

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 3/22/79

Official Texas Historical Building Marker to attach to wood
Harrison County (Order #5485)

Location: 1502 S. Washington Ave., Marshall

THE ADAMS HOUSE*

ATTORNEY AND PLANTATION OWNER

CHESLEY MEREDITH ADAMS (1813-1859)

BOUGHT THIS PROPERTY IN THE 1850s

AND CONSTRUCTED A LOG HOUSE. HIS

WIDOW MARTHA AND HER HUSBAND

THE REV. J. F. RIGGS BUILT THIS FRAME

RESIDENCE IN 1880 TO REPLACE THE

LOG STRUCTURE. THEY TRANSFERRED

THE PROPERTY IN 1889 TO MARTHA'S

SON CHESLEY FRANCIS ADAMS (1856-

1940). A LAWYER AND EDUCATOR, ADAMS

MARRIED ALICE CHANDLER STUART IN

1891 AND HERE THEY RAISED THEIR

FAMILY OF EIGHT CHILDREN. **

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1979***

*1/2 inch lettering

**3/8 inch lettering

***1/4 inch lettering

APPROVED
Truett Latimer

Emilia Reed

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P. O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711

5485

A written history, signed by the author, must accompany this form before it will be accepted.

County Harrison Date December 15, 1978

1. The Adams House
Title of marker

2. Same
Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, archeological site, etc., where marker is to be placed.

3. 1502 South Washington Avenue
Marker site (street address or highway number)

4. Marshall, Texas
City or nearest city. If marker is to be placed on a highway or in a small community, you must briefly explain how to get there from nearest town shown on a Texas Highway Department road map. For example, "Marker will be in Bastrop Beach, which is 6 miles south east of Angleton on FM 523."

5. NA
Distance (miles, yards, feet) and direction (north, south, east, west) of subject from marker site. For example, "Subject is 1/2 mile southwest of marker site."

6. Alice Adams Morgan 1502 South Washington Avenue Marshall
Owner of marker site Address City

7. Chesley M. Adams 1502 South Washington Avenue Marshall
Sponsor of marker Address City

8. Max S. Lale 3704 Fitzgerald Marshall
County chairman Address City
"I have reviewed the narrative for this marker and attest to its accuracy."

9. Chesley M. Adams 1502 South Washington Avenue Marshall
Person to whom marker is to be shipped Street Address City
Note: If marker is to be placed on a highway right-of-way, it will automatically be shipped to your district highway engineer.

10. Wood
Surface to which marker will be attached (i.e., wood, brick, stucco over stone) if not on post.

ORDER FORM

Please consult page 7 for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Then mail this application and narrative history, together with a check made payable to the Texas Historical Foundation, to the address above. No applications will be accepted unless payment is included.

If marker application is cancelled after the inscription is written, the Texas Historical Foundation will deduct the cost of writing the inscription from the refund.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker with post \$475 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker without post \$435 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker with post \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker with post \$250 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker without post \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker without post \$220 | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register plaque \$ 25 |

REPLACEMENT MARKERS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze plate \$300 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building plaque only \$ 75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze seal \$245 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14" medallion only \$ 50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze wreath \$115 | |

HIGHWAY DIRECTIONAL SIGN

- Please indicate quantity desired and location:
24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign \$ 50
- Black and white (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
- Green and white (for inter-state highways)

MARKER REPLICA PAPERWEIGHT

- This item should be ordered at the same time marker is ordered. Indicate quantity desired. Allow six months from completion of marker for receipt of paperweight.
- 3" x 4" plastic paperweight with replica of marker inside. \$ 50

MARKER TITLE The Adams House [An Historical Building Medal-
lion with interpretive plate is wanted] JOB# 5485
CITY Marshall COUNTY Harrison

DATE: 1/4/79

EVALUATION OF
APPLICATION FOR COMMEMORATIVE MARKER
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE MARKER COMMITTEE:

Your appraisal of the attached dossier is hereby requested. To assist you in your deliberations, the comments and recommendations of the staff are included. If your own comments are extensive, you may attach other sheets, or write on the back of this one.

Please retain in your file all but this evaluation sheet, which we request that you return to the state office at your earliest convenience. If the majority of the State Marker Committee recommends acceptance, the inscription will be written and sent to you for your approval. At that time you may wish to refer to the history previously submitted.

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION:

A traditional design between Greek Revival, of which there are many and better examples in Marshall, and the Victorian style. Not outstanding, but certainly worthy of consideration for a medallion. J. R. W., 1/31/79

Substantive Evaluation: As the history shows, the Adams family has contributed greatly to the historical themes in Marshall. The house may not be outstanding, but it and its builders and occupants will denote for posterity a trend in history. *D. Parmelee, 2-1-79*

Administrative Evaluation:

Recommend approval A Reed 2-1-79

RECOMMENDATION OF SMC MEMBER:

Signature, SMC Member

Date

THE ADAMS HOUSE
1502 South Washington Avenue
Marshall, Texas

Chesley Meredith Adams (1813-1859) arrived in Texas from North Carolina not later than 1840, the year in which he was admitted to the practice of law in the Republic.¹ Settling first in the vicinity of Elysian Fields,² he subsequently bought additional lands lying just south of Marshall. Standing on this property (or built by his slaves for him and his wife, the former Martha Stephens) was a four-room log house in which his only child, Chesley Francis Adams, was born July 24, 1856.³

Miss Stephens (1829-1912) was the middle daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ike Stephens, who came to Harrison County from the vicinity of Selma, Alabama, in 1841. Chesley Francis Adams, many years later, recounted the story he had been told about the family's migration in a convoy of wagons, the women and children riding and the men, including the males among 30 slaves, walking alongside the wagons.⁴ The trip required six weeks to complete.

Chesley Meredith Adams and Martha Stephens were married July 2, 1846, by the Rev. William Steel, a pioneer Episcopal clergyman in Harrison County.⁵ A priest of the Diocese of Tennessee, Steel had followed a daughter to the eastern section of Harrison County. Although a canonical resident of the Diocese of Louisiana, on whose clergy list his name afterward was carried, Steel organized a congregation at Leigh, Texas, whose church -- St. Paul's -- still survives as a mission of the Diocese of Texas.⁶ The couple may have been married in this congregation's first church structure.

Between the practice of law and the operation of his plantation lands,

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Chesley Meredith Adams became a wealthy man in a short span of time, in part as a result of the rapid development of his adopted home. Harrison County, in the eleven years between its organization in 1839 and the federal census of 1850, had grown to a population of 11,822, making it the most populous in the state, and Marshall, its county seat, was shown in the census to have a population of 1,189. Only Galveston, Houston, New Braunfels, Palestine, San Antonio and Victoria were larger. The Harrison County bar already included the names of many luminaries in Texas history, and the county's planters were shipping thousands of bales of cotton to commission agents and brokers in New Orleans and Galveston.

