

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion . . . PC
with 16" x 12" Interpretive Plate, and mounted on
post - Harrison County - 5-22-73 - on Noonday Road
8 mi N of Hallsville

LaGRONE'S CHAPEL

SITUATED ON LAND OWNED BY A
PIONEER, JACOB LaGRONE (1785-1868),
WHO SETTLED HERE IN 1837, AS A
CITIZEN OF REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CHAPEL WAS BUILT ABOUT 1866, OF
TIMBER SAWED BY HARLETON'S MILL
(12 MI. N) AND HAND-DRESSED AT
CONSTRUCTION SITE. T. B. McFARLAND
SUPERVISED THE WORK; NEIGHBORS
DONATED THEIR LABOR.

PROPERTY WAS DEEDED AUG. 17,
1870, TO METHODIST DENOMINATION
BY DAVID McKINNEY, PURCHASER OF
200 ACRES FROM LaGRONE'S ESTATE.
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1973

APPLICATION FORM
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

3808

County Harrison Town _____ Date Feb. 7, 1973

This marker is for (Title or Subject) LaGrone's Chapel Church

Marker is to be located in front of church on Noonday Rd. East, 1/2 mi. N. of _____
(BE SPECIFIC AS TO ADDRESS, LOCATION OF SITE, MILES FROM CITY LIMITS, ETC.)

Present Owner of Property LaGrone's Chapel Church

Address _____

Who is responsible for Marker erection, Property maintenance? Charles Thomas Rechtold & other members of church

Who prepared the history? Catherine Strong

Address Rt. 1, Box 111-A, Hallsville, Texas 75650

Attach History with Reference Data for Authenticating this Subject (2-3 Pages) (In the case of a Building Medallion, answer questions on pages 3 & 4)

Attach the Suggested Inscription for the Marker
(Copy must meet State requirements; the Texas State Historical Survey Committee reserves the right to change the suggested inscription.)

If this is an Application for a Building Medallion, enclose current, glossy Picture of structure. (Application will NOT be approved, if picture is not included.)

Do you desire to be contacted Re Final Inscription: Yes _____ No X

RECEIVED
FEB 12 1973

Who is to be recognized as the Sponsor of this marker?

Name Members of LaGrone's Chapel Church

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY FOUNDATION

Address _____

This application has been submitted by:

Name Catherine Strong

Address Rt. 1, Box 111-A, Hallsville, Texas 75650

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS: (Price of Marker Includes Freight)

RECEIVED

SHIP TO Charles Thomas Rechtold

Rt. 1, Box 141, Hallsville, Texas 75650

ORDER BLANK

OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKERS

- Design A 18" x 28" \$200.00
- Without post 175.00
(18 lines + title; 30 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 22 for title)
- Design B 14" x 24" \$130.00
- Without Post 110.00
(11 lines + title; 24 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 16 for title)
- Design C 20" x 20" \$160.00
- Without Post 140.00
(8 lines + title; 36 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 24 for title)
- Design D 24" x 18" \$175.00
- Without Post 150.00
(6¾ lines + title; 45 letters & spaces maximum per line of Text; Name of city)
- Design E 27" x 42" \$400.00
- Without Post 375.00
(24 lines + title; 50 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 35 for title)
- Tree Marker 12" x 15" \$ 60.00
- Without Post 40.00
(5 lines + title; 22 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 15 for title)

OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL BUILDING MEDALLIONS AND INTERPRETIVE PLATES

- Medallion with 14" x 9" Plate 70.00
- With Post 85.00
(9 lines + title; 26 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 19 for title)
- Medallion with 16" x 12" Plate 80.00
- With Post 95.00
(14 lines + title; 30 letters & spaces maximum per line of text; 23 for title)
- Medallions (for replacement only) 20.00

PLATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR MEDALLIONS PREVIOUSLY AWARDED

- 14" x 9" Plate
- 16" x 12" Plate
- CHECK HERE IF PLATE IS TO GO ON A POST

OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL GRAVE MARKERS Complete with 7" Medallion and Mounting Bar

- 12" x 6" Plaque \$ 60.00
- 14" x 9" Plaque 70.00
- 16" x 12" Plaque 80.00
(Number of lines and letters — same as Historical Building Plates)
- CHECK HERE IF THIS IS TO SUPPLEMENT A GRAVE MARKER ALREADY IN PLACE. (If so, please submit a copy of the wording on the headstone.)

