

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 8/1/78

Official Texas Historical Building Marker to attach to wood
Harrison County (Order #5328)

Location: 313 West Austin, Marshall

5328

THE***
BELLE FRY GAINES HOUSE*

THIS RESIDENCE WAS ERECTED FOR
JOHN R. (b.1849) AND SALLIE STINSON
(b.1857) SOON AFTER THEIR MARRIAGE
IN SEPT. 1875. THE WOOD FRAMING
AROUND THE ENTRYWAY WAS CARVED
TO RESEMBLE CUT STONE. STINSON
WAS A MERCHANT AND SERVED ONE
TERM AS MAYOR OF MARSHALL. IN
1909 WALTER D. MINTON (d. 1918) BOUGHT
THE STRUCTURE. AFTER MINTON'S
DEATH, HIS WIDOW BELLE (FRY) (d. 1978)
MARRIED E. P. GAINES. SHE OPERATED
AN ANTIQUE SHOP IN THE HOUSE
FOR MANY YEARS. **
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1978***

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

FILE COPY - DO NOT REMOVE

APPROVED
Truett Latimer

by Anne Reed 8-29-78

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

5328

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

RECEIVED
JUN 21 1978

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

Harrison

June 19, 1978

County

Date

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

1. The Belle Fry Gaines House
Title of marker
2. On the building
Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, archeological site, etc., where marker is to be placed.
3. 313 West Austin
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. Mrs. Jack Walker 2830 Mary Mack Drive Marshall, Texas
Mrs. Perry Harkins 1000 East Austin Marshall, Texas
Owner of marker site Address City
7. Same
Sponsor of marker Address City
8. Max S. Lale 3704 Fitzgerald Marshall, Texas
County chairman Address City
"I have reviewed the narrative for this marker and attest to its accuracy."
9. Mrs. Perry Harkins 1000 East Austin Marshall, Texas
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 a 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 interstate 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

THE BELLE FRY GAINES HOUSE
313 West Austin
Marshall, Texas

By Max S. Lale

One of the most elegant of the early-postbellum houses remaining in Marshall is The Belle Fry Gaines House at 313 West Austin, built soon after 1875 as a wedding gift to John R. Stinson and his bride, Sallie (Sally) R. Callaway Stinson.¹ This is a two-story house with a double gallery running the entire width of the formal front facade, located directly across the street north of The Fry-Barry House at 310 West Austin, a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark which has been nominated to the Department of the Interior for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.² Because it was occupied almost continuously from its purchase in 1909 until her death on January 9, 1978, by Mrs. Belle Gaines, the house has come to be known by her name rather than for its association with its original owners.

Originally occupying, with its support structures, the entire west half (Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4) of Block 42 of the Original Townsite (OT) of Marshall, the house was provided with a barn, gardens and other appurtenances usual to its period.³ It now stands on a portion of Lots 3 and 4, facing south on Austin at the intersection of Austin and Fulton.

John R. Stinson, ^{who} with his wife ^{was} the original owner of the house, was born in 1849 on his father's farm two miles southeast of the courthouse square in Marshall (^{a farm site} now) long since within the corporate limits of the city), the son of Samuel and Cynthia Baker Stinson. Samuel Stinson, a native of Smith County, Tennessee, had immigrated to Harrison County with his brother David Stinson

in 1844. Soon after John R. Stinson's birth, the family moved to Marshall, a move which may have coincided with and ^{been} dictated by Samuel Stinson's election as Harrison County Clerk, from which position he resigned a year before his death in 1854. John R. Stinson's mother, a native of Mississippi, came to Harrison County with her parents in the early 1840s. Shortly after her husband's death, she bought a home in Marshall which "comprised practically the block bounded by Austin, Fulton, Rusk and Franklin Streets." This is the same block on the west half of which the John R. Stinson home was built after the Stinson-Calloway marriage on September 1, 1875.

In his youth, Stinson "had the advantage of being a pupil in one of the best schools in this part of Texas at that time." This was the school "in charge of Prof. Morgan H. Looney, at Gilmer, in which a number of prominent Texas characters were educated." His first business experience was as a clerk in a store in Marshall, beginning in 1869, in which position he continued until he opened his own mercantile establishment, eventually retiring from business in 1902. He served one term as mayor of Marshall.⁴

John R. Stinson had come into possession of an undivided one-half interest in the west half of Block 42, OT, at the time of his mother's death in 1868, so that he was a part owner of the property occupied by The Belle Fry Gaines House at the time of his marriage. The 1880 census in Harrison County showed that Sallie Stinson was 23 years old at that time, indicating that she was born in 1857 and was 18 years old when she married John R. Stinson, himself 26 years old when married.⁵ It seems likely that until the completion of

their new home the young couple occupied the home formerly occupied by Mrs. Samuel Stinson (and presumably John R. Stinson) until her death. This house faced Rusk Street at the north end of the half-block owned by Mrs. Stinson and on the south end of which the couple built their home.⁶ Substance is given to this conjecture by a published biographical statement that "in this block, John R. Stinson has ever since made his home."⁷