Chesley Meredith Adams' stature in the county is reflected by the fact that 1849, whether then still living on his plantation near Elysian Fields is not clear, he was invited to introduce Sam Houston when the old warrior spoke in Marshall. Houston's oratory was delivered under a spreading oak tree still standing in the 200 block of West Burleson Street in Marshall. Later, Adams was a special guest at the town's first "bar banquet" held at The Adkins House, the hotel which after the Civil War was renamed the Capitol Hotel in recognition of the Trans-Mississippi Department governors' conferences held therein. At this banquet, it has been reported, the members of the local bar voted to establish a law library, and "the gentlemen promptly rolled up their sleeves and went to work building shelves."⁷

As an attorney, Adams recognized the problems bequeathed to the heirs of those who die intestate. He prepared a will which he dated on December 14, 1858 . . . "Being ready to start for New Orleans." In it he desired that "my child Chesley F. Adams take and have all my separate estate, that my wife Martha Adams keep in her own right the negroes for which she holds bills of sale; that the community

property be equally divided, that my plantation be carried on with such negroes as are on it or may be placed there for the mutual and equal benefit of my wife and child, that my brother manage said Estate so long as he shall act prudently and carefully at reasonable wages." Naming Martha Stephens Adams as executrix and testamentary guardian of "my child and his estate," Adams made a final stipulation that "My child shall be well educated."⁸

Adams died February 3, 1859, shortly after executing his will, and is buried in Marshall Cemetery.⁹ His death was unrelated to the hazards anticipated on his trip to New Orleans, however. Chesley M. Adams, his grandson and namesake, recalls the story told in the family that the first Adams died of a carbuncle on his neck. "The doctor rode out from Marshall, stabled his horse, and spent the night. The next morning he sent one of the slaves to town to have a coffin made," he recounts. The widow's petition for probate was filed in the continuing term, November 1858, of the probate court and was advertised in six consecutive issues of The Texas Republican beginning May 20, 1859.¹⁰ The degree of Chesley Meredith Adams' affluence is reflected in the inventory of his estate which Mrs. Adams filed on May 18, 1859. In addition to 43 slaves, it revealed 811 acres of plantation land, 300 homestead acres held as community property, and an office and lot in Marshall as separate property.¹¹

Only the fact that Adams died in 1859, a year prior to the federal census, allowed him to escape the attention of Dr. Randolph Campbell, the North Texas State University professor of history whose studies of wealth and power in Texas and Harrison County, based on census information, have been widely published.¹² Adams was considered to be one of the wealthier men in Texas at the time of his death, a contention borne out by examination of the legal documents connected

with his estate. In addition to a value of \$41,300 placed on 43 slaves in the inventory,¹³ he held land valued at \$11,220, a piano listed at \$250, a library valued at \$500 and receivables (legal fees, bills, notes and judgments) totaling nearly \$18,000 in addition to 37 head of cattle, 14 head of mules, 115 hogs and the usual farm and household equipment. The house and lot in Marshall which he used as his office were valued at \$1,000. Individual receivables ranged from a high of \$1,500 to a low of \$5. W. T. Scott, one of Harrison's richest men and largest plantation operators, owed Adams \$300, and Scott and three other men owed him \$1,450 on one note and \$1,258.36 on another. His 811-acre plantation was valued at \$4,055 and the 300-acre homestead at \$3,000. It was indeed a significant estate which he left in equal parts to his widow and only child.

Finding herself alone with a three-year-old son whose considerable separate estate she was charged as guardian with supervising and safeguarding, Mrs. Adams shortly found herself under additional burdens. The year 1860 was one of tension and anxiety. With editor R. W. Loughery of The Texas Republican providing a forum for planters' views and himself editorializing in behalf of states' rights, Harrison County's planters and politicians whipped public opinion toward an overwhelming vote for secession in 1861. Mrs. Adams thus was faced with the operation of extensive plantation lands under increasingly onerous wartime difficulties.

In the final months of the Civil War, Mrs. Adams was married, on December 22, 1864, to Maj. Jeremiah Fletcher Riggs, an educator and clergyman whose cotton speculations promised to make him wealthy if the Confederate States of America could sustain independence. Only a few days before his marriage, on December 6, 1864, Riggs had proposed to Gov. Henry W. Allen of Louisiana an arrangement under which he would buy cotton "in Sanantonio & Alleytown or other points in Western Texas," the profits from sale of which at Matamorás or in Europe would

be divided equally. The cotton would be shipped "on vehicles licensed by you as Governor of La." If a division of the profits was not satisfactory, Riggs proposed that half of the cotton thus purchased and shipped "be delivered to your agent at Matamoras, the agent paying all expenses of the same from the time of purchase to the time of delivery, the 'expenses' meaning the price paid per pound, the freight to Matamor^os, the export duty & repairs & rebaling if any." The whole operation would be "conducted strictly in accordance with the act of congress to be passed . . ." ¹⁴

Riggs and the Louisiana governor formalized their deal in an "article of agreement" dated March 14, 1865, which stipulated that Allen was acting "for and on behalf of the State." The agreement noted that on the day of signing Riggs had sold to the State of Louisiana 2,000 bales of cotton situated in Harrison and Marion Counties, Texas, and Bossier Parish, Louisiana. For the cotton Louisiana was to pay Riggs 8¢ per pound in gold. Riggs agreed to transport the 2,000 bales to Matamor^os "with all reasonable dispatch" and there to deliver them to Richard Nugent, "the duly authorized agent of the State of Louisiana." For this Riggs was to receive 15¢ per pound "in coin." It was understood that the cotton should be "middling." If it fell below or graded above this classification, it was agreed that the difference in sale price should be compensated "in accordance with the scheduled rates adopted by the Cotton Bureau of the Trans. Treas. Department." ¹⁵

This transaction was overcome by the rapid deterioration of affairs in the Trans-Mississippi Department, however, and it appears that Riggs never received the gold for which he sold the cotton and certainly not the transportation charges which had been agreed upon.

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Capt. Daniel Sayer of the Union occupation garrison, in orders from his provost marshal's office in Marshall, directed Riggs on September 9 and 11, 1865, to retain "all cotton in your possession" until the claims of B. H. Patterson and others and of R. Manwarring could be settled.¹⁶ However, Sayer was less resolute in the case of five bales claimed by the agent for I. I. Alexander, deceased. In a letter dated September 13, he declared to Riggs that this case "I have considered to be a complexed (sic) question and recommended that you present the claim to the Civil Authorities which will soon be organized for investigation of such business."¹⁷

The outcome of the various claims and counter-claims was not settled until the U. S. Court of Claims ruled in the 1890s that the cotton ^{taken} from Riggs by the federal forces occupying Marshall was contraband of war and therefore not actionable for redress.¹⁸ Riggs lived long enough to suffer this final blow to his hopes, dying in 1901.