SCOTCHLITE HIGHWAY DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

- "Historical Markers in City" 24" x 24" (Black)
.....Quantity ordered \$25.00 each
- "Historical Markers in City" 24" x 24" (Green)
(To be placed on City Limits signs on Interstate Highways ONLY).
.....Quantity ordered \$25.00 each
- "Historical Route Sign" 18" x 22" (With directional Arrow).
.....Quantity ordered \$25.00 each
- Directional Arrow with 7" Medallion. Arrow can be pointed either way.
.....Quantity ordered \$12.50 each

PLASTIC PAPERWEIGHT

- With Replica of Marker \$25.00 each

Attach Check for the amount of your order made payable to THE TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION.

MAIL YOUR APPLICATION AND ORDER TO: Texas State Historical Survey Committee, P. O. Box 12276, Capital Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

After your application has been approved, you will be notified, the inscription will be sent to you for your approval, and your order will be sent to the manufacturer, THE SOUTHWELL CO., P. O. Box 299, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78206.

Answer the following questions as accurately and completely as possible when ordering a
TEXAS HISTORICAL BUILDING MEDALLION AND INTERPRETIVE PLATE.

1. When was the structure built? (Exact date, if possible) 1870
2. If it took more than one year to build, when was it completed? _____
3. Who was the builder? T. B. McFarland and members of church
4. What materials went into its construction? hand hewed lumber and square nails
5. Who was the architect (if known)? unknown
6. What Architectural period can this structure be classified into? (Gothic, Victorian, Spanish, etc.) _____
7. What distinguishing features, on exterior or interior does it have? high pointed roof
8. Was the location of the structure significant when it was built? no If so, how? _____
9. Give details of the life of the builder, where he was from, why he settled here, what family he had, were they famous, etc. _____
10. How many generations have lived in this structure? _____
11. If a church or public building, give details and circumstances under which it was founded. David McKinney gave a deed to the church "in consideration of the love I have for the cause of Christ and from an earnest desire to promote His heritage on earth.
12. If a business establishment, what was sold or produced here? earth.
13. What is the timing of the structure in the community (the first one, etc)? one of the earliest churches
14. Have famous people lived or visited here? _____ Give details. _____
15. What events important to the area, region, or Texas have occurred here? _____

16. What is the present condition of structure? (Be specific) The church is still in good condition. Church is still being held there every Sunday.

17. Does it need painting and/or repair? needs painting

18. Has the structure been repaired, restored, remodeled or in any way altered from its original appearance?

If so, give details.

19. If possible, submit a picture of the structure's original appearance.

20. Who is responsible for its upkeep, today? (Give name and address) Charles Thomas Lechtold,
Rt. 1, Box 141, Hallsville, Texas 75650

21. What is the current use of the structure (residence, museum, library, etc.)? Services are being held there every Sunday and is also used as a voting place on elections.

(If additional History on this structure has been prepared and is available, please submit with application form.)

Pastors

3898

Gus Harrison	1900	J. N. McGain	1935
W. L. Pate	1901	E. L. Unger	1940
G. W. Rile	1902	O. H. Zimmerman	1943
J. W. Holt	1903	Phil E. Trammel	1946
W. W. Horner	1904	J. C. Cooper	1947
I. F. Pace	1906	John Windham	----
J. A. Carr	1908	Lawrence Upton	1953
J. B. Bell	1909	Burtis Bates	1954
W. M. Wells	1910	J. B. Frouse	1955
M. I. Brown	1911	Warren Martin	1957
R. L. Conners	1914	James Knight	1958
I. F. Pace	1915	Cecil E. Primrose	1960
Preston Florence	1917	Joe Crabb	1961
S. M. Dunsm	1918	James Knight	1962
D. E. Sneller	1919	Ben. R. Chamness	1963
B. O. Powers	1921	Carl Stokes	1966
J. L. McAdams	1922	Gerald Bates	1967
J. H. Malone	1926	Cal H. Kelly	1968
W. W. Hardt	1928	Travis Harrison	1969
I. J. Waldron	1929	Wm. Helpenstell	1970