Although The Belle Fry Gaines House has been enlarged by the addition of a bedroom and bathroom at the rear of the first floor and by the incorporation into the structure of the originally-detached kitchen, the house as built remains remarkably unchanged and in a surprisingly good state of repair. With four columns capped by stone Ionic capitals supporting each level of the banistered double gallery, it presents to the passerby an air of formality and graciousness which is carried into the interior through a stately doorway and an entrance hall with a curved stairway sweeping to the second floor. One dormer ornaments the roofline above the second-floor gallery. An unusual detail is a wood-block framing resembling cut stone in which are set the double doors, sidelights and transom of the front entrance.

The hallway measures 12 by 21 feet, occupied on the west side in part by the stairway which rises with two gently curving 90-degree turns to the second floor. The newel post, banisters and rail are original. The ceiling, as are all others in the house, is 12 feet high. Now papered, the ceiling apparently was board and batten originally, as the other ceilings are, because the second-floor ceiling exposed by the stair well is of this design. The floor of the entrance hall is of five-inch pine boards.

On the left of the entrance hall is a formal parlor measuring 18 x 22 feet. Its principal features are a fireplace with marble facing and mantel and a large bay on the west side in which are set three tall windows.⁸ The baseboards are 12 inches high and finished with a typical ornamentation of the period. The ceiling is board and batten with a border of ornamental woodwork similar to but distinctive from those in the other rooms of the house, each slightly different in design. The room is lighted by a massive chandelier (antique but not original to the house).

Behind (north of) this room is a dining room measuring 14 x 25 feet, similar in design and ceiling ornamentation to the parlor. It likewise has 12-inch baseboards but does not have a fireplace as in the case of the parlor. This room also is lighted by an antique chandelier which is less massive than that in the parlor.

On the east side of the ground floor hallway is a room measuring 18 x 18 feet which may have been used originally either as a family room or as a bedroom.⁹ As have the other rooms described above, the door to this room has its original hardware. The principal feature of this room is a recessed double window on the east wall. The fireplace in this room, also originally marble, was "modernized" by a brick facing and hearth and a wood mantel and chimney facing which was constructed in the 1930s by Lee Scott, a cabinetmaker and joiner who was noted throughout Northeast Texas for his craftsmanship.¹⁰ This room has the same 12-inch baseboards present in the rooms described earlier.

At the rear (north) of this room are a bathroom and bedroom added "about

75 years ago." This addition was made when it became necessary for Mr. and Mrs. Stinson to take into their home an infant relative.¹¹ The woodwork is Victorian in design, featuring circular carvings at the intersection of the vertical and horizontal facings, and is less massive than that in the original portions of the house.

With the incorporation into the structure of the originally-detached kitchen, additional pantry space, a breakfast room and closets were constructed, and kitchen fixtures modern at that time were installed.

The stairway opens on the second floor into a hallway which measures 10 x 22 feet from which there is access to three bedrooms, all original to the house, and a bathroom added later by reducing the size of ~~the two~~ ^{adjoining} bedrooms, ~~which~~ it divides. A door opens on the south end of the hall to the second-floor gallery.

The bedroom on the east side measures 18 x 20 feet and has a fireplace served by the same chimney which serves the fireplace in the room directly below it on the ground floor. This room has five long windows. The door is fitted with the original box latch and china knobs characteristic of elaborate homes of the period.

The bedroom on the west side (front) is similar, except that a modern oak floor has been installed over the original flooring. It likewise has its original door hardware and china knobs.

At the rear (north) of this room is a third bedroom measuring 12 x 18 feet (the smaller size is accounted for by the space incorporated into a bathroom). It likewise is original, with the 12-inch baseboards, 12-foot ceiling, original hardware and other detailing common to the remainder of the house. It

will be seen that, from the fact there are two bedrooms on the west side of the house and only one on the east, the second floor was designed (and remains) L-shaped, as was the ground floor before the addition of a bedroom and bathroom on the east side of the house.