This was long after Chesley Francis Adams had grown to manhood and after his step-father, in 1880, had replaced the family's four-room log house with a more modern plantation home. After his dreams of wealth had been frustrated, Riggs supported his wife and her child by teaching. In 1881, "Rev. J. F. Riggs, A.M., Principal," was operating the Marshall School of Science,¹⁹ a private academy. The young Chesley Francis Adams' feet thus were set inevitably upon the path of education by both his step-father and the father he could not remember, whose will had required that his child should be "well educated."

In 1873, at the age of 17, Chesley Francis Adams mounted a horse (his mother considered this the proper mode of transportation for a southern gentleman) and departed Marshall for Virginia. There, after a long and arduous trip reversing the trek his mother and her family had made 32 years earlier, he ma-

triculated at Emory and Henry College. He would not return to Marshall until after his graduation four years later with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Sciences.²⁰

Back home in Marshall, to which he returned in 1877, Adams found the residents of Harrison County in rebellion against the condition of public affairs. The courthouse was in the hands of carpetbagger public officials. The county's credit had fallen to 14¢ on the dollar. Taxes were becoming confiscatory. A large bond issue floated to assure location in Marshall of the Texas and Pacific shops was in jeopardy.²¹

While studying law in the office of F. B. Sexton,²² Adams also threw himself into the organization of the Citizens Party of Harrison County, a group which wrested control of the courthouse from carpetbagger domination in 1878.²³

After reading law under Sexton for two years, Adams was admitted to the bar in 1879. He taught school the next two years, then began a practice of law which he continued until his election in 1890 as county superintendent of public instruction. During the next seven years he

. . . devoted his attention to building up the schools of both the county and city. They are now in a more prosperous condition than at any previous time in the county's history. Everyone of the county's school districts has its neat comfortable building, most of which have been erected during his administrations. The old, hard and ease destroying straight back bench has gone, under his management, and the most improved modern desk has taken its place. Nearly every school in the county is equipped with charts, maps and other valuable aids, while the personnel of the county's teachers is unsurpassed anywhere in the state. ²⁴

A year after he completed his law studies, Adams' mother and her husband began the construction of the house for which this historical narrative is a part of a building marker application.²⁵ Located at 1502 South Washington Avenue, it is described in the official maps of the City of Marshall as Outlot 61

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Southeast, a portion of the "200 acres more or less" situated "about one mile South of the town of Marshall" which Chesley Meredith Adams purchased in 1850 or 1851.²⁶ Investigation has failed to reveal the name of an architect for the house, and it seems likely, because the design conforms in general to the style then common in Marshall, that Mr. and Mrs. Riggs developed their own plans for it. Lumber was secured locally from one or another of the several sawmills in the area, and brick for the pillars and fireplaces was manufactured by the Higgins Brick Yard in Marshall, which produced brick for many of the residences and commercial buildings in the city during this period.

The house was built without the pretentious adornment which was beginning to appear in homes erected during this period. It has been recorded that Alice Chandler Stuart Adams, Chesley F. Adams' wife, wept bitter tears over the absence of these flourishes. The house was lighted with oil lamps originally, then with gas when it became available, and finally with electricity when it in its turn became available.

The house was built as a simple, frame one-story structure designed for comfortable living.²⁷ A 16-foot front porch opened into a 16-foot west-to-east central hallway from which doors opened into two 18 x 18-foot rooms on each side. Each of these rooms was provided with its own fireplace. Flooring was 4-inch pine boards. Doors were fitted with china knobs and box latches typical of the period. Windows were shuttered.

The only departure from the usual floor plan of the period in Marshall was a fifth room at the rear of the north (left) wing of the house. This was a dining room which since has been converted into a kitchen. This room opened on the south onto a 24 x 16-foot open rear porch, to which access also was provided by double doors at the east end of the central hallway.

The four-room log house in which the Adams family lived -- and subsequently Mr. and Mrs. Riggs and Chesley Francis Adams -- until the new house was completed was razed at a time which cannot now be discovered.

Chesley Francis Adams was married to Miss Alice Chandler Stuart in July 1891, a year after his election as county superintendent of instruction and eleven years after The Adams House was erected. Miss Stuart was the daughter of Mrs. Stuart and Charles E. Stuart, who for many years was president of the Marshall Masonic Female Institute.²⁸ By this time Adams had become the owner of the house. In a warranty deed dated November 25, 1889, Mrs. Martha Riggs, joined by her husband J. F. Riggs, "in consideration of his love and affection," transferred to him title to a tract of land "now within the corporate limits of the City of Marshall and which is a part of that tract of land bought by Chesley M. Adams on the 23rd day of July A D 1851 of Joseph and Nancy Harris . . .²⁹

To Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born eight children. One of these now lives in the 98-year-old house and sleeps in the bedroom in which he was born on December 30, 1892, only twelve years after the house was built. He is Chesley Meredith Adams, a chemical engineer by training and a retired army officer who is a member of the Harrison County Historical Commission and former president of the Harrison County Historical Society. Mr. Chesley F. Adams died in 1940 and Mrs. Adams in 1951.

Chesley Meredith Adams, the second of his name, grew up in the company of five brothers and two sisters on land which still had many of the characteristics of the plantation it once had been. There were extensive orchards and vegetable gardens, and Chesley F. Adams for many years also operated a large dairy on the land where his father had grown cotton before the Civil War. Al-

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though the property was "now within the corporate limits of the City of Marshall" when Chesley F. Adams became the owner in 1889, it still in Chesley M. Adams' boyhood was more rural than urban. Distant from the house but still on the property was a lake (Adams Lake, naturally) where the six boys and their friends swam and fished and hunted. Here, in 1908, when Chesley M. Adams was going on 16, one of the brothers became the hero of an event which drew approving attention in the press:

After school hours, Master Charles, eleven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Adams, killed on his father's lake, a Bald Eagle. He measured 70 inches in wingspread. Two of these great birds have been devouring all of the fish in the area lakes for the past few years and the boys have failed in many efforts to kill them. Charles said when he saw the bird begin to fall that he started out of his shirt and his britches and struck the water nearly as quick as did the falling eagle. 30

After completing his public school education in Marshall, Chesley M. Adams matriculated at the University of Texas in Austin, from which he was graduated with a degree in chemical engineering in 1915. While a student at the university he was a member of the varsity soccer and track teams, competing for the latter in the 100-, 220- and 440-yard dashes.