The first orderly development in the vicinity began in the 1840's with land grants from the Republic to men like Hill, Jackson, Pearson, Mercant, and Lagrone. In the 1850's their vast holdings were split with their children and sold to new settlers from the East. It was nearly a decade more before the waters of Little Cypress and "headwaters of Kocousson Creek" supported enough people to consider a formal meeting place for regular worship.

The Chapel land is part of acreage purchased by Jacob Lagrone, who held a headright to the south of the churchsite. In the administration of his estate in 1863, 200 acres were finally sold in 1868 for \$460.00, to David McKinney, a neighbor. The land is in the P. R. Pearson survey.

1863?
or
1868?
death
date of
Jacob
Lagrone?

On August 17, 1870, McKinney gave a deed to the church, "in consideration of the love I have for the cause of Christ and from an earnest desire to promote his heritage on earth, do give and grant..unto the Methodist Episcopal Church South, a certain tract..together with the right-of-way to a spring of water and church house..so long as the people will keep or want a church house on same.."

No confirmation of the date of the construction of the church building has been found. One early writing places the date 1866, one year prior to the first burial service in the cemetery, that of Kamillo McKinney, four months of age, in 1867. The original Lagrone's cemetery is located across the road from the chapel and "new" cemetery. The first pastor of the church and early history is unknown.

Timber for the building was cut at the Harleton mill, hauled to the site, and "hand-dressed". T. B. McFarland is thought to be the builder, although it was a "community" project. It was a source of pride to the section when built and remains a durable landmark in the community.

Until recently, heating and lighting of the building was much the same as in early days. Butane has now dispensed with wood and electricity replaces the lamps. The congregation is still "cooled by hand". Services in the church have increased from Sunday afternoon preaching to a service every Sunday at 9 A. M., sharing a pastor with New Diana.

In July 1, 1958, R. A. and Mary I. Still of Longview, made a gift of land which increased the size of the church grounds by several acres, adding road frontage and greatly increasing the beauty of the Chapel.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Virginia Taylor at the General Land Office says that Jacob LaGrone, Sr., came to Texas in 1837, and was given a second class certificate (for immigrants coming between 1836 and Oct. of 1837) for a headright. Jacob LaGrone, Sr., had Certificate #58 for 1240 acres of land, which he took up in Gregg and Harrison counties.

Jacob LaGrone, Jr., also had a grant, for 640 acres of land, which he took up in Upshur County.

It seems likely that the suggested text is at fault in asserting that Jacob LaGrone purchased acreage from the Republic of Texas (where LaGrone's Chapel was later situated); we should say, rather, that the site of the chapel was on the grant of the Republic of Texas to Jacob LaGrone.

Deolece Parmelee
Director of Research

2/22/73

And all men by these presents that I, David McKinney, do hereby give and consider of the love I bear for the people of this country and as an earnest desire to promote the best interests of the same and by these presents have given and do hereby give unto the publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal Church South a certain tract or parcel of land situate a part of the P. M. Johnson and right survey beginning at a stake in the north west corner of a survey on the same made by C. F. Dickard and of the estate of Jacob LaBrene dead, to David McKinney from which a post and line north 33 E S 1/3 vrs. another post and line S 66 E 1/3 vrs. thence S 100 vrs. thence south 150 vrs. thence east 100 vrs. thence north 100 vrs to the place of beginning. For the use and benefit of the Methodist Episcopal church South. Together with the right of way to the spring of water and church house to be applied by said agent herein stated under the direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church south and the said agent is to have and to hold the property afore said for the use aforesaid free from the claim or claims of myself my heirs my executors and administrator and from the claims of all others whatsoever so long as the people will keep or want a church house on the same. But should said church house be moved then said tract of land is to be the property of the said David McKinney as therein no title had ever been made to the same by the Methodist Episcopal church south. In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of the undersigned witnesses this the 17th day of August A. D. 1870.