Stinson and his wife apparently built their home with a degree of confidence that their undivided one-half interest in its half-block location would not be challenged, for it was not until 1909, when the house was sold to Walter D. Minton, that court action finally divided the property, Lots 3 and 4 to Stinson and Lots 1 and 2 to other relatives.¹² Minton had been married on November 26, 1904, to Isabelle (Belle) Fry, youngest of seven children of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Fry, who had lived since 1872 in the Fry home (now designated The Fry-Barry House) across the street. The location of the house undoubtedly was a factor in its selection five years later as the Minton family home.¹³ If so, the choice must have been a happy one, for Mrs. Fry, Mrs. Minton's mother, lived until 1918, and Mr. Fry until 1927, so that she was near her parents for some time afterward. And she continued to live across the street from her father for eight years after Walter Minton's death on November 8, 1918,¹⁴ when he became one of the early victims in Marshall of the worldwide influenza epidemic which coincided with the end of World War I.¹⁵ By this time Mrs. Minton was the mother of two daughters, Margaret Isabel and Mary Irvine, both of whom remember with pleasure visiting their grandparents' home across the street and playing during rainy weather under the cover afforded by the raised cottage design of the Fry house.¹⁶

Minton was a member of a Virginia family which had come to Marshall to work for the T&P railroad. He likewise worked for the railroad for a time,¹⁷ and later operated a grocery store at the corner of Houston and Edwards streets and still later was a salesman for the new automobiles which were becoming available to the general public in the last few years before his death. The Minton children were twelve and four at their father's death.

Mrs. Minton remained single until October 20, 1923, when she was married to E. P. Gaines, a Texas Railroad Commission employee who came to Marshall from Clarksville. He lived only $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, however, and the former Isabelle Fry was again a widow for the second time in 10 years. By this time, the duplex apartment house had been constructed which now occupies, in part, the area on the property originally occupied by a barn on the east side of the house. Mrs. Perry Harkins, the former Mary Irvine Minton, recalls that the family were living in one of the apartments when her step-father died.¹⁸ Mrs. Gaines and her younger daughter and husband of one year returned to The Belle Fry Gaines House to live in 1933, the year which marked the bottom of the Great Depression.¹⁹

Mrs. Gaines shortly opened an antique business in her home which she continued to operate until shortly before her death on January 9, 1978. Going into business was not intentional, she was quoted as saying in a newspaper interview on her 91st birthday,²⁰ adding that it all began as a hobby when she furnished her apartment next door to the Stinson house. Her decision to go into the business on a full scale came during the boom days of the East Texas oil field in neighboring Gregg County. "First thing I knew, I was in business in a big way," she said. For many years she and her daughters made semi-annual trips to New England to buy for the antique shop in Mrs. Gaines' home.

Mrs. Gaines deeded The Belle Fry Gaines House in 1959 to her daughters, Mrs. Jack Walker and Mrs. Perry Harkins, but she continued to live and to operate her antique business in the house until failing health required that she be placed in a nursing home shortly before her death.

The house was surveyed for the National Register of Historic Places on April 4, 1978, by Stanley Klein and Barry Wagner of the Texas Historical Commission.

Now on the market for sale, The Belle Fry Gaines House is a magnificent example of its architectural period. Its quietly stated charm, the few alterations which have been made to it in the past century, and its association with and proximity to the family and home of E. J. Fry, all recommend it for designation as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

Max S. Lee

June 16, 1978

NOTES

1. Interview with Mrs. Ruby Wood Boone, June 5, 1978. Mrs. Stinson and Mrs. Boone's mother were sisters, the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Callaway. Mrs. Boone, now 86 and in full possession of her mental faculties, recalls from her parents that her grandfather Callaway also built as a wedding present to her own parents, several years after the Stinson house was built, the home in which she still resides at 215 East Rusk in Marshall. Both houses, Mrs. Boone recalls, were built by a contractor named Fortson. Mrs. Boone's parents were Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Wood.
2. See the approved marker application for the Fry-Barry House in the files of the Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas.
3. See the accompanying photograph, taken some time prior to 1927, which shows a barn still standing to the northeast of the house at that time. On a portion of the land occupied by this barn Mrs. Gaines built on Lot 4 directly east of her home, a brick duplex apartment house which still stands. The lots in Block 42 are numbered counter-clockwise, 1 through 8, beginning at the northwest corner of the block.
4. The biographical information in the above paragraphs is from Vol. 5, TEXAS AND TEXANS, published in 1914, a typed copy of which is in the Stinson family file in the archives of the Harrison County Historical Museum in Marshall.
5. This census information was extracted by Virginia Lee Stinson Lane, 2100 Laurel Lane, Altavista, Virginia, and is recorded in the archives of the Harrison County Historical Museum on the same sheet, dated April 6, 1971, with the abstract from TEXAS AND TEXANS. Shown in the household by the 1880 census enumeration were John R. Stinson, 31; Sallie R. Stinson, 23; Anna M. [Maude] Stinson, four; Robert L. Stinson, nine months; and "Three servants." Anna Maude apparently had died before the 1914 publication of the John R. Stinson biographical sketch in TEXAS AND TEXANS, for it noted that "In 1908 he had the misfortune to lose his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Sally Callaway . . . Their only child is Robert Lee Stinson."
6. Interview, Mrs. Inez Hughes, director of the Harrison County Historical Museum, May 22, 1978.
7. TEXAS AND TEXANS, op. cit.
8. For many years, Mrs. Gaines displayed a large Christmas tree, decorated only with blue lights, in this bay. This tree became a "mist" for many residents on their drives about the city during the Christmas season to view the Yuletide decorations.