Following his graduation, Adams was employed as city chemist and director of sanitation for the City of Dallas, where he met the future Mrs. Adams, then Miss Celeste Harrott. This employment lasted only briefly, though his courtship of Miss Harrott did not. Shortly after the United States entered World War I in April 1917, Adams reported on May 8 to the first officer training camp near San Antonio. Located at Leon Springs, the installation was named Camp Funston in honor of Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston. Among Adams' fellow trainees were Beauford Jester, a future governor of Texas; Ernest O. Thompson, a future chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission and national guard lieutenant general; Ira Eaker, World War II commander of the U. S. Army Air Corps in Europe; Myron G.

Blalock of Marshall, a future Democratic national committeeman from Texas, and many other notable figures in the post-World War I history of Texas.

Having wooed Miss Harrott zealously over a period of many months, Adams' persuasive courtship led to their marriage in Dallas on Sunday morning, December 2, 1917, in the Presbyterian Church. They left immediately afterward on the Katy Railroad's Texas Special for San Antonio and checked into the Menger Hotel upon arriving at 9:00 o'clock that evening. The bridegroom reported for duty at 4:00 o'clock the next morning.

Assigned to the 90th Division, Adams became a battery commander in one of the division's field artillery regiments and participated in all of the division's engagements in France. His was the "light" regiment, equipped with the famous French 75-mm gun, horsedrawn. Many years later, Adams recalled his departure for Europe: "Madam Celeste stood by the railroad track wearing a dress with a Buster Brown collar while I loaded my battery on the train. We pulled out and I didn't see her for two years."³¹

The young veteran returned to Dallas to his bride and his job as city chemist after the war, but soon went to Texarkana as assistant city sanitation engineer and engineer for tests for the Cotton Belt Railroad. When he returned to active duty for World War II he left a position as manager of the Greenville, Texas, Chamber of Commerce.

His World War II service included a number of assignments in the United States and Puerto Rico. Remaining on active duty after the war, he retired from the military service as a lieutenant colonel on May 1, 1953, after a career of active and reserve service dating from his assignment at Camp Funston in May 1917. He and Mrs. Adams returned to Marshall after his military retirement and on March 22, 1955, bought The Adams House from the surviving heirs of Chesley

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Francis Adams and Mrs. Adams.³² In Marshall once again, as a civilian, Adams accepted a position as assistant manager of E. B. Hayes Machinery Co., from which he earned a second retirement 20 years later.³³

Colonel Adams was drawn to become the owner of his parents' home by many memories of it and the lives of his parents, their eight children, and the many friends who visited it. "T. Whitfield Davidson,³⁴ as an eager young man, often rode to the house to borrow a book or to discuss education with my father," he recalls.³⁵ "It was from this house that [my sister] Louise left to teach school in Mexico, soon to be followed by the five youngest boys. On the death of her husband, Douglas McKenzie [on January 29, 1931] she returned to live in the house and to rear her three children here. But the boys scattered like a covey of quail in a sage brush field. Strange places knew them -- Mexico, Venezuela, the pampas of the Argentine, France, Germany, Puerto Rico and the Windward and Leeward Islands."³⁶

In retirement, Col. and Mrs. Adams have been active in local historical affairs and in the annual reunions of "Those Who Were First," the Camp Funston graduates of 1917. Both attended the 60th and final annual reunion of the group in San Antonio in May 1976.³⁷

During the time Mrs. McKenzie lived in The Adams House with her parents and her three children, from 1931 until her death in 1941, a number of alterations were made to The Adams House, beginning in 1933. The original 16-foot porch at the front was lengthened, in the same architectural style, to its present 52 feet, so that the front porch now extends the entire width of the house. The partition between the front (north) parlor and the central hallway was removed and a partition was built across the hallway at the east parlor wall, thus creating a new

parlor measuring 18 x 34 feet. From this room an original doorway opens into the second parlor on the north side of the house, and a new doorway opens into another room created by partitioning the hallway again at the east wall line of the second parlor. Behind this second room created by partitioning the hallway lay the original open rear porch.

Behind the dining room, the north wing of the house was extended to the east to add a second bathroom, with a six-foot hallway extending beside the new bathroom to connect the original dining room with a new room which was added at the extreme east end of the north wing. A new storage room the width of the original hallway was added to the east of the original open porch.

No changes were made to the south wing of the house. The two bedrooms in this wing remain as they were constructed originally, each measuring their original 18 x 18-foot dimensions and each equipped with their operable fireplaces. A bathroom added to the east of the second bedroom at an earlier date, when sanitary sewers permitted its installation inside the house, still remains.

After Col. and Mrs. Adams bought the house in 1955, they converted the original dining room (the third room in the north wing) into a kitchen and closed the original open rear porch, creating a family room/dining room. The original exterior wall then was removed, thus opening the area to the original width (north to south) of the north wing of rooms and the central hallway. A new rear porch then was added to the south of the new family room/dining room.³⁸

The personality of the house during Col. and Mrs. Adams' ownership is flavored with a collection of treasured antiques, period furnishings and more modern pieces of contemporary comfort. In the living room, the first Chesley Adams' writing table is next to a black leather judicial chair given to Colonel

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Adams by the late Judge Joe B. Brown, who presided at the trial of Jack Ruby in Dallas. Among the heirlooms shown when The Adams House was opened to members of the Harrison County Conservation Society in 1970 was a prized George Washington ladle which has been in the family since its members were neighbors with the Washington family in Virginia. Also on display were two Meissen vases crafted in Dresden in 1845 and sent to France for painting, a pre-Revolutionary War banquet table from Williamsburg, a Shakespearean pitcher, an antique walnut cradle and a number of China dolls from Mrs. Adams' collection. Two handsome rugs displayed in the living room were brought from Tsinan, China, by a navy friend.³⁹

As an early postbellum home erected to succeed a log plantation house at the same site, The Adams House occupies land which was a part of an operating plantation prior to the Civil War. The land on which it sits has been in the possession of the Adams family since its purchase, and the house has been in continuous possession and occupation by members of the family since it was constructed in 1880. Many notable personages in Texas history, not limited to members of the family, have been associated with it during its 98-year history. Because of its architectural style -- typical of its period and its place -- and because of its age as well as its historical significance, it is worthy of a building marker and listing as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

