout the Southwest as Kelly became a household name. During the Civil War he served as a captain detailed to produce cast iron cannon balls for Confederate artillery as well as plows and utensils so badly needed by Southern

civilians. He also served as the architect and contractor for Kelly Memorial Methodist Church erected in Longview in 1900. In 1936, Mr. Kelly's son, Marvin, requested that the church be renamed First Methodist Church of Longview.¹⁷ At the time of his death, the local paper made the following observation:

George A. Kelly was truly great. Every plowboy struggling on and many making their mark in Southern history walked between the handles of the useful and famous blue Kelly plow, and beyond this, in the religious and home circle, he was known as a great inventor and philanthropist. He had helped needy people and done more for his church than any other man in his home place, besides always ready and willing to subscribe to any scheme to alleviate man's suffering.¹⁸

George Washington LaGrone (April 1822 - July 24, 1912) came to Texas from South Carolina and settled in Sabine County as a colonist in the Republic of Texas.¹⁹ Before the Civil War, LaGrone, along with his parents, Jacob and Catherine Riser LaGrone, and other members of the large LaGrone family moved to the Friendship community in western Harrison County.²⁰ He and his wife, Martha S. Clark, married in Harrison County on August 4, 1857. Their oldest child, Carolyn, was born in 1865, shortly after LaGrone returned from serving in the

Confederate army.²¹ Sometime prior to 1870, neighbors living in the small communities surrounding Hallville (now Hallsville) built a small clapboard chapel on property belonging to the LaGrone family.²² For many years, LaGrone's Chapel and Winterfield shared the same Methodist circuit. G. W. and Martha LaGrone are buried in Old LaGrone Chapel Cemetery near LaGrone's Chapel, which is designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

Goin Bell Richardson (September 1, 1847 - April 18, 1919) came with his parents to Texas from Greene County, Alabama, in 1851. When he was fifteen-years-old, he joined the Confederate army, serving throughout the war in Company E (Captain John Brown) 12th Texas Cavalry.²³ In 1867, he married Frances Virginia Tincher, a native of Harrison County, Texas. The 1880 federal census records the young couple living on a farm in Harrison County with their six sons.²⁴ Richardson later served two terms as Justice of the Peace in Gregg County. At his death, he was described as a pioneer of East Texas who "filled many positions of trust and was a faithful member of the Methodist church at Winterfield."²⁵ G. B. and Frances Tincher Richardson had twelve children. At the time of her death on January 19, 1911, a friend wrote, "She was loved by all who knew her. She united with the Methodist church thirty-one years ago, and lived up to her duties and obligations, attending church, prayer meetings, and Sunday school as long as her health

permitted."²⁶ During her last illness, Frances asked friends and loved ones who gather around her bed to sing the old hymn "Will There Be Any Stars In My Crown?" According to a close friend, "Her face [was] radiantly happy while she listened to the soft words, knowing her days were so few on this earth."²⁷ The Richardsons, who were instrumental in founding the encampment at Winterfield, are buried in Winterfield Cemetery.

According to federal census records, in 1880 Soloman J. Roe, a native of Alabama, was a sixty-two-year-old farmer living in western Harrison County. His wife, Julia, was a native of South Carolina. Included in their household was a twenty-two-year-old daughter who was born in Texas.²⁸ The daughter's birthplace indicates that Soloman and Julia Roe came to Texas sometime prior to the Civil War. Little else is known of this couple except that their son, Soloman, Jr., married Lucy Dorsett in Gregg County on February 1, 1886.²⁹

Archelaus Butt Wilkes (August 26, 1822 - October 7, 1898) was born in Maury County, Tennessee, the oldest son of John and Frances Butt Wilkes. He and his second wife, Nancy Jane Adrain, lived in the Winterfield community near the present-day site of Alpine Presbyterian Church. In 1885, A. B. Wilkes donated the Wilkes' family cemetery site to the Alpine Presbyterian Church.³⁰ The oldest grave in the cemetery belongs to Mr. Wilkes' granddaughter, Maudie Dickard, who

died on December 18, 1881. Nancy Jane Adrian Wilkes died one week later, and her's is the second oldest grave in the cemetery. In the year before Mrs. Wilkes' death, the 1880 census for Gregg County included her as a forty-three-year-old homemaker living on a farm in Gregg County with her husband, who was a fifty-eight-year-old farmer. A. B. Wilkes is buried in Ardmore, Oklahoma, where he died while visiting a daughter.³¹

In 1882, a letter written from Winterfield and published in the Longview *Democrat* described life in the small East Texas community. The "thriving church" referred to is undoubtedly the Methodist encampment. Whether the brush arbor had been replaced by the first one-room clapboard church house by 1882 is unclear:

From Winterfield

Winterfield, February 11, 1882

Editors *Democrat*:- As I have never seen a letter from our thriving little neighborhood, you will oblige me by a small space in your very interesting paper. Winterfield is situated about three miles north from Longview, on the Coffeenville Road. This is a healthy and beautiful section of country, and some as good soil as there is in Eastern Texas. We raise corn, potatoes, and cotton in abundance, and I

believe all who try, raise their own meat. We have a thriving church, but no school, which is the only thing that any person can object to about Winterfield; but I hope that this will stir them up a little. There is a plenty of children in the neighborhood to keep up a first class school all the time. Come to see us and we will give you the best we have. We have plenty of chickens, eggs, and butter and milk, and in fact everything that is good. Subscriber.³²

The first men to lead worship services at the Methodist camp ground at Winterfield were itinerant preachers and lay leaders. Camp meetings, held during the summer months, would last up to two weeks, and the speaker would stay in the home of a nearby farmer. With money scarce, the preacher would leave with saddlebags full of potatoes, corn meal, eggs, and other necessities to sustain him as he journeyed to his next appointment. Although circuit preachers continued to serve small East Texas congregations well into the 1930s, camp meetings began to decline toward the end of the nineteenth century. Reasons for this were varied: pastors learned that revivals in their own town or church were more effective; the area became more densely populated; and transportation became less of a problem as county roads improved. Camp meetings also declined because they fell under heavy criticism. A minister who visited a meeting in North Texas in 1890

published the following observations in the *Texas Christian Advocate*:

The people had too much to eat and they ate it; and often the preacher was conscious that sausage, cabbage, and beef predominated over intellect in his audience. Your grove meetings were too protracted and violent. . . . The sisters were engaged too much in cooking for and feeding too many tramps--politely called strangers. . . . You compromise the Methodist methods by having too many stand-up and shake-hand conversions. Doctrinal preaching was not prominent, especially on repentance, the Holy Ghost, hell, judgment, restitution, baptism, missions, and money contributions for church enterprises.³³

Methodist historian Walter N. Vernon points out that this criticism may have been too harsh. Regardless of the specific contributing factors, Methodist encampments gradually declined because the occasion and necessity for them passed away.