David McKinney

Witness J. A. Schenck
G. W. Lagrange

1870 = 5045.47 / 197 = 25.61
115

Witness J. A. Schenck
G. W. Lagrange
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of August 1870
Notary Public for the State of Texas
Dallas, Texas

LaGrone's Chapel

HARRISON COUNTY



LaGrone's Chapel

Harrison County



LaGrone's Chapel
Harrison County



LaGrone's Chapel
Harrison County



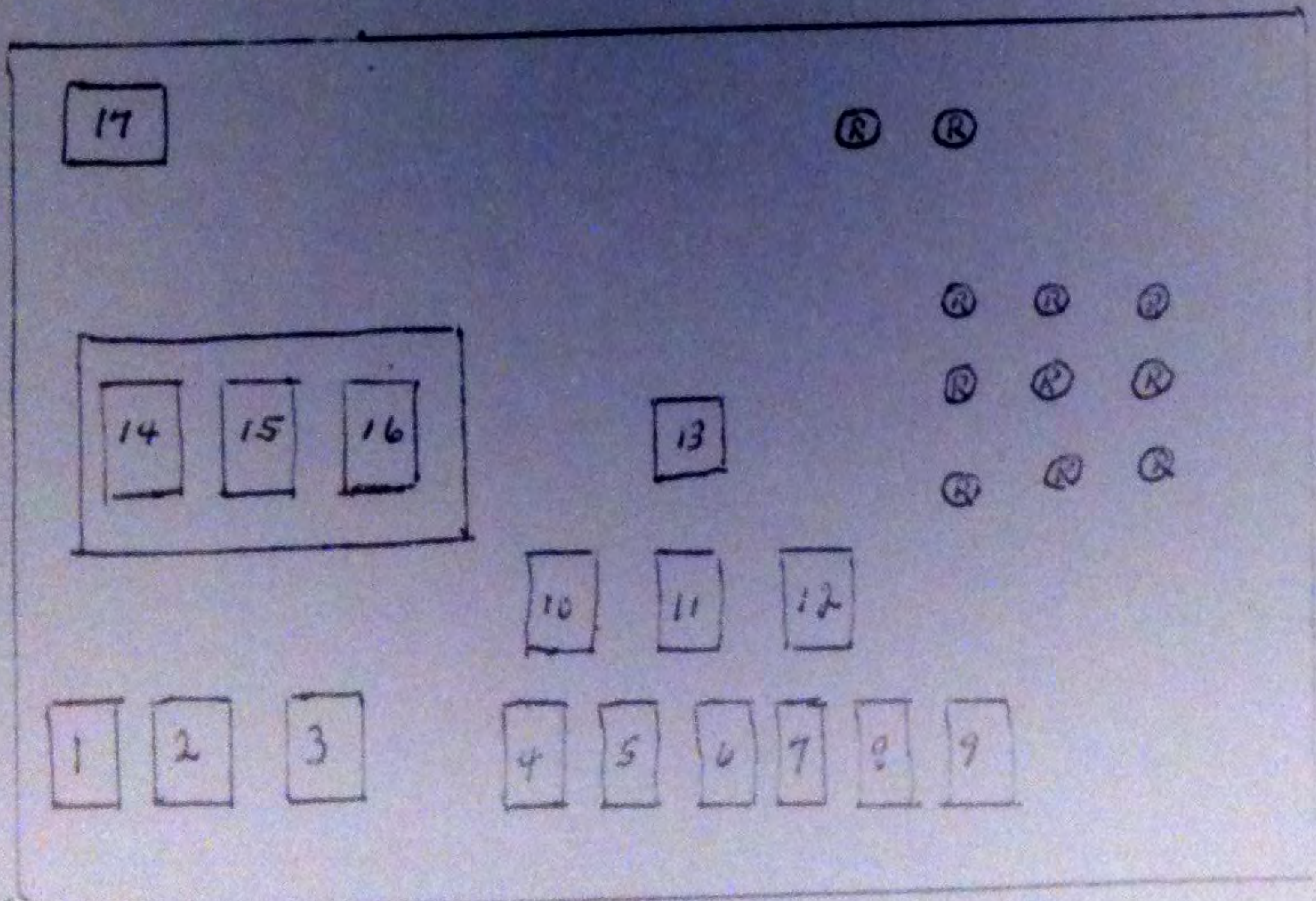
- No 1..Emanuel LaGrone born April 21, 1871, died July 1, 1892
- No 2.. Mrs. Emanuel LaGrone born June 16, 1871, died Oct. 1, 1892
- No 3.. S. F. Dickard born Oct. 25, 1825, died June 1, 1892
- No 4.. Walter Scott son of G. W. & Sarah LaGrone born Aug. 27, 1864, died March 18, 1892
- No 5.. Rock for a headstone--no name
- No 6.. M. S. LaGrone born Feb. 22, 1836, died June 24, 1892
- No 7.. Child--LaGrone, son of George and Mrs. LaGrone born Aug. 25, 1869, died Feb. 21, 1881
- No 8.. Child--LaGrone, son of George and Mrs. LaGrone born Sept. 5, 1871, died Sept. 21, 1875
- No 9.. Child--Martha, daughter of W. & Mrs. LaGrone, born Sept. 27, 1866, died Aug. 1870