Max S. Rose

December 12, 1978

NOTES

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1. Marshall News Messenger, September 13, 1970. His grandson and namesake, a member of the Harrison County Historical Commission and former president of the Harrison County Historical Society, inclines to an earlier year. Adams was born December 11, 1813.
2. Many of the early settlers located in this area of Harrison County near the Louisiana border, among other reasons because of its relative proximity to Greensborough and Pulaski, the first two seats of Harrison County government, both on the banks of Sabine River. Later, when Marshall was established as the county seat, a number of them relocated in the central part of the county. In this group was Isaac Van Zandt, also a lawyer, who went on to a distinguished career in politics and the courts before an untimely death.
3. The warranty deed is undated, so that only secondary evidence can indicate when this transaction occurred. However, the deed was filed for record on July 24, 1851, thus establishing the latest date on which the purchase could have been made. It is recorded beginning on Page 159 in Book K, Deed Records of Harrison County.
4. Marshall News Messenger, August 23, 1936; reprinted in the Harrison County Historical Herald, Vol. III, No. 4, December 1966. Mrs. Adams was born July 2, 1829, and died January 12, 1912.
5. Book 3, Page 46, Marriage Records of Harrison County.
6. Lawrence L. Brown, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN TEXAS, 1838-1874, The Church Historical Society, Austin, 1963.
7. Marshall News Messenger, September 13, 1970.
8. Book H, Page 324, Probate Minutes of Harrison County. Adams also made an additional interesting bequest. He stipulated that Mrs. E. Cooly "have for life my house and lot in Marshall were my office is kept for support of her family and that said property revert to my child Chesley F. Adams." Mrs. Cooly was a niece of Chesley Meredith Adams.
9. Max S. Lale, MARSHALL CEMETERY, MARSHALL, TEXAS, published by the Marshall Cemetery Association in cooperation with Port Caddo Press, Marshall, 1975, Page 5.
10. From the abstract of title to The Adams House presently in the possession of Chesley M. Adams, grandson and namesake.
11. Book H, Pages 334-335, Probate Records of Harrison County. Twenty-eight of the slaves are shown in the probate records as community property, and the remaining 15 are shown as separate property, presumably Martha Stephen Adams', on the basis of the will's provision that she "keep in her own right the negroes for which she holds bills of sale . . ."
12. See his "The Whig Party of Texas in the Elections of 1848 and 1852," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol. LXXIII, No. 1, July 1969; "Texas and the Nashville Convention of 1850," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol.

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- LXXVI, No. 1, July 1972; "Human Property: The Negro Slave in Texas, 1850-1860," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol. LXXVI, No. 4, April 1973; (with Richard Lowe) "Wealthholding and Political Power in Antebellum Texas," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol. LXXIX, No. 1, July 1975; "Slaveholding in Harrison County, 1850-1860: A Statistical Profile," East Texas Historical Journal, Vol. XI, No. 1, Spring 1973; "Planters and Plain Folk: Harrison County, Texas, as a Test Case, 1850-1860," The Journal of Southern History, Vol. XL, No. 3, August 1974; (with Richard Lowe) "Slave Property and the Distribution of Wealth in Texas, 1860," The Journal of American History, Vol. LXIII, No. 2, September 1976; (with Richard Lowe) WEALTH AND POWER IN ANTEBELLUM TEXAS, Texas A&M University Press, College Station, 1977.
13. The names and values placed in the inventory on the slaves held as community property were: Patsy, \$600; Jane, \$500; Julius, \$1,450; Albert, \$1,200; Adam, \$1,400; Charles, \$1,400; Isum, \$1,300; Violet, \$1,000; Henry, \$200; Pleasant, \$150; Allen, \$1,100; Julian, \$700; Mariah, \$300; Issel, \$1,550; Adam Sr., \$1,400; Anderson, \$1,500; Samuel Sr., \$1,350; Adam Jr., \$900; Ned, \$1,200; Viona, \$1,200; Lavernia, \$1,200; Perry, \$1,400; Ruffin, \$1,450; George, \$1,350; James, \$1,400; Ben, \$900; Manerva, \$1,100, and Maria, \$1,100. The last seven were added to the list on June 6, 1859, having been "omitted to be returned in first inventory through mistake or misunderstanding." Those shown as separate property were: Silma, \$1,100; Molly, \$600; Eugenia, \$250; Lawrence, \$700; Lafayette, \$250; Matilda, \$1,200; Houston, \$450; Jack, \$1,000; Ann, \$1,000; Sparta, \$1,100; Frank, \$500; Susan, \$250; Missouri, \$1,150; Dudley, \$300; and James, \$150.
 14. Original in the Adams family file in the archives of the Harrison County Historical Museum, Marshall.
 15. Ibid.
 16. Ibid.
 17. Ibid.
 18. Interview, Chesley M. Adams.
 19. Adams family file, Harrison County Historical Museum, op. cit.
 20. Special edition of the Marshall Messenger, Marshall, Texas, August 1897, Page 8.
 21. The Marshall Messenger, June 9, 1877, as quoted in OF MONEY . . . AND MEN, Hobart Key, Jr., and Max Lale, Port Caddo Press, Marshall, 1965, Pages 16-17.
 22. A native of Indiana but a resident of Texas from the age of 10, Sexton grew up in San Augustine. He was graduated from Wesleyan College in San Augustine in 1846 and began the study of law with J. Pinckney Henderson, Texas' first governor, and O. M. Roberts, later governor of the state from 1879 to 1883. Sexton was elected to the Confederate Congress in 1862. After the Civil War

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he returned to San Augustine but moved to Marshall, where he quickly established a large practice, in 1872. While a resident of Marshall, he was a delegate to the national Democratic convention at St. Louis which nominated Governor Tilden of New York for the presidency. A devoted Mason, he had the unusual distinction of serving as Grand Master of the Blue Lodge of Texas, Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch, and Grand Commander of the Knights Templar. Max S. Lale, AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING (a history of Trinity Episcopal Church), Marshall, 1950.

23. Writing of him in his latter years, a Marshall Newspaper commented that "When he returned from school, the people of his county, the representative citizens and taxpayers, were just realizing that they had enough of negro and radical misrule, that they had been robbed and terrorized about as long as they could stand it, and were just beginning to organize to put a stop to it. He was one of the first to join in this movement, and the cause of good government in Harrison County had no harder working nor a more daring advocate up to the time it was established in 1878. Since that time he has been an untiring worker in the ranks of the Citizens Party, as he has in those of the district, state and national democracy." Special edition of the Marshall Messenger, op. cit.
24. Ibid.
25. Interview, Chesley M. Adams. Shortly to be 86 as this is written, Adams' memory is excellent and is leavened with wit and perception. He was reared in a family which valued learning and a sense of its place in history, and he delights in recalling his and his family's experiences.
26. Warranty Deed, July 24, 1851, op. cit.
27. Interview, Chesley M. Adams.
28. This academy operated as the female branch of Marshall University -- itself, despite its title, likewise no more than the equivalent of the modern high school. Both were discontinued when the public school system was organized. Professionally trained as an educator, Miss Stuart spoke and taught Latin and Greek, and taught her children to converse in Latin. Marshall News Messenger, September 13, 1970.
29. Although dated November 25, 1889, it was not until April 13, 1894, that the deed was recorded in Book 32, Page 224, Deed Records of Harrison County. This is secondary evidence to indicate the date of the original purchase.
30. Quoted in the "Decades Ago" column, a daily feature of the Marshall News Messenger, April 21, 1978, from a contemporary account printed in 1908.
31. Marshall News Messenger, December 4, 1977.
32. See Appendix A, chain of ownership.
33. The foregoing biographical information is from Marshall News Messenger,

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December 4, 1977, and from a series of interviews with the author extending over several years.