Several years before the turn of the century, the Winterfield encampment evolved into an organized congregation holding regular services at least once a month in a frame church

house. The "new" church referred to in the following report suggests that a building may have existed in Winterfield before 1894. At the latest, Methodists in Winterfield erected a house of worship by the summer of 1894:

Hallville. D. P. Cullen, August 23: I wrote some time ago, "We will build a new church at Winterfield." A beautiful house--well finished save painting on the inside--was, by the proper officers, on last Sunday presented to the pastor and dedicated in due form. The Holy Ghost set his seal upon the offering, and the people rejoiced. Our people of Hallville Circuit are praying and working, and the Lord is sending down blessings upon them.³⁴

A complete roster of the ministers who served at Winterfield from 1898 through 1994 is recorded in the East Texas Conference Journals and the Texas Conference Journals housed at the Texas Conference Archives and Methodist Collection in the Doornbos Historical Center at Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, Texas. Doug McKay, chief archivist at the center, compiled the following list.

1898 - 1900 Gus Garrison

Rev. Garrison was born in Cedartown, Georgia, on January 26, 1848, and died in Musgrove, Texas, October 18, 1923. He

immigrated as a young man to Sulphur Springs, Texas, where he practiced law for twenty years before answering a call to the ministry. Serving as an itinerant preacher, he was admitted on trial into the East Texas Conference at Texarkana on December 18, 1895. His first assignment was Kellyville where he served for two years. His second assignment was for three years at Hallville.³⁵ (In 1898, Winterfield Methodist Church was on the Hallville [now Hallsville] circuit.)

1901 W. L. Pate (Died November 25, 1940)

1902 G. W. Riley (Died March 5, 1925)

News articles appearing in the Longview *Times-Clarion* during Rev. Riley's tenure show Winterfield to be a typical East Texas rural community, practicing neighborliness and sharing a commitment to education and religious faith. On February 26, 1903, the paper reported, "Our school under the management of Professor W. R. Owings closed last week with the intention of finishing the term this summer. . . . G. B. Richardson and W. H. Davis attended the quarterly meeting at Lagrone's Chapel."³⁶ The following article published on September 24 indicates that during Rev. Riley's appointment, the Winterfield church organized a Sunday School and regular Sunday night services:

After a lapse of several months, we will appear again. All of the farmers are busy

picking out their cotton. Health of the community is very good. Rev. Riley filled his regular appointment here Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Rogers and Mr. Luther Mann attended the carnival in Palestine last week. Mr. Will Smelly spent Sunday at Peatown. Miss Evie and May Huffman were in our midst Sunday. N. H. Smitherman had the misfortune last Saturday to badly sprain his ankle, but is recovering from the effects of the bruise. Some of our young people attended the singing at Mrs. James Sunday night. Otis Noble spent Sunday with Demps Richardson. The people of Winterfield are requested to meet next Sunday morning for the purposes of organizing our Sunday School. There will be prayer meeting held at this place every Sunday night beginning with the next Sunday. Sammie³⁷

The October 6, 1903, edition announced that Professor M. A. Pace would open a school at Winterfield on Monday, October 19.

1903 John W. Holt

The Minutes of the Sixty-Fourth Annual Session of the Texas Conference recorded that John W. Holt registered for the Hallville Circuit as an elder (full connection). The

circuit was in the Marshall District. During Rev. Holt's appointment, the neighborhoods in northeast Gregg County began to form a larger community, and names of families living in that area often appeared in news columns under "Tryon Truths," "Judson Jottings," and "Winterfield Warblings." On October 13, 1904, the paper reported Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Adrian were visiting their son at Dexter, Texas, and that the neighborhood school would open on the following Monday with Miss Cora Mackey as teacher.

1904 - 1905 W. W. Horner

Rev. Horner often used the Longview *Times-Clarion* to communicate with his scattered flock on the Hallville Circuit. On February 2, 1905, the paper published "A Pastoral Letter" from Rev. Horner: "To the Methodists of the Hallville Charge: Dear Brothers and Sisters:-It affords me great pleasure to serve you as pastor this year, and I trust that you will all do your best to make this the best and happiest year of your lives." The lengthy letter concluded with an admonition to read the *Christian Advocate* and to live correctly. On March 16, the paper published the following invitation: "Our subject for next Sunday is as follows---At Winterfield at 11 a.m., The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. At Lagrone's Chapel at 3 p.m. the subject will be Our Obligation To God and Our Fellowman. Both these subjects are of great importance and we hope to

have full houses at both places. Come one, come all. W. W. Horner."

1906 - 1907 I. F. Pace

Minutes of the Sixty-Seventh Session held in 1906 at Tyler and the Sixty-Eighth Session held in 1907 at Houston include Hallville in the Jacksonville District instead of the Marshall District.

1908 John A. Carr

1909 John B. Bell

1910 Marion Francis Wells

1911 - 1913 Major M. I. Brown

1914 - 1916 Arthur L. Conner

In 1915, forty-three children living in the Winterfield neighborhood attended Winterfield School. The students' names represent many of the families that attended the Winterfield church. (See Addendum #3.)

1917 Preston Florence

1918 - 1920 Daniel Edward Sneller

1921 Bruce O. Power

1922 - 1925 James Leon McAdams

In his early years, James Leon McAdams was an elder in the First Christian Church at Raven Hill in San Jacinto County. When he was thirty-eight-years old, he joined the Methodist church, and in the summer of 1921 he began ministerial courses at Southern Methodist University. During his tenure at Hallville, he was both a student and a circuit preacher. While under his leadership, the Hallville congregation built a new church and parsonage.

1926 - 1927 Joseph Henry Malone

1928 William Wesley Hardt

Between 1927 and 1929, Winterfield members erected a new frame church house that served the congregation for forty years. In 1957, this building was moved to make room for the current sanctuary, but it continued to be used by the church for various purposes until 1969, when it was razed to make room for the current educational building.³⁸ William Wesley Hardt was a young thirty-three-year-old pastor when he served at Winterfield. He continued a long, effective ministry until his death in Malakoff on Sunday morning, April 11, 1943. Rev. Hardt's son, John Wesley Hardt, assumed his father's pastorate at Malakoff, and like his father, he had a long and distinguished career as a minister of the Gospel.

In 1980, John Wesley Hardt was elected Bishop in the United Methodist Church.