9. Mrs. Boone recalls that "Uncle John and Aunt Sallie lived downstairs in the wintertime and moved upstairs in the summertime." Interview, op. cit.
10. Lee Scott constructed the altar in Trinity Episcopal Church, Marshall.
11. Boone interview, op. cit.
12. See Appendix A for complete chain of ownership.
13. Fry-Barry House marker application, op. cit.
14. E. J. Fry family Bible in the possession of Mrs. Perry Harkins, 1000 East Austin, Marshall, Texas.
15. The Marshall News Messenger, April 20, 1975.
16. Interview, Mrs. Perry Harkins, June 2, 1978.
17. The Marshall News Messenger, April 20, 1975.
18. Harkins interview, op. cit.
19. Ibid.
20. The Marshall News Messenger, April 20, 1975.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abstract of Title.

Deed Records of Harrison County.

E. J. Fry family Bible.

Plat of the Original Townsite, Marshall, Texas.

Archives of the Harrison County Historical Museum, Marshall, Texas.

Interview, Mrs. Inez Hughes.

Interview, Mrs. Ruby Wood Boone.

Interview, Mrs. Perry Harkins.

The Marshall News Messenger.

Appendix A
CHAIN OF OWNERSHIP

Field Notes Surveyor to Peter Whetstone, 4428 acres, Certificate No. 100/199, surveyed by John S. Ford, issued by Shelby County Land Commissioners February 12, 1838, dated March 8, 1838, filed March 8, 1838, Vol. F, page 47, Harrison County Surveyor Records.

Patent Republic of Texas to Peter Whetstone, 25 labors of land, dated August 13, 1845, filed June 16, 1847, Vol. F, page 160, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Deed Dicy Whetstone, administratrix of the estate of Peter Whetstone, to William Davenport, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 42, Marshall, Texas, \$32, dated March 22, 1844, filed April 2, 1844, Vol. C, page 145, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed William Davenport to Mrs. Amanda Ward, Block 42, \$100, dated December 24, 1844, filed April 19, 1845, Vol. D, page 134, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Marriage Mrs. Amanda Ward was married January 7, 1845, to Andrew Allen, Vol. 1, page 112, Harrison County Marriage Records.

Warranty Deed Andrew Allen, et ux, to Nelson Trawick, Block 42, \$500, dated February 22, 1848, filed March 4, 1848, Vol. F, page 421, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed Nelson Trawick to William R. D. Ward and James B. Wilson, Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, \$375, dated June 17, 1850, filed January 3, 1851, Vol. J, page 242, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed W. R. D. Ward and J. B. Wilson to Sewell Norris, Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, \$570 payable by note on January 1, 1852, dated November 1, 1850, filed January 3, 1851, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed S. Norris, et ux, to W. R. D. Ward, Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, \$570 cash, dated December 30, 1851, filed December 30, 1851, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed W. R. D. Ward to C. A. Stinson, Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, \$1,000 "cash in hand paid," dated February 9, 1855, filed June 13, 1862, Vol. T, page 288, Deed Records of Harrison County.

(Mrs. C. A. Stinson inherited on the death of her husband. M. M. McPhail was appointed administrator on January 21, 1870, after the death of Mrs. Stinson. Citation to sell the west half of Block 42 was posted August 16, 1873, at Jonesville, Hallsville and at the courthouse in Marshall: "Whereas John R. Stinson, William G. Hazen and his wife Fannie M. Hazen and S. Ella Stinson, residents of Harrison County, have filed in the office of the district clerk of Harrison County their petition asking for the sale of real estate belonging to the estate of C. A. Stinson, deceased, to wit: the west half of Block 42, in the City of Marshall, to satisfy a mortgage given by C. A. Stinson in his lifetime to David Stinson as trustee for said petitioners; that said mortgage has not been paid and that the same has been deuly probated and allowed by the administrator of C. A. Stinson's estate to wit, by M. M. McPhail, administrator.")