The above graves are facing East.

The graves below are facing West

- No 10..George W. son of G. W. & Mrs. LaGrone born Feb. 24, 1855, died July 1, 1865
- No 11..Cornelia B. daughter of G. W. & Mrs. LaGrone born Aug. 19, 1861, died July 23, 1863
- No 12..Catherine-wife of Jacob LaGrone Sr. died Jan. 4, 1880 age 20 yrs.
- No 13..Jacob LaGrone born Oct. 1785 died July 27, 1868
- No 14..Susan Melvian LaGrone born Sept. 22, 1851, married W. H. Reel Jan. 7, 1869, died Aug. 23, 1908
- No 15..Baby of W. H. Reel, born Feb. 2, 1887, Died March ?- 1890
- No 16..Child-Reel born 1898 died ?--
- No 17..James A Reel born 1840, died 1900

Nos 14, 15, 16, and 17 all facing East.



The R is for graves marked with Rock

DEDICATION DATE (if known) _____

MARKER NAME LaGrone's Chapel

JOB#

9999

TOWN Hallsville

COUNTY Harrison

DATE 2-12-73

Medallion with 16" x 12" Plate WITH POST

\$95.00

MARKER

SIZE

PRICE

Catherine Strong & Betty J. Landers

SIGNER OF CHECK

PROCEDURE FOR MARKER APPLICATION

INITIAL	DATE	
gna	2-12-73	1. Application checked and dated
gna	2-12-73	2. Check deposited
DP	2-13-73	3. Folder checked and approved
	2-20-73	4. Additional information sent for
UW	2-21-73	5. Letter of approval sent, permanent record and DSA recording, labeling, listed & filed in current marker work
DP	3-22-73	6. Checkout to inscription writer
DP	3-23-73	7. Sent for State Marker Committee approval
UW	4-3-73	8. Inscription submitted for County approval
		9. Highway permission secured (if necessary)
		10. Order sent to Southwell
PM	5/21/73	11. Rubbing checked
		12. Stencil cut
UW	2-28-73	13. Recorded for Marker Guide
UW	5-8-73	14. News release sent, w/copy to TSHSC President (Recorded Landmark Certificate sent, if necessary)
UW	5-9-73	15. Notice of shipment sent
UW	5-17-73	16. Extraneous material deleted, folder given to architectural historian
		17. Folder placed in completed marker file

3898

NAME OF MARKER LaGrone's Chapel

TOWN Hallsville, COUNTY Harrison

DATE 2-12-73

TO: TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

FROM: TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

On this date the Texas Historical Foundation received a donation for a Medallion with 16" x 12" Plate with Post. We ask to be advised by your Committee if the history is sufficient, the location satisfactory, and all other requirements set forth by the State have been met.