1929 - 1932 Irrie J. Waldon

1933 James Leon McAdams

In 1933, the Minutes of the Ninety-Eighth Session show Greggton, Summerfield and Winterfield in the Greggton Circuit. Rev. McAdams served as conference Evangelist from 1928 to 1931. In November 1931, he returned to the pastorate and subsequently was appointed to numerous East Texas circuits.

1934 J. N. McCain

In 1934, Winterfield is in the Hallville Circuit, Marshall District.

1935 J. N. McCain and Gordon Alexander

In the Minutes of the 100th Session in 1935, Hallville is in the Kilgore Circuit, which also includes Winterfield, Grange Hall, Karnack, and Danville.

1936 Gordon Alexander

In 1936, Winterfield remained in the Kilgore Circuit. The church had grown to include 146 members. Gordon Alexander served as supply from December 1935 to November 1936. During 1936, current church member Gladys Davis (Mrs. Mervin) Moore

married and joined the Winterfield congregation. According to Mrs. Moore, at the time she joined the church, the women had an active Women's Missionary Society. Mrs. Moore also remembers various fund-raising projects undertaken by the women of the church. In addition to the traditional bake sales, some of the ladies sold chickens to support the work of foreign and home missionaries.³⁹

1937 - 1939 J. N. McCain

Session Minutes in 1937 again include Winterfield in the Hallville Circuit. The membership had increased to 148. By 1939, Winterfield's membership had lapsed to 116, and the Hallsville Circuit included LaGrone's Chapel, Maple Springs, Noonday, and Winterfield churches. (The Minutes from 1937 to 1939 reflect a subtle name change; Hallville becomes Hallsville.)

On June 2, 1938, church trustees C. H. Richardson, G. W. Richardson, L. H. Richardson, J. E. Blalock, and D. H. Smitherman sold a four-acre tract previously purchased by the church. The tract was sold to G. W. and Ada Richardson in exchange for the church cemetery site, which was located on the Richardson's property.⁴⁰

1940 - 1941 James Leon McAdams

In 1940, Winterfield is shown in the Session Minutes as a church with a full-time pastor. If these Minutes are

accurate, James Leon McAdams came to Winterfield for the third time as the church's first full-time pastor, appointed in 1940 and again in 1941. Current members who belonged to the church during Rev. McAdams' tenure remember that the church built a parsonage for their new full-time pastor behind the sanctuary, which had been erected in 1929. This first parsonage was replaced in 1967 by a more modern home at 1000 Akin Drive. The third and current parsonage is located at 1403 Garner Lane.⁴¹

1942 Daniel Edward Sneller

After an absence of twenty-two years, Rev. Sneller returned to shepherd the Winterfield congregation during the early part of World War II. The difficult war years required commitment and sacrifice from every American family. Current church member, Gladys Davis Moore, recalls that the women of Winterfield joined other Longview churchwomen in making bandages for American soldiers at the American Red Cross center in downtown Longview.⁴² In the Narthex of the current sanctuary is an honor roll listing eleven church members who served in the United States armed forces during World Wars I and II.

1943 J. L. Ross

1944 - 1945 C. A. Perkins

Minutes of the 109th and 110th Sessions show Winterfield moved to the Longview District.

1946 - 1947 Chad Murray

1948 - 1952 James Bee Waggoner

1953 - 1954 Benjamin Wilson Waltman

1955 - 1956 W. Edward Mitchell

1957 - 1962 Roland T. Scales

During Rev. Scales' tenure, Winterfield launched a building program to erect what would be the congregation's fourth house of worship. Before the turn of the century, members erected two small frame buildings; the first was across the street from the present church site, and the second (probably the building mentioned previously in the August 1894 *Christian Advocate*) was south of the present site. Between 1927 and 1929, the congregation built a third frame church. This third building was enlarged and updated a number of times before being moved to the rear of the church property to make space for the current sanctuary. (See Addendum #4.) At the ground-breaking ceremonies on November 10, 1957, three longtime members, Tom Davis, Dan Smitherman, and Lewis Richardson turned the first spadeful of earth.⁴³ Six months

later, on May 18, 1958, the *Longview Sunday News Journal* ran a lengthy article reporting the dedication of the new Winterfield Methodist Church building:

Designed by one of its own members, Longview architect Leland Guinn, and erected in a pleasantly beautiful setting of large oak trees by M. Clint Brown Construction Company, the new brick edifice with the sky-pointing roof will seat 300 worshippers in its mahogany pews. The transformation from the frame, clapboard building which the new sanctuary replaces is startling when viewed with the knowledge that the transformation was all wrought by a small congregation of only 270 members.

Floor-to-roof glass stretches across the west end of the sanctuary. A grill work of solar tile filters sunlight through this glass deep into the building. The north wall of the sanctuary is of frosted cathedral glass. Sanctuary woodwork and furnishings are of Philippines mahogany. Aisle carpeting is of rose beige wool. Ceiling spotlights provide artificial lighting controllable both from the pulpit and from the entrance end of the sanctuary.

Flanking the entrance way are a "cry" room on the left and a cloak room on the right, both separated from the sanctuary proper by a wall of glass. These areas may also be used to accommodate overflow crowds since they are equipped with loud speakers connected to a public address system at the pulpit. The divided chancel has pulpit and lectern on each side and an altar at the center. The choir loft is separated from the chancel area by a brick railing which matches the exterior brick of the building. New wine-colored choir robes have been purchased for the thirty-voice choir.

The north wing of the new building contains the church office, the pastor's study, and a porte cochere which will eventually be equipped with a circular paved drive-way. The south wing contains seven classrooms for children of the Sunday School.

The Rev. Scales has been pastor of the church for the past two years. He came here from Grange Hall Methodist Church in Marshall. He is a graduate of the Perkins School of Theology, SMU, and of Centenary College. The pastory is a native of Orange, Texas. . . .

1963 - 1964 Louis R. Gant, Jr.

1965 - 1969 William J. Hodge

Dr. Hodge's tenure marked a dynamic era in the life of the Winterfield congregation. In 1967, the church purchased a parsonage at 1000 Akin Drive, and in 1969, the church erected the current educational building.

On September 14, 1969, in an administrative board meeting, church leaders voted to present a motion to the church recommending that Winterfield provide a facility for the establishment of a school designed to serve East Texas children with learning disabilities. Thus began a long association between the church, the Longview community, and Windamere School, a special education facility providing small classes and special teaching methods and materials. The school, now known as the Crisman Preparatory School, operated in the education wing of Winterfield United Methodist Church until 1981. The school now has its own campus.