34. Davidson was born in a log house in the western part of Harrison County in 1876. He became lieutenant governor of Texas, an unsuccessful candidate for governor, and finally a federal district judge who at his retirement had served on the federal bench longer than any other member of the federal judiciary.
35. See the earlier reference to a library owned by the first Chesley Meredith Adams which was valued at \$500 in the inventory filed after his death in 1859. Book H, Page 334, Estate Records of Harrison County.
36. Marshall News Messenger, September 13, 1970.
37. Marshall News Messenger, May 9, 1976.
38. The above description of the alterations which have been made to the house is from interviews with Colonel Adams and from inspection of the house by the author. Additional information about the alterations is contained in a file in the Texas Historical Commission offices prepared by Stan Klein and Barry Wagner after they surveyed the house for the National Register of Historic Places in the spring of 1978.
39. Marshall News Messenger, September 13, 1970.

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Appendix A

Chain of Ownership

- Field Notes, Peter Whetstone Grant
Survey by John S. Ford, deputy county surveyor, for Shelby County land commissioners, dated March 8, 1838, filed for examination May 20, 1838, recorded in Book F, Page 47, Surveyors Records of Harrison County.
- Grant
Republic of Texas to Peter Whetstone, Patent No. 92, 25 labors of land, dated August 15, 1845, filed June 24, 1847, Book F, Page 160, Deed Records of Harrison County.
- (Peter Whetstone died on "the _____ day of November A D 1843, in the County of Harrison" without a will. By petition of Dicey Whetstone, widow, she was appointed administratrix November 27, 1843, during the November term of the probate court. Vol. A1, Page 44, Probate Records of Harrison County.)
- Deed
Peter Whetstone by administratrix (Dicey Whetstone) to Matthew Cartwright, 640 acres, dated December 23, 1845, filed February 9, 1846, Vol. E, Page 36, Deed Records of Harrison County.
- Warranty Deed
M. Cartwright to Susan E. Tanner, \$200 cash, 160 acres of land "lying in this county about one mile from the town of Marshall . . . and being a part of the league of land patented to Peter Whetstone and the South-West fourth of a section of land deeded by the Administratrix of said Whetstone to said Matthew Cartwright by order of the District Court of Harrison County, Texas, at the Fall Term of said Court A D 1845," dated February 9, 1846, filed November 17, 1846, Vol. E, Page 272, Estate Records of Harrison County.
- (Susan E. Tanner died September 8, 1847. Joseph R. Tanner was appointed administrator of Susan Tanner's estate during the March 1848 term of district court. Vol. A1, Page 272, Estate Records of Harrison County.)
- Deed
J. R. Tanner to Joseph Harris, \$350 "to me in hand paid" and the further consideration that "the said Harris will at a convenient time lease for the term of ninety nine years the two parcels of land containing each one quarter of an acre on which there is Potters earth with convenient rights of way to and from them situated on and being parts of a portion of 184 acres sold to the said Harris as the property of the Estate of Susan C. Tanner," 36 and 77/100 acres of land, dated February 7, 1849, filed January 9, 1850, recorded in Book H, Page 252, Deed Records of Harrison County.

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(Chesley Meredith Adams and Martha Stephens were married July 2, 1846, by the Rev. William Steel, Protestant Episcopal Church. Book 3, Page 46, Marriage Records of Harrison County.)

Deed

J. R. Tanner, administrator, to Joseph Harris, 184 acres "lying and being in the County aforesaid, and situated about 1 mile South from the town of Marshall," \$552 cash, described as follows: "One hundred and sixty acres the South West quarter of a section of land (640) a part of the Peter Whetstone Headright Survey conveyed to Matthew Cartwright by Dicey Whetstone Admr. of the Estate of the said Peter Whetstone by authority of the decree of the District Court of said County at the Fall Term 1845 thereof, and the said 160 acres having been conveyed to the said Susan C. Tanner by the said Cartwright and twenty four acres of land adjoining the said One Hundred and Sixty acres of the West boundary thereof the said twenty four acres to be so laid off as to extend the said length of a tract of 73.77 acres (being a part thereof) Lying immediately West of the before mentioned tract. And thence West for a quantity making in all the same number of one hundred and eight four acres," dated February 7, 1849, filed January 9, 1850, Book H, Page 250, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed

Joseph Harris, et ux, Nancy Harris, to Chesley M. Adams, 200 acres more or less located "about one mile South of the town of Marshall," filed July 24, 1851, Book K, Page 159, Deed Records of Harrison County.

(The petition of Martha Adams for probate of Chesley M. Adams' will was filed in the November 1858 term of district court and advertised in six consecutive issues of The Texas Republican beginning May 20, 1859. An inventory filed May 18, 1859, showed, among other personal property, 811 acres of land as a plantation, 300 acres (homestead) as community property, and an office and lot in Marshall as separate property. Book H, Page 334, Estate Records of Harrison County.

(Mrs. Martha Adams was married to J. F. Riggs on December 22, 1864, by the Rev. W. H. Bayliss. Book 5, Page 186, Marriage Records of Harrison County.)

Warranty Deed

Mrs. Martha Riggs, joined by her husband, J. F. Riggs, to Chesley F. Adams, a tract of land "now within the corporate limits of the City of Marshall and which is a part of that tract of land bought by Chesley M. Adams on the 23rd day of July A D 1851 of Joseph and Nancy Harris, the deed whereof is recorded in Book K, Pages 159 and 160 in the Records

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of Deeds . . ." The bounds are given, but the acreage is not. Dated November 25, 1889, filed April 13, 1894, Book 32, Page 224, Deed Records of Harrison County.

(The abstract of title to Outlot 61 Southeast of the City of Marshall shows no documents relating to the deaths of Chesley F. Adams or Alice Stuart Chandler Adams or the transfer of title to their heirs.)

Warranty Deed

Emory T. Adams, et ux, Mary C. Adams, et al, heirs of Alice Stuart Chandler Adams, to John F. Adams, et ux, Emma S. Adams, Outlot 61 SE, dated February 3, 1955, Vol. 449, Page 128, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed

John F. Adams, et ux, Emma S. Adams, to Chesley M. Adams, et ux, Celeste Adams, Outlot 61 SE, dated March 22, 1955, filed April 19, 1955, Vol. 450, Page 599, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed

Chesley M. Adams, et ux, Celeste Adams, to Alice Adams Morgan, Outlot 61 SE, dated August 16, 1973.

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Bibliography

Marshall News Messenger

Harrison County Historical Herald

Marriage Records of Harrison County

Abstract of Title, Outlot 61 Southeast, City of Marshall

Lawrence L. Brown, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN TEXAS, 1838-1874, The Church Historical Society, Austin, 1963.