Gertrude N. Amador

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Category: EG

Truett Latimer: Approved

By 2-20-73
Initial Date

Deolece Parnesse: It is unsettling to know that only oral tradition plus a copy of the David McKinney land deed of 1870 supports this application in the way of documentation. The church may have been founded at almost any time ~~between 1840 and 1870~~ between 1840 and 1870, but the local tradition reasons that it was not organized until about 1870. The deed is proof enough that a church existed or was wanted at that time, so we are safe in granting that this is historical. Gary Hume should address some remarks to the proposition of the building medallion's appropriateness.

GARY HUME: Architecturally, the Church does not seem to merit marking. 9LH 2-15-73

Since Gary opposes the historical building medallion, should we not ask for the 14"x 24" topical marker. J Parnesse, 2-15-73

Unless and until we establish a building marker for architectural excellence, it seems to me this application meets the criteria of age and historical significance. I vote for approval.

Harrison

I approve of the inscription for LaGrone's Chapel

as sent to me April 3, 1973.

RECEIVED

APR 9 1973

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

Catherine Strong
Signed

4-6-73

Date

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

BOX 12243 • CAPITOL STATION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 • PHONE 481-2000

April 16, 1973

Mr. Bill Southwell, Jr.
The Southwell Company
P.O. Drawer 529
San Antonio, Texas 78208

3898

NO. _____

Medallion#1511, with 16" x 12" Plate
with Post

LaGrone's Chapel
Hallsville, TX
Harrison County

Dear Mr. Southwell

**Enclosed is an application for Medallion#1511, with 16" x 12" Plate,
with Post, LaGrone's Chapel, for the City of Hallsville,
Harrison County.**

We would appreciate a rubbing of this inscription.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gertrude N. Amador
Secretary

GMA/s

Enclosure

SHIP TO: Charles Thomas Bechtold
Hallsville, TX 75650

TSHSC Staff (DP), 3/22/73

Official Texas Historical building Medal, 1973
w/16"x 12" Interpretive Plate, and mounted on
Harrison County (#3898)

Location: on Seaside Rd.
E of N of
Hallsville

3898

LaGRONE'S CHAPEL*

SITUATED ON LAND OWNED BY A
PIONEER, JACOB LaGRONE (1785-1868),
WHO SETTLED HERE IN 1837, AS A
CITIZEN OF REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

CHAPEL WAS BUILT ABOUT 1866, OF
TIMBER SAWED BY HARLETON'S MILL
(12 MI. N) AND HAND-DRESSED AT
CONSTRUCTION SITE. T. B. McFARLAND
SUPERVISED THE WORK; NEIGHBORS
DONATED THEIR LABOR.

PROPERTY WAS DEEDED AUG. 17,
1870, TO METHODIST DENOMINATION
BY DAVID McKINNEY, PURCHASER OF
200 ACRES FROM LaGRONE'S ESTATE.**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1973***

FILE COPY - DO NOT REMOVE

*1/2" lettering
**3/8" lettering
***1/4" lettering

RECEIVED
APR 16 1973

APPROVED
Truett Latimer
by Bob Watson
4-16-73

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

TEXAS STATE
HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

TRUETT LATIMER, Executive Director
100 West 15th Street
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION

April 3, 1974

Ms. Catherine Strong
Route #1, Box 111-A
Halleville, TX 75650

RE: LaGrone's Chapel
Medallion with 16"x 17" Plate w/post

Dear Ms. Strong:

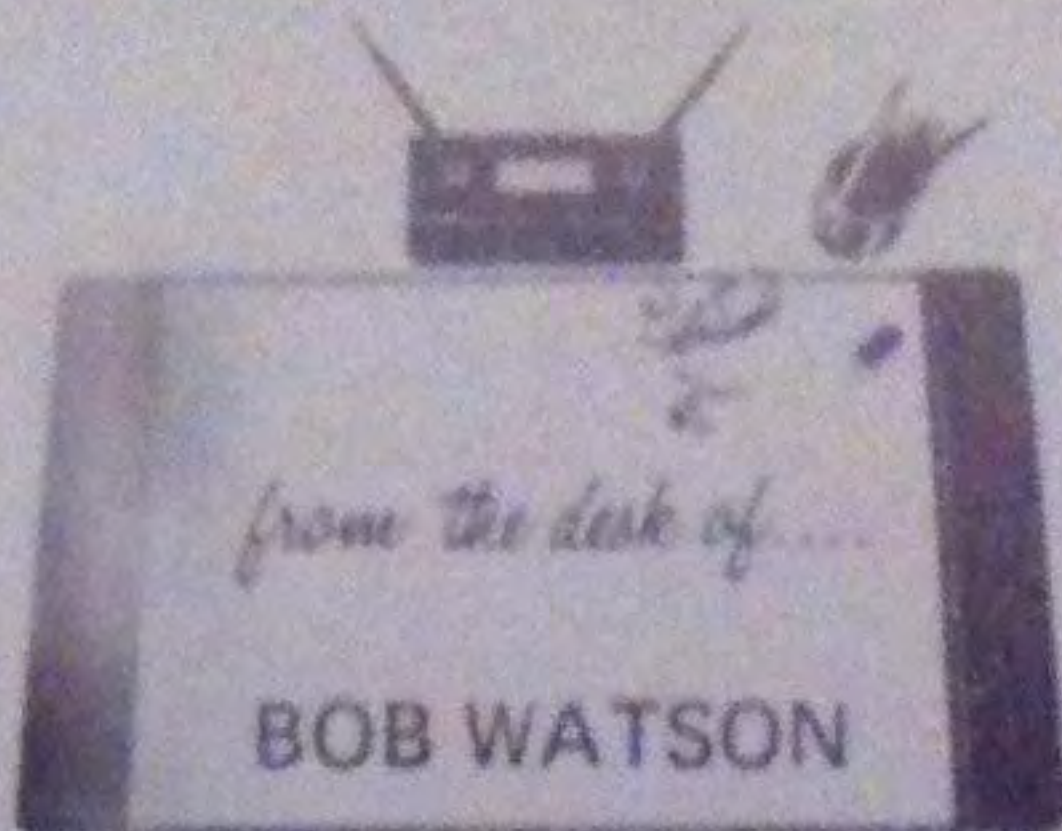
In accordance with your request to review the final inscription as approved by the Marker Committee, we are enclosing same and ask that you let us know your approval at your earliest convenience.

We are enclosing a post card for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Max S. Dale



Director of Field Operations
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

April 9, 1973

Re: LaGrone's Chapel

Dear Miss Strong:

We neglected to ask you for the distance and direction of Harleton's Mill to the chapel when we sent you the inscription for approval the other day. Can you supply this information? We would appreciate it.

Sincerely,

I believe the Harleton Mill was located in Harleton, Texas on State Hwy. #154, 12 mi. North of the chapel.

Enclosed is a copy of the people buried at an old cemetery across the road from the chapel. I thought maybe you might use it.

Sincerely,

RECEIVED
APR 13 1973

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

Hamilton Co

3704 Fitzgerald
Marshall, Texas 75670

March 25, 1975

The Members
LaGrone's Chapel

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

It was my pleasure some months ago to assist at the dedication of the marker and historical medallion which recognizes your church structure as a recorded Texas landmark. This recognition sets LaGrone's Chapel apart, in company with other historical structures in the state so designated, as being especially worthy of preservation because of its age and its architectural integrity.

It has come to my attention that a question may be brought to the congregation about replacing the present pews in the church. Because the pews now in the church are those originally placed there, and equally because of their historic value in terms of the period in which they were built, they should be considered as integral to the church and one of the factors in the decision by the Texas Historical Commission to award a landmark designation to the church.

I am obligated to call your attention to a provision of state statute which requires that such alterations to a landmark structure can be made only after 60 days' notice to the Texas Historical Commission.