An article and accompanying photograph published in the *Longview Daily News* on October 10, 1969, featured church member John Richardson bringing ditty bags from church members to the local office of the American Red Cross. Richardson contributed ditty bag #962, which was added to hundreds of other bags from Longview residents for mailing to U.S. servicemen in Vietnam. John Richardson represented the fourth generation of Richardsons to belong to Winterfield.

1970 - 1972 Everett Hal McCombs

1973 - 1976 William C. Webb

On October 12, 1975, Winterfield Church celebrated its centennial anniversary. Rev. Bill Webb noted, "What we will be celebrating is 100 years of Christian worship at this site."⁴⁴ Former pastors and members traveled to Longview to attend the homecoming celebration that would mark the passing of 100 years. After the worship service, the members enjoyed dinner on the grounds followed by the placement of a time capsule in the church yard. Each class and organization contributed something to the capsule, which is to be opened in 2025. Marking the location of the capsule is a brick directory with a bronze plaque which reads as follows:

THIS DIRECTORY
IS DEDICATED IN LOVING MEMORY
TO TWO OF THE FOUNDERS OF
WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
MR. AND MRS. G.B. (DOC) RICHARDSON
AND CHILDREN
BY THEIR DESCENDANTS

1975

A sad irony is the fact that two months after the church family celebrated its centennial, an event occurred that shocked the Longview community and complicated this effort to

document the church's history. In the early morning hours of December 4, 1975, a senseless act of violence destroyed most of the church's old records and documents. The *Longview Daily News* reported the incident:

Members of the Winterfield United Methodist Church sifted through ashes this morning trying to salvage the few undamaged church records and equipment left in the aftermath of an early morning fire.

Fire Marshall Chester Howard aided by Longview police detectives also sifted through the ashes, looking for evidence of arson.

"We are continuing an investigation of the blaze," said Fire Chief Joe Causey. "There is some possibility of arson and there is definite evidence of vandalism prior to the fire."

The definite evidence, obscenities scrawled across walls in the pastor's office, ink on the floor and walls, and a few missing items, including a microphone and a tape player aroused suspicion, according to Causey.

He credited fast action on the part of his fire crews for containing the early-morning blaze in two rooms and a hallway comprising the northeast wing of the church.

The church secretary's office, the only locked

room in the building, and the pastor's office were heavily damaged in the fire, according to Causey. No flame reached the sanctuary or other parts of the church but Causey said that heat and smoke damage was heavy throughout.

The Rev. Bill Webb, pastor, said that the official church records were essentially destroyed, although there are partial records in various places. He added that the church will continue to meet on the property, holding services in the Fellowship Hall behind the damaged main building. . . .⁴⁵

The desecration of Winterfield church property occurred during a rash of similar crimes that took place in Longview over a period of several months. The person or persons responsible were never apprehended.

1977 - 1980 Robert F. Herndon

1981 - 1984 Earl H. Dawson

1985 - 1986 Eugene C. Stegar

1987 - 1990 Richard W. Goodrich

1991 - present Tom W. Crowe

Sunday School and worship services are held at Winterfield United Methodist Church every Sunday, and throughout the week members gather to share a ministry of Christian service, education, and fellowship. Among the church-sponsored activities are the United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, the Sterling Club, the Quilters, the Care Committee, Boy Scouts, Mothers Day Out, Methodist Youth Fellowship for young people, and WOW, a program for young children. A church history prepared in 1988 by church historian Rachael (Mrs. Howard) Garner summarizes Winterfield's heritage and hope for the future:

The history of Winterfield United Methodist Church extends from the brush arbor days of the late 1870s to the present \$100,000 brick church building. Faith and hope have carried the congregation through the hard times of bad weather, crop failures, epidemics, depression times, four wars, births, deaths, and the marriages of many of the members. . . . May our children and their children continue to follow the tradition of worship and caring for one another at Winterfield United Methodist Church.⁴⁶

Footnotes

1. Walter N. Vernon, *Methodism Moves Across North Texas*, p. 29. Vernon quotes Stephen F. Austin's letter which appeared on page 3 of the *Arkansas Gazette* on August 24, 1824.
2. *Ibid.* p. 30.
3. *Ibid.* p. 34. Vernon quotes William B. Travis' letter which appeared in the *New York Christian Advocate and Journal* on October 16, 1835.
4. Olin W. Nail, editor, *History of Texas Methodism 1900-1960*, p. 44.
5. History Committee of First Methodist Church of Longview, *One Hundred Years: First Methodist Church, Longview, Texas 1850-1950*. n.p.
6. A. J. Weeks, editor. *Texas Christian Advocate*, November 7, 1912.
7. Deed Records of Gregg County, Volume G, pp. 508-510, June 8, 1883.

8. Deed Records of Gregg County, Volume H, pp. 213-214, September 3, 1884.
9. John M. Kinney, *Index To Applications For Texas Confederate Pensions*, p. 2. The pension application number for Mrs. E. W. Adrian is 37183; the number for D. W. Adrian is 23409. Information from the application of Elsie Williams Adrian was provided by Nancy Blakeley Ruff, Longview, Texas.
10. Ellis Arthur Davis, editor, *Historical Encyclopedia of Texas*, 1:649.
11. Longview Daily News, December 11, 1939.
12. Nancy Blakeley Ruff, *Gregg County, Texas, Marriage License Index*, n.p.
13. *Texas New Era*, March 10, 1883 and *Longview Daily News*, August 8, 1945.
14. *Longview Daily News*, December 11, 1939.
15. Rachael Garner, *Gregg County Cemeteries*, 4:21.
16. Garner Family File, Longview Public Library, Longview Texas.

17. *Longview Morning Journal*, May 3, 1970.
18. *Times-Clarion*, October 7, 1909.
19. Mrs. Harry Joseph Morris, *Citizens of the Republic of Texas*, p. 309.
20. *Times-Clarion*, July 25, 1912.
21. John M. Kinney, *Index to Applications for Texas Confederate Pensions*, p. 145. Pension application number 14262.
22. Little, Carol Morris, *Historic Harrison County*, p. 98.
23. Photocopy of Confederate Pension Application Number 31164, Longview Public Library Local History Room.
24. Nancy Blakeley Ruff, *Harrison County, Texas, Caucasian Residents in 1880*, pp. 158, 249, and 255.
25. *Longview News*, April 19, 1919.
26. *Times-Clarion*, January 19, 1911.
27. *Ibid.*

28. Nancy Blakeley Ruff, *Harrison County, Texas, Caucasian Residents in 1880*, p. 255.
29. Nancy Blakeley Ruff, *Gregg County, Texas, Marriage License Index*, n.p.
30. James H. Dickard, *A Pictorial History of Alpine Presbyterian Church, Longview, Texas 1881-1981*, n.p.
31. Elizabeth Butts Wilkes Bible Record provided by Sue Gross, Longview, Texas.
32. *The Democrat*, February 17, 1882. (The Democrat was published in Longview from 1880 to 1885.)
33. Walter N. Vernon, *Methodism Moves Across North Texas*, p. 117.
34. James Campbell, editor, *Texas Christian Advocate*, August 30, 1894.
35. H. B. Smith, editor, *Journal of the Eighty-Fifth Annual Session of the Texas Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South*, p. 70.
36. *Times-Clarion*, February 26, 1903.