Probate Minutes of Harrison County.

Max S. Lale, MARSHALL CEMETERY, MARSHALL, TEXAS, Marshall Cemetery Association in cooperation with Port Caddo Press, Marshall, 1975

Probate Records of Harrison County

Estate Records of Harrison County

Adams family file, Harrison County Historical Museum, Marshall

Marshall Messenger, special edition, August 1897

Hobart Key, Jr., and Max Lale, OF MONEY . . . AND MEN, Port Caddo Press, Marshall, 1965.

Max S. Lale, AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, Marshall, 1950

Interviews, Chesley M. Adams

NATIONAL REGISTER TEAM'S SUMMATION FOR 1502 South Washington, Marshall

A single level wood frame Greek Revival structure w/Victorian

Started 1880-85? Always in Adams family since 1851

Had a single portico originally; now w/long porch

Has original doors

Original plan was long central hallway and 2 rooms either side.

Original floors have been covered w/narrow pine floors

Fireplaces have slate mantels

Had an L-shaped plan originally; now has some additions to rear,
added when porch on front was changed.

Ceilings are wide beaded ceiling

First house on land was a log structure that has since been torn down

"Number 3 washtub on Saturday night"

Has a stone outbuilding that served as milkhouse

Most original outbuildings have since been demolished

Original green shutters are missing

Ashley Parker (surgeon who went to Mexico with Zachary Taylor) and
his wife were last ones to live in log outbuilding

Major alterations were probably done in 1925 by Col. Adams' sister

House site on continuous brick foundation.

Colonel Adams was born in 1892

ADDRESS:

ADDRESS: The Adams House, Marshall

CO CITY QUAD BLK LOT



VIEW: _____

RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

NAME: The Adams House

ADDRESS: Marshall

CO CITY QUAD BLK LOT



VIEW: _____

RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

NAME: The Adams House

ADDRESS: Marshall

CO QUAD BLK
CITY LOT _____



VIEW: _____

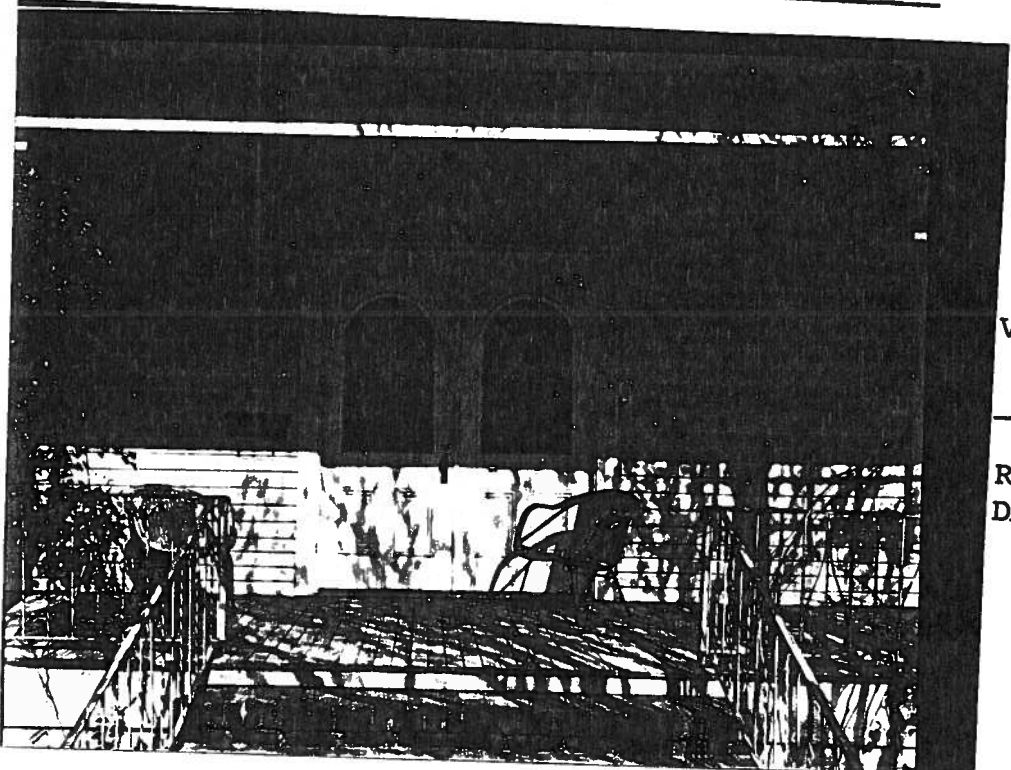
RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

NAME: The Adams House

ADDRESS: Marshall

CO QUAD BLK
CITY LOT _____



VIEW: _____

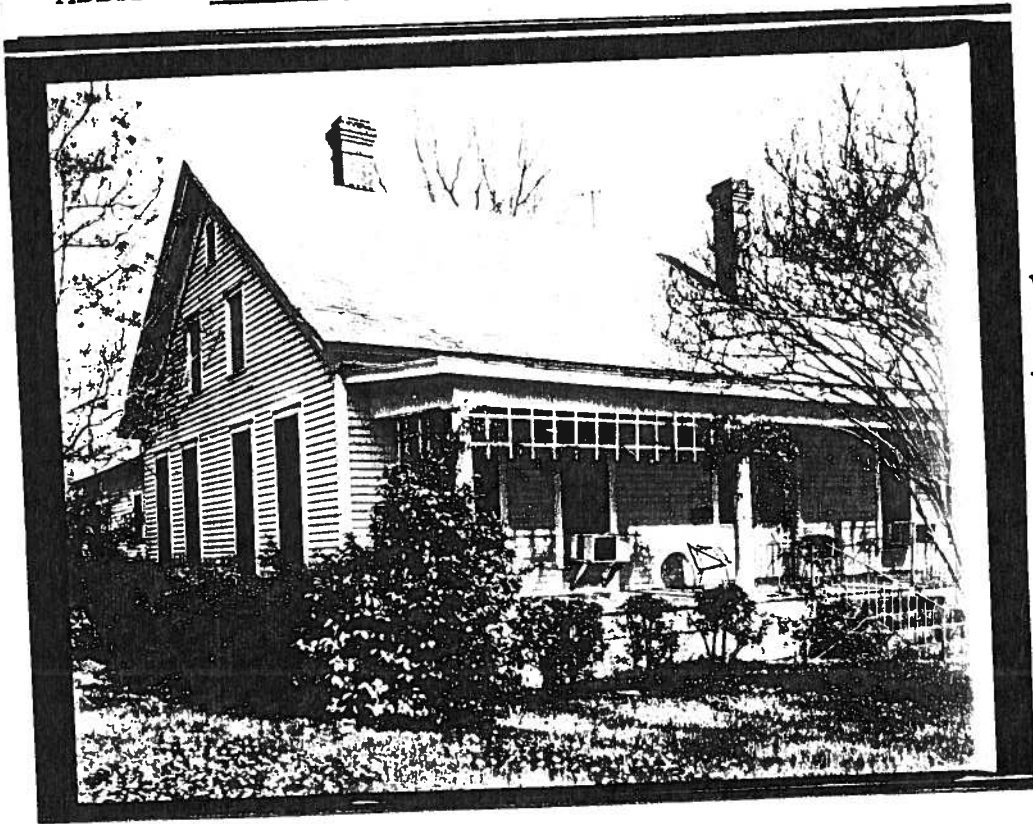
RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CO _____
CITY QUAD BLK
LOT _____