- Administrator's Deed M. M. McPhail to John R. Stinson, west half of Block 42, \$1750, dated February 28, 1874, filed May 5, 1874, one-half undivided interest, Vol. 2, page 518, Deed Records of Harrison County.
- Administrator's Deed M. M. McPhail to John R. Stinson, undivided one-half interest in the west half of Block 42, \$150, dated January 8, 1879, filed April 29, 1879, original papers.
- Inventory and Appraisal The west half of Block 42, a "homestead," valued at \$1200, filed April 29, 1879, original papers.
- Warranty Deed Will G. Hazen, Fannie M. Hazen and S. Ella Stinson, to John R. Stinson, undivided one-half interest in the west half of Block 42, \$875 cash, dated July 30, 1874, filed August 1, 1874, Vol. 2, page 727, Deed Records of Harrison County.
- Warranty Deed Sam J. Burton to John R. Stinson, "undivided interest in Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, dated August 10, 1878, filed August 12, 1878, \$126, Vol. 8, page 152, Deed Records of Harrison County.
- Judgment, District Court of Harrison County Certified copy in abstract of title, John R. Stinson vs Lee Stinson, et al, No. 524, dated February 12, 1909, filed February 13, 1909, decreeing a partition between said parties of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 42, "and the improvements thereon, commissioners set apart to John R. Stinson Lots 3 and 4 and the two story house and barn and all improvements thereon, free from the claims and interest of Lee Stinson, Jennie Stinson and Sallie Jer-nigan, valuing same at the sum of \$6,000 . . ." Vol. 68, page 134, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Warranty Deed

John R. Stinson to Walter D. Minton, Jr., dated February 16, filed February 17, 1909, Lots 3 and 4, Block 42, \$6,000, Vol. 68, page 138, Deed Records of Harrison County.

(Walter D. Minton, Jr., died November 8, 1918. Mrs. Minton was appointed administratrix of the estate. W. L. Barry, Mrs. Minton's brother-in-law, was appointed guardian of the estates of Margaret Isabel Minton, 14, and Mary Irvine Minton, 6.)

Guardian's Deed

W. L. Barry to Mrs. Belle Minton, undivided half-interest in Lots 3 and 4, \$1650, dated June 6, 1921, filed June 7, 1921, Vol. 119, page 581, Deed Records of Harrison County.

Marriage

E. P. Gaines and Mrs. Belle Fry Minton, October 20, 1923, Vol. 23, page 187, Marriage Records of Harrison County.

(E. P. Gaines died April 20, 1927.)

Warranty Deed

Belle Fry Gaines to Margaret Minton Walker and Mary Irvine Harkins, Lots 3 and 4, Block 42, as their separate property and estate and for their own separate use and benefit, "love and affection," dated December 8, 1959, filed January 7, 1960, Vol. 536, page 541, Deed Records of Harrison County.

NAME : _____

CO
CITY QUAD BLK
LOT _____

ADDRESS : _____



VIEW: _____

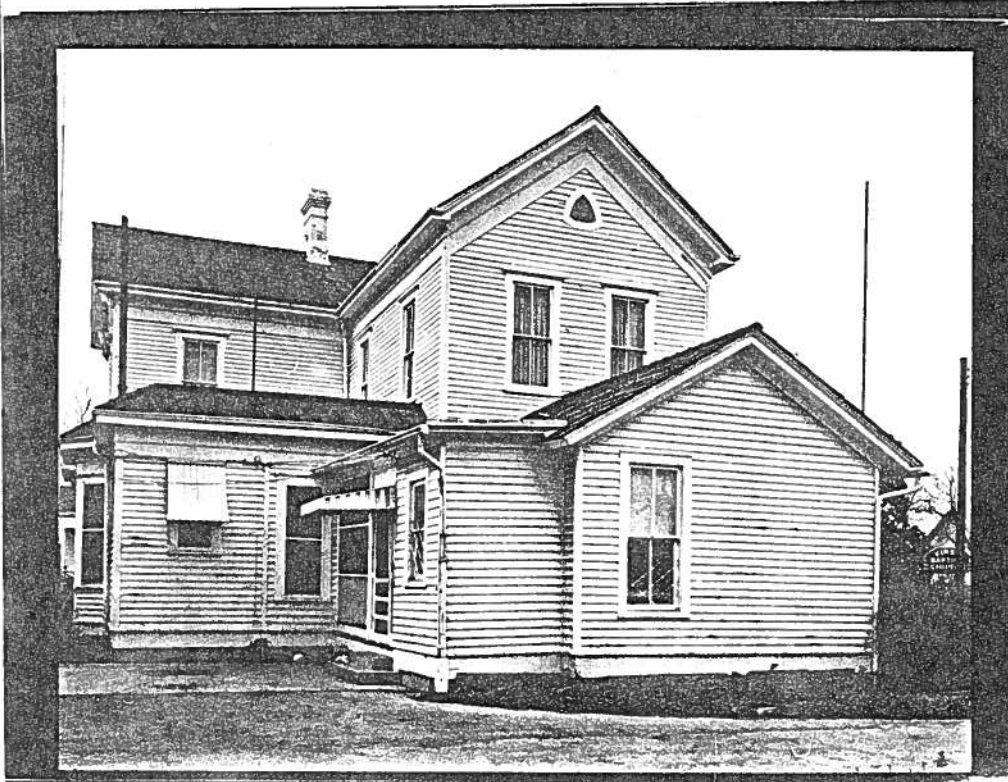
RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