Such notification should be addressed to Mr. Truett Latimer, Director, Texas Historical Commission, Post Office Box 1276, Austin, Texas 78711.

I should explain that this letter is being addressed to you through Miss Allie Nance for the reason that I have her address in my files and was uncertain how else to deliver it into your hands.

Sincerely

Max S. Lale
Chairman

C
O
P
Y

Centennial Highlights

LACRONE'S CHAPEL

10-23-69

By: Mrs. Charlie Welch

The first development in the vicinity of LaGrone's Chapel began in the 1840s with land grants from the Republic to men whose names were Hill, Jackson, Pearson, Merchant and LaGrone. In the 1850s the land was divided with their children and some was sold to early settlers from the east. Jacob LaGrone purchased the land where LaGrone's Chapel stands today. An early writing gives the date of building the church as 1866.

In 1868 Mr. LaGrone sold 200 acres for \$460.00 to David McKinney, a neighbor. On Aug. 17, 1870, Mr. McKinney gave a deed to the church "In consideration of the love I have for the cause of Christ and from an earnest desire to promote his heritage on earth do give and grant to the Methodist Episcopal Church South a certain tract together with the right-of-way to a spring of water and church house - so long as the people will keep or want a church house on same".

The first burial in the cemetery was a 4 month old child, Yamillo McKinney.

Timber for the church was cut and hauled to the site where it was hand dressed. It was a community project reportedly under the supervision of a T. B. McFarland.

It was a source of pride to that vicinity and remains a durable landmark today.

Services for many, many years were held on Sunday afternoon, the Hallsville pastor devoting time there and at other churches. Several years ago they were placed on a regular Sunday morning schedule with services at 9 AM their pastor living at Diana where the parsonage is pro-

vided. Diana gets the 11 a. m. service.

In the latter part of the 18th century "The Chapel" was pastored by Rev. D. P. Cullen, father of the late beloved J. B. Cullen, Sr.

Since 1900 the pastors serving this church were: Gus Harrison, W. L. Pate, J. W. Holt, W. W. Horner, I. F. Pace, J. A. Carr, J. B. Bell, W. M. Wells, M. I. Brown, A. L. Conners, Preston Florence, S. M. Dunnam, D. E. Sneller, Bruce O. Powers, J. L. McAdams, J. H. Malone, W. W. Hardt, I. J. Waldon, J. N. McCain, E. L. Unger, A. N. Tiller, O. H. Zimmerman, Phil Trammell, J. C. Cooper, John Windham, Lawrence Upton and Burtis Bates.

This was when the change was made that the Hallsville pastor no longer served this charge, but was put with Diana.

Pastors serving since that time include: J. B. Prouse, Warren Martin, James Knight, Cecil Primrose, Joe Crabb, Ben Chamness, Rev. Stokes, Gerald Bates, Cal H. Kelly and the present pastor, Travis Harrison.

Some of those who were members of the church many years before the turn of the century were: Wash LaGrone, members of the Bains and Henderson Smith family, Garland Lane Huffman who was the grandfather of Mrs. Dave (Evie) Sumner, Clark, Molts, the G. W. Shultz family Harpers, McNeills, Wards, John and Mary Schofield, parents of Mrs. Kate Wood who lives on Coleman Street, Mr. & Mrs. Will Nance. Other Huffmans and many others whose descendants are still faithful members.

The benches in the church

are the same ones put there when the church was built. Old timers relate that when preaching lasted long, as in days gone by, the seats got rather hard.

On July 1, 1958 Mr. & Mrs. Rudd Still of Longview made a gift of land which increased the size of the church grounds adding much to its beauty, making it visible from Hwy. 2208. This is on a hillside with many lovely trees, where cement picnic tables have in recent years replaced the old plank tables.

LaGrone's Chapel still observes its annual homecoming.

The cemetery consists of a proximately 21 acres. Around this is a chain link fence.

NOTICE

REGARDING DOCUMENT QUALITY

The quality of the following documents is such that all or portions of the microfimed image may be difficult to read or illegible.