VIEW: _____

RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

MARKER NAME The Adams House

JOB# **5485**

TOWN Marshall

COUNTY Harrison

DATE 1/4/79

Medallion 16" x 12" marker without post

\$125

MARKER SIZE (#1804)
med

PRICE

PROCEDURE FOR MARKER APPLICATION

INITIAL	DATE	
AG	1/4/79	1. Application checked and dated
AG	1/4/79	2. Check deposited
AG	1/4/79	2a. Receipt of application acknowledged
DP	1-8-79	3. Folder checked and approved
		4. Additional information sent for
yc	2-1-79	4a. Sent to SMC for subject matter approval
HW	2-20-79	5. Letter of approval sent, permanent record and DSA recording, labeling, listed & filed in current marker work
cur	3-21-79	6. Checkout to inscription writer
Cur	3-28-79	7. Sent for State Marker Committee approval
HW	4-13-79	8. Inscription submitted for County approval
		9. Highway permission secured (if necessary)
HW	4-23-79	10. Order sent to Southwell
cur	6-5-79	11. Rubbing checked
		12. Stencil cut
MMW	6-6-79	13. Recorded for Marker Guide
MMW	6-11-79	14. News release sent, w/copy to THC President (Recorded Landmark Certificate sent, if necessary)
Ab	7-2-79	15. Notice of shipment sent
cur	7-10-79	16. Extraneous material deleted, folder given to architectural historian
cur	7-10-79	17. Folder placed in completed marker file

Appl. rec'd: 1/4/79
 Check No.: 101
 Check dated: 12/15/78
 Amt. of check: \$125
 Check signed by: Max S. Hale

From the Desk of

MAX S. LALE

5485

3704 Fitzgerald
Marshall, Texas 75670
(214) 938-2579

January 3, 1979

Dear Anice:

Stan Klein and Barry Wagner surveyed this house in April 1978 and should have photos of it in their files.

You'll notice that the form shows Alice Adams Morgan as the owner. She is Col. and Mrs. Adams' only child. She "bought" the house from her parents five years ago, but they live in the house and will continue to do so.

Incidentally, Chesley Adams was 86 years old on December 30.

Sincerely

RECEIVED
JAN 4 1979

FIELD SERVICES DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED
JAN 04 1979

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Texas Historical Commission

Box 12276, Capitol Station,
Austin, Texas 78711
Truett Latimer
Executive Director

April 13, 1979

Mr. Max S. Lale
3704 Fitzgerald
Marshall, TX 75670

RE: The Adams House
16" x 12" building marker without post

Dear Mr. Lale:

Before we order casting of the enclosed marker inscription, we would like for you to please review and verify the history set forth in the text, as approved by the State Marker Committee.

Will you please signify your approval of the inscription as submitted by signing and returning the enclosed card at your earliest convenience. You may retain the marker copy for your files.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

By:

Anice Read
Director of Programs

AR:hs

Encl.

cc: Mr. Chesley M. Adams

Harrison County

I approve of the inscription for:

The Adams House

as sent to me on April 13, 1979

Max S. Loe
signed

4-16-79
dated

Harrison County

I approve of the inscription for:

The Adams House

as sent to me on April 13, 1979

RECEIVED
APR 19 1979

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Chedey M. Jan
signed

16 April 79
dated

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

BOX 12243 • CAPITOL STATION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 • PHONE 475-2268

April 23, 1979

Mr. Bill Southwell, Jr.
The Southwell Company
P.O. Drawer 299
San Antonio, Texas 78296

5485

RD. Medallion # 1804, 16" x 12"
RD. building marker without post to be
attached to wood.
The Adams House

Harrison County

Dear Mr. Southwell:

Enclosed is an application for Medallion # 1804, 16" x 12" building marker without post, to be attached to wood, The Adams House, Marshall, Harrison County, Texas.

We would appreciate a rubbing of this inscription.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Henrietta Williams

hw

SHIP TO: Chesley M. Adams
1502 South Washington Avenue
Marshall, Tx 75670



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Markers
UP

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512)463-6100

January 25, 1991

Ms. Linda A. Adler
48 West 48th Street
New York, New York 10036

Re: *William Bates Anderson House, Marshall, Harrison County, Texas (RTHL)*

Dear Ms. Adler:

We were pleased to receive a copy of your letter, passed to us by Kent Millard of the National Trust. As the Texas Historical Commission Division of Architecture representative for Harrison County, I will be happy to give you assistance in preserving your historic ancestral home.

Enclosed please find a copy of our file on the house. It appears from this information that the house never received a plate explaining the history of the house. Since the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark marker is an educational tool in addition to a designation of honor, we would encourage you to acquire this descriptive plate for the house.

Also enclosed please find some additional information on the Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program. If you plan to use the house for income producing purposes, then the rehabilitation project may be eligible for certification and income tax credits. The house could be used as a bed and breakfast, as you suggest, or as rental housing.

Your may wish to contact the Harrison County Historical Commission Chairman, Audrey Kariel, 503 Lansdowne, Marshall, Texas 75670, 903/935-5387. She and her commission are a wealth of information on County history, and have several successful preservation projects to their credit. They may be able to provide advice, information, and referrals to local Marshall contacts. And, they can help you with obtaining a descriptive plaque for the house.


The State Agency for Historic Preservation

I travel to Marshall at various times in the course of my project review work, and would be happy to look at the house and give you some preliminary architectural guidance. Of course, if you decide to rehabilitate the house you will probably want to obtain the services of an historic architect to develop plans and specifications.

Since the house is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, our office would need to review any proposed changes planned for the exterior of the house. If you decide to take advantage of the income tax credit program we would need to review all planned work on the interior and exterior.

Please feel free to contact me for more information. We look forward to hearing from and working with you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Roark", with a large, stylized initial "L" and "R".

Linda Roark
Project Reviewer
Division of Architecture

Enclosures

xc: Audrey Kariel, Harrison County Historical Commission
Frances Rickard, THC
Kent Millard, National Trust