NAME : _____

CO
CITY QUAD BLK
LOT _____

ADDRESS : _____



VIEW: _____

RECORDED BY: _____

DATE: _____

COUNTY
CITY

BLOCK H4H
LOT: MR

NAME: BELL-GAINES HOUSE

COUNTY: HARRISON

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: MARSHALL

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: _____

PERIOD: _____

OWNER: _____

DATE: _____

THEME: _____

STYLE: _____

DESCRIPTION: TWO STORY FRAME HOUSE "T"-SHAPE IN PLAN, W/ ADDITIONS TO THE HOUSE. THE FACADE IS SYMMETRICAL W/A 2 STORY GALLERY PORCH, IONIC FLUTED COLUMNS, & TURNED DOWN BALUSTRADE.

SIGNIFICANCE: _____

DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER OTHER: _____

ORIGINAL USE: RESIDENCE

PRESENT USE: VACANT

PHYSICAL CONDITION: GOOD

altered/unaltered: ADDITIONS TO THE PLAN

CONSTRUCTION: wall: WOOD FRAME roof: COMPOSITION

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: _____

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: _____

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA: _____

INFORMANT: _____

RECORDED BY: BARNEY WAGNER

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA: _____

DATE: _____

SEE INFO/CORRESPONDENCE FILES: _____

COUNTY
CITY

UAD

BLOCK HAH
LOT: MR

NAME: BEL-PAINES HOME

ADDRESS: _____

COUNTY: HARRISON

CITY: MARSHALL

PERIOD: _____

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: _____

DATE: _____

OWNER: _____

THEME: _____

STYLE: _____

DESCRIPTION: TWO STORY FRAME HOME "T"-SHAPE IN PLAN. W/ ANTIQUE PORTICO. THE FRONT IS SYMMETRICAL - W/ A 2-STORY WALL OF PILLARS, IONIC FLUTED COLUMNS, & FOLDED DOWN BALUSTRADE.