37. *Times-Clarion*, September 24, 1903.
38. Virginia Marks (Winterfield United Methodist Church Secretary), interview with Carol Morris Little, Longview, July 10, 1994.
39. Gladys Davis Moore, interview with Carol Morris Little, July 24, 1994.
40. Deed Records of Gregg County, Volume 232, pp. 40-41.
41. Virginia Marks (Winterfield United Methodist Church Secretary), interview with Carol Morris Little, Longview, July 10, 1994.
42. Gladys Davis Moore, interview with Carol Morris Little, July 24, 1994.
43. *Longview Daily News*, November 10, 1957.
44. *Longview Daily News*, October 8, 1975.
45. *Longview Daily News*, December 4, 1975.
46. Rachael Garner (Winterfield United Methodist Church Historian), *Our History...Winterfield United Methodist Church*, p. 17.

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Confederate Pension Application Number 31164. Photocopy. Longview Public Library Local History Room. Richardson Family File.

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Deed Records of Gregg County. Volume H, pp. 213-214. Gregg County Courthouse. Longview, Texas.

Deed Records of Gregg County. Volume 232, pp. 40-41. Gregg County Courthouse. Longview, Texas.

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Cemeteries With Western Harrison County.* Volume 2. Tyler:
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Hudson Printing Company. 1984.

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Longview Daily News. "Joseph A. Boring Dies Suddenly." August 8, 1945.

Longview Daily News. November 10, 1957.

Longview Daily News. May 18, 1958.

Longview Daily News. "Winterfield Church Marks 100 Years." October 8, 1975.

Longview Daily News. "Possible Arson Probed, Fire Damages Church." December 4, 1975.

Longview Morning Journal. "Methodist Shared First Meeting House in Longview." May 3, 1970.

Longview News. "A Good Man Gone." April 19, 1919.

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Moore, Gladys Davis (Mrs. Mervin). Interview with Carol Morris Little. Longview, Texas. June 24, 1994.

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Addenda

1. Map of Gregg County showing the Alexander Jordan Survey.
2. Map of eastern Gregg and western Harrison counties showing several local historic sites, including Winterfield church and cemetery.
3. A 1915 souvenir program of graduation services at Winterfield school.
4. Photographs #1 and #2 depict the old clapboard church erected in 1894. Photograph #2 was taken in 1927 at the funeral of Chester Harrison Richardson who died on March 7, 1927. The photograph was taken by his nephew, Charles O. Richardson, Jr., who provided it for this narrative. Mr. Richardson lives in Mineola, Texas.

Photograph #3 shows the frame building erected between 1927 and 1929. This building was razed in 1969.

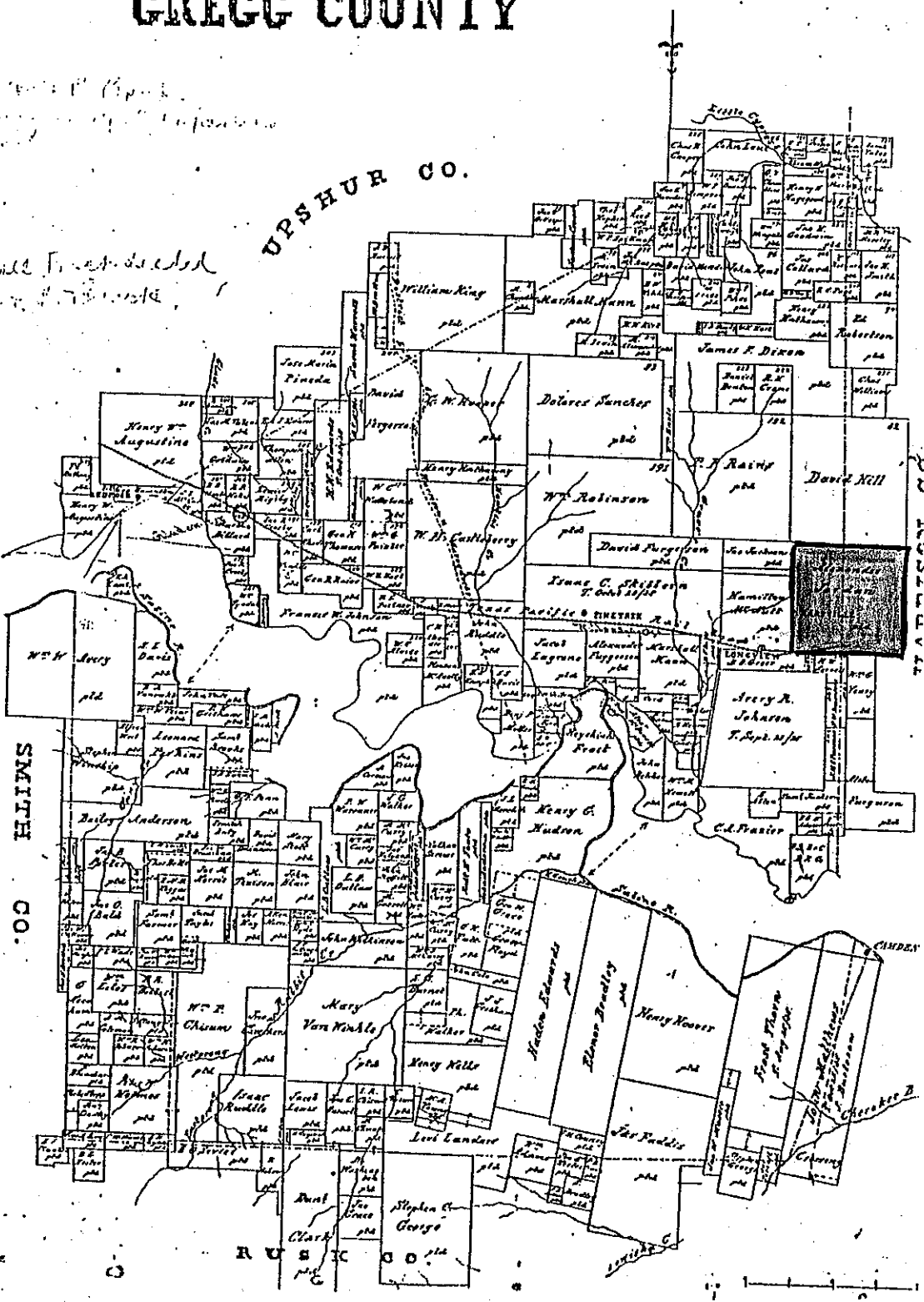
Photograph #4 shows the current church building erected in 1957-58.

act to July 1st 1874

MAP

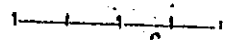
GREGG COUNTY

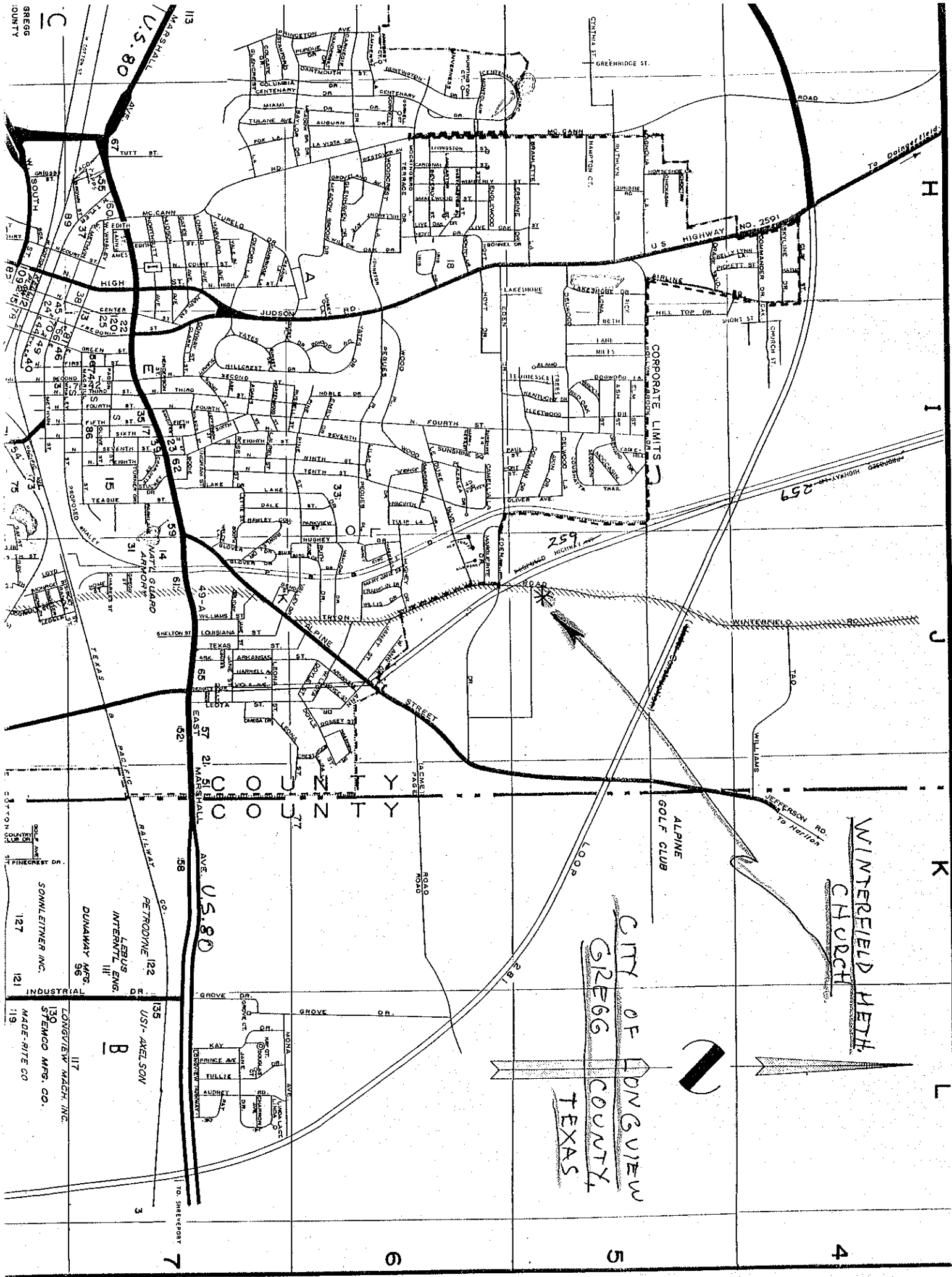
Small tract located
 W. of T. 100 N. 24 E.



SMITH CO.

RUSSEK CO.





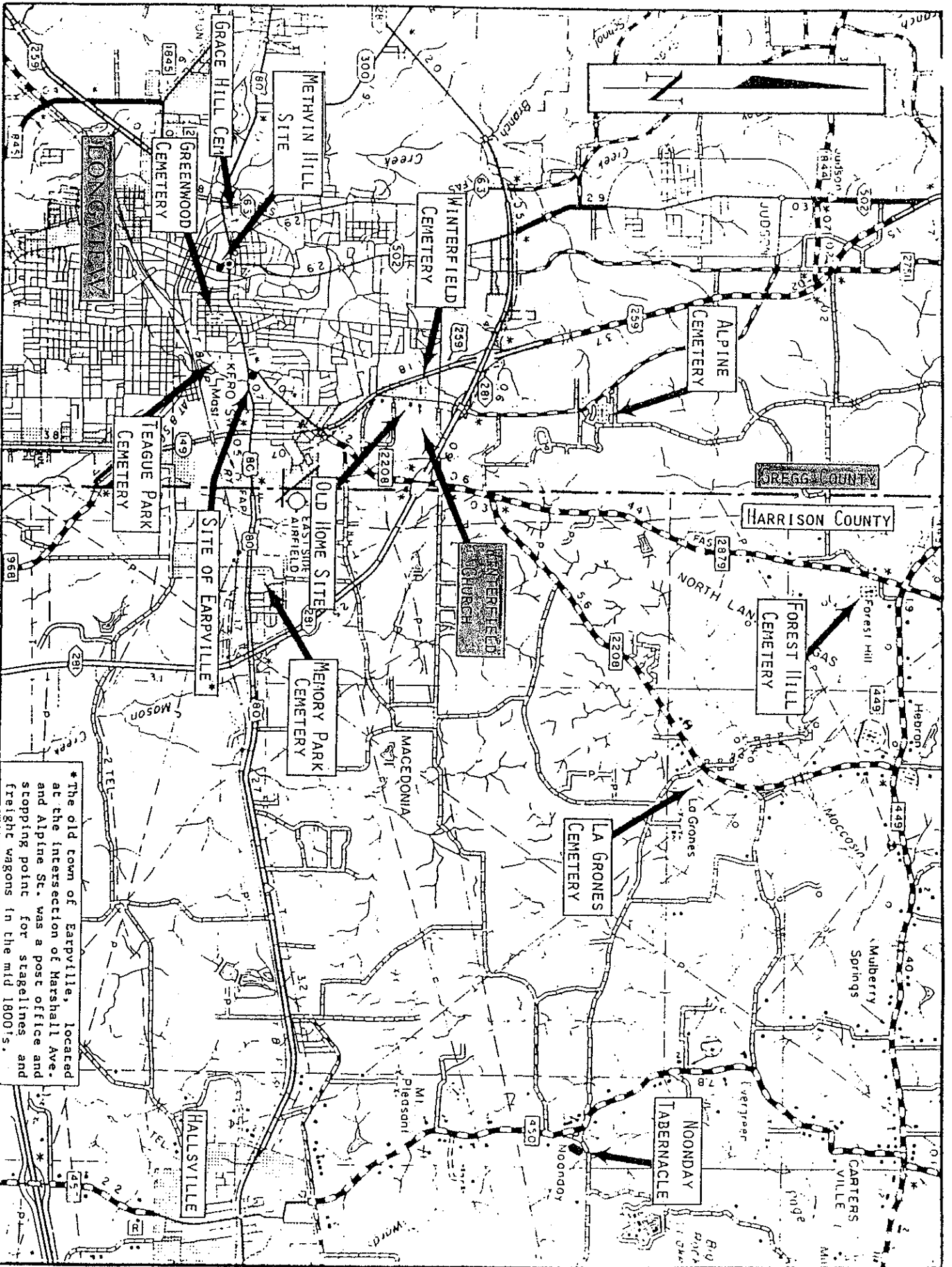
WINTERFIELD METH.
CHURCH

ALPINE
GOLF CLUB

CITY OF LONGVIEW
GREGG COUNTY
TEXAS



INDUSTRIAL
DUNAWAY MFG. 96
LEBUS INTERMITT. ENG. 111
PETRODOME 122
USI-ALEXSON 135
LONGVIEW MACH. INC. 117
STEMCO MFG. CO. 130
MADE-RITE CO. 119
SONNLEITNER INC. 127
121



* The old town of Earpville, located at the intersection of Marshall Ave. and Alpine St. was a post office and stopping point for stage lines and freight wagons in the mid 1800's.



WINTERFIELD SCHOOL

District No. 2

Gregg County, Texas

EMMA HENDERSON, Teacher

PUPILS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| George Grimes | Edward Grimes |
| Joe Smitherman | Roy Harper |
| Bernice Harper | Walter Richardson |
| Roy Richardson | Percy Garner |
| Geats Garner | Sam Dunning |
| Willie Fleet | J. W. Bright |
| Henry Dunning | Walter Tutt |
| George Keenum | Carlo Keenum |
| Eugene Bright | Tom Garner |
| Mary Belle Smitherman | Fay Wood |
| Rebecca Garner | Ethel Richardson |
| Bertha Richardson | Gladys Richardson |
| Myra Lynne Henderson | Lilla Grimes |
| Hattie Schaffer | Chara Belle Bright |
| Lela May Fleet | Gladys Harper |
| Corinne Fleet | Zellie Tutt |
| Dillie Thornton | Jimmie Thornton |
| Bessie Jones | Lucy Webb |
| Mattie Lee Keenum | Allie Nance |
| Sudie Bright | Pearl Dunning |
| Annie Dunning | Edith Thornton |
| | Erma Tutt |



SOUVENIR



1915

The School is out, vacation's come
The bell has ceased to sound
The old School House has lost its hum
And silence broods around.

Photo #1



Photo #3

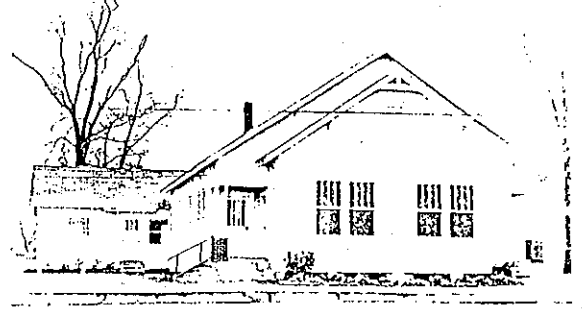


Photo #2

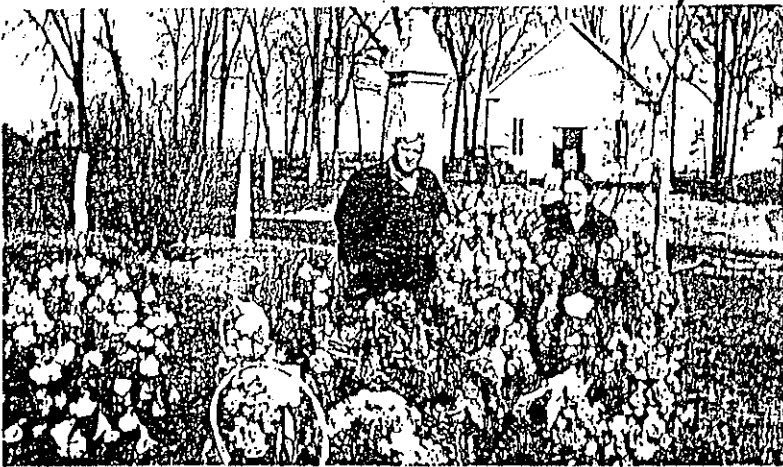
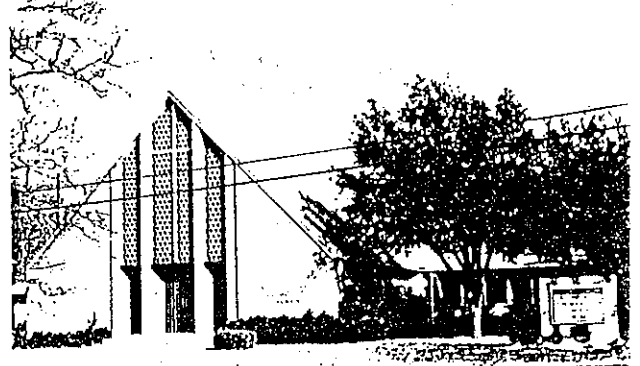


Photo #4





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276

512/463-6100

September 29, 1994

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

RE: WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 01695 Received: 9/19/94

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 a three to four month 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,

Egina G. Kaase
Office Manager
Local History Programs

pc: The Rev. Tom W. Crowe



DEDICATION
of an
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Longview, Texas

October 23, 1994

Dr. William D. O'Neal, Pastor

Sponsored by

THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE GREGG COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Guide to Worship

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 23, 1994

11:00 A.M.

Upon entering the sanctuary, many people wish to reflect and pray. Each worshipper is asked to respect the needs of others and speak softly prior to the beginning of worship.

Call to Worship
Invocation

Voluntary Fanfare Guy Eldridge

*Processional Hymn 138 Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty NICAEA

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with all our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

*Assurance of Pardon

Minister: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

Congregation: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Summary of the Law

*Response

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in Him and not be afraid;
For the Lord is my Stronghold and my sure Defense,
And He will be my Savior.

Welcome and Ritual of Friendship
Concerns of the Church

*Hymn 442 The Church's One Foundation AURELIA

Prayers of the People - The Lord's Prayer - Choral Amen

Anthem With a Voice of Singing The Chancel Choir
Martin Shaw

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Sermon I Corinthians 3:1-17 Bill O'Neal

*Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed page 14

*Gloria Patri

The Offering

Voluntary

Bringing our Gifts to God

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE

Dr. W. D. O'Neal will invite the congregation to proceed to the front lawn of the church for the marker dedication. Dr. O'Neal will lead the way, followed by the choir, and then the congregation.

*Recession of the People Crown Imperial March William Walton

*Congregation Standing

Stephen Farrow, Organist and Interim Choir Director



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LONGVIEW

THIS CHURCH WAS ESTABLISHED BY NINE RESIDENT MEMBERS OF THE OLD SCHOOL SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS A MISSION IN THE NEW TOWN OF LONGVIEW IN 1872. THE FIRST CHURCH BUILDING WAS ERECTED ON LAND DONATED BY THE TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILROAD IN 1874. THE REV. JAMES H. WIGGINS WAS INSTALLED AS THE FIRST FULL-TIME PASTOR. THE CONGREGATION HELPED ESTABLISH TWO MISSION CHURCHES IN THE AREA BY 1894. A NEW CHURCH BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1900 AND A THIRD AT THIS SITE IN 1940. THE CONGREGATION CONTINUES TO SPONSOR OUTREACH AND MISSIONARY PROGRAMS IN LONGVIEW AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

(1994)

OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION

October 23, 1994

Welcome and Introduction of Guests Dr. Norman Black
Invocation Dr. William D. O'Neal
Reading of Marker Dr. O'Neal
Unveiling of Marker Mrs. Carolyn Lindsey
Dedication of Marker Dr. O'Neal
Prayer Dr. O'Neal
Choral Benediction *The Lord Bless You And Keep You...* . Peter Christian Lutkin
The Chancel Choir
Benediction Dr. O'Neal



First Presbyterian Church, Longview, Texas
1874

Gregg County Historical Commission

Mrs. Mildred Wood Barker
Mrs. Charlotte Allgood Black
Dr. Norman W. Black, Chairman
Mr. Jack Buchanan
Mrs. Pauline Cox
Mrs. B.W. Crain, Jr.
Sondra Daniel
Beth Holloway Dodson
Dr. Ken Durham
Mrs. Helen McHahey Griffin

Mrs. Nelda Lewis
Carol Morris Little
Mrs. H. L. Long
Anne P. MacKenzie
Mrs. Gordon J. Mayer
Amanda Pratt Nobles
Dr. W. D. Northcutt, III
Mrs. John W. Osteen
Ben Reynolds
Mrs. Nancy Ruff
Mr. Joe White

Winterfield United Methodist Church

2616 Tryon Road
Longview, Texas 75601

Ch. (903) 753-4825
Pars. (903) 753-7706

November 16, 1994

Ms. Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Markers
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Re: Official Texas Historical Marker

Dear Ms. Beeman:

In response to your November 8 letter to Winterfield United Methodist Church, our church historian, Mrs. Rae Garner, has provided the following answers to the questions that you have asked to be clarified. Here are the questions you asked and the answers that our historian provides for you:

1. The narrative states that the congregation celebrated its centennial in 1975. On what record is the 1875 founding date based?

Basis of dates for about 1875 rely on written accounts of an old encampment in the Winterfield Community recorded in a 1950 History of the First Methodist Church of Longview, Texas (History Committee of First Methodist Church of Longview, "One Hundred Years: First Methodist Church, Longview, Texas 1850-1950"; also newspaper account, "Winterfield Church Marks 100 Years", Longview Daily News, October 3, 1975".

2. Brief mention is made of a cemetery connected with the church. Where is the cemetery in relation to the current church building? Does the church still administer the cemetery? Is it still in use?

Winterfield Cemetery is directly across the street from the church. The cemetery is administered by the Winterfield Cemetery Association which meets yearly in the Fellowship Hall adjacent to the church. The cemetery is still in use, well-kept. First burials November 1887--most recent burial was November 5, 1994.



Ms. Cynthia J. Beeman
Re: Historical Marker
11/16/94, page two

3. The narrative states that Winterfield was some 3 miles north/northeast of Longview. What happened to the Winterfield community--was it absorbed by Longview? Is the current site of the church the same as its original site in Winterfield?

Winterfield community is an area 3 miles north of Longview, within the city limits of Longview. Many residents use this to identify their residences. Current site of church existed since June 1883 when original 4-acre tract was purchased by trustees. Purchased site was situated adjacent to the campground lot. (Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas, Vol. G, pages 508-510, June 8, 1883.)

Sincerely yours,

Tom W. Crowe
Pastor

vm/TWC
Encls.

cc: Dr. Norman Black
Mrs. Rae Garner



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276

(TELEPHONE) 512-463-6100

(FAX) 512-463-6095

(RELAY TX) 1-800-735-2989 (TDD)

December 8, 1994

The Rev. Tom W. Crowe
Winterfield United Methodist Church
2616 Tryon
Longview, TX 75605

RE: WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 01695, Gregg County

Dear Mr. Crowe:

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, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Markers
Local History Programs

pc: Norman Black, Gregg CHC



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276

512/463-6100

March 30, 1995

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

RE: WINTERFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
18" x 28" marker w/ post
Job # 01695

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. Again, to avoid any unnecessary delays, please consult with all parties to decide that all are in accord before returning your approval or submitting any suggested changes.

Enclosed for your information is a form for ordering other marker-related items. Any order you may wish to place with this form may be made at this time or whenever in the future.

Sincerely,

Ruben Moreland-Ochoa

Ruben Moreland-Ochoa, Historian
Official Texas Historical Markers
Local History Programs

pc: The Rev. Tom W. Crowe