SIGNIFICANCE: _____

DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER OTHER: _____

ORIGINAL USE: RESIDENCE

PRESENT USE: VACANT

PHYSICAL CONDITION: GOOD

altered/unaltered: ALTERED TO THE DEATH

CONSTRUCTION: wall: WOOD FRAME roof: COMPOSITE

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: _____

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: _____

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA: _____

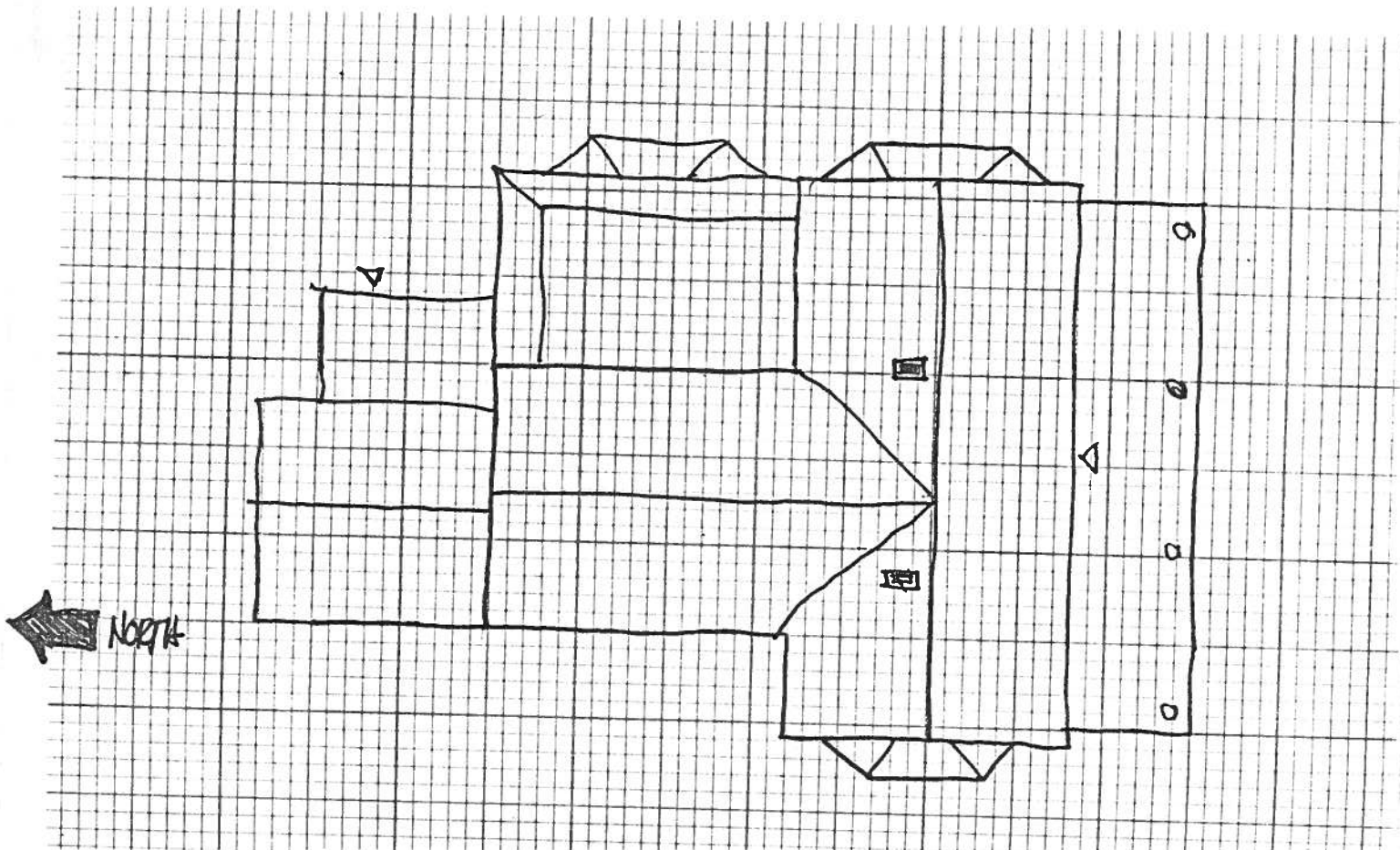
INFORMANT: _____

RECORDED BY: EMERY WAGNER

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA: _____

DATE: _____

SEE INFO/CORRESPONDENCE FILES: _____



"Texas and Texans"
Printed 1914
Vol. 5.

John R. Stinson, a retired merchant of Marshall and representative of the pioneer families of Texas, dates his birth in 1849, on his father's farm, two miles southeast of the present court house at Marshall.

Mr Stinson's father, Samuel Stinson, was born in Smith county, Tenn. In 1844, with his brother, David Stinson, he came from Tenn. and settled in Harrison county, Texas, near Marshall. A few years later he moved to town.

David Stinson was a lawyer, prominent and influential and at one time served as county judge of Harrison County.

Samuel Stinson also figured in public service here. He was elected to the office of County Clerk, which he filled for several years, and from which he resigned a year before his death, which occurred in 1854.

The mother of John R. Stinson was Tynthia (Baker) Stinson. She was born in Miss., and in the early 40's came with her parents to Harrison County, Texas. She died in 1868. In 1858 shortly

(2)
after the death of her husband, she bought a home in Marshall, which comprised practically the block, bounded by Austin, Fulton, Rush, and Franklin Streets, and in this block, John R. Stinson has ever since made his home.

In his youth, Mr. Stinson had the advantage of being a pupil in one of the best schools in this part of Texas at that time. That in charge of Prof. Morgan H. Looney, at Gilmer, in which a number of prominent Texas characters were educated. His first business experience was as a clerk in a store at Marshall. That was in 1869, and continued thus employed until he engaged in business for himself. He conducted a mercantile business at Marshall up to 1902, when he retired from active life.

Mr. Stinson served one term as mayor of Marshall. In 1908 he had the misfortune to lose his wife, who before marriage was Miss Sallie Callaway. Their only child is Robert Lee Stinson.

(This was copied from the above mentioned book. It shows the wife of Samuel Stinson as Cynthia Baker Stinson. I found the marriage record of Samuel Stinson and Cynthia Ann Burton on microfilm, at the Ft. Worth

(3) Library. Also no mention of Anna Maud,
but on the 1880 Census for Harrison
County, it shows:

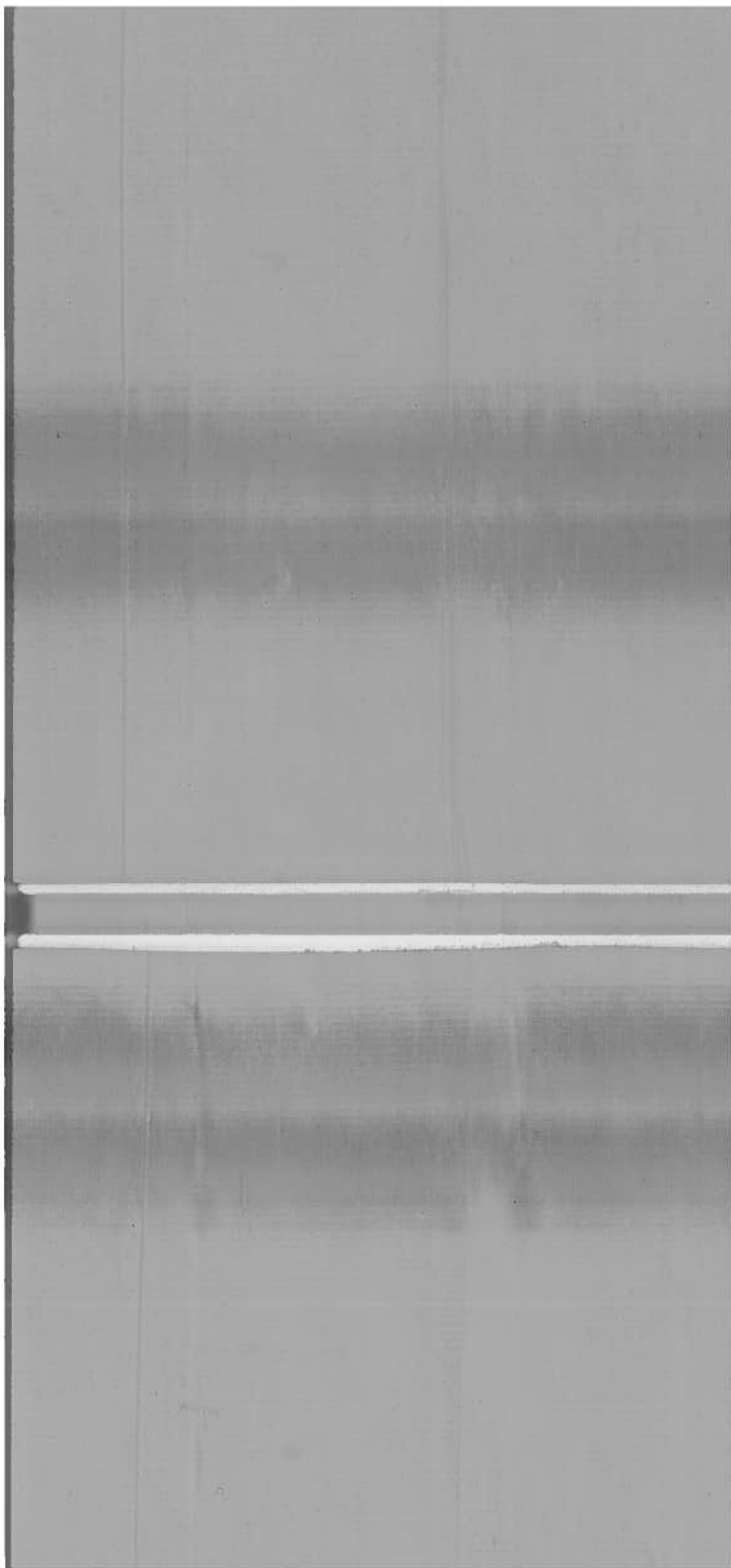
John R. - 31, born Texas
Sallie R. - 23, born Texas
Anna M. - 4 born Texas
Robert L. 9/12 born Texas

Marriage records at Harrison County:

Samuel Stinson and Cynthia Ann Burton ~~May 1, 1843~~
May 1, 1843
John W. Browning and Matilda Stinson
March 2, 1848
David Stinson and Sarah R. Lo Rell
Aug 11, 1846
G. W. Hazen and Fanny Stinson
Feb. 2, 1869
John R. Stinson and Sallie R. Calloway
Sept. 1, 1875

Copied: Sept. 25, 1969

by Mrs G. E. Claunck Burk - 2149
5901 Glorius Ct.
Watauga, Texas
76248





July 7, 1978

Dear Mrs Read,

I have received your letter of July 3, 1978 requesting information regarding my grandparents home, John R. and Sallie Callaway Stinson, that has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

I am delighted with this news and hope I may accurately help you.

I do not believe there is any connection between my grandmother Sallie Stinson and the Sallie Stinson who married Governor James Stephen Hogg.

I have received some information on the Stinson family from Vol. 5,

"Texas and Texans"

Printed 1914

I have a copy of this article should you wish it.

John R. Stinson and Sallie R. Callaway were married according to the Harrison County marriage records,

September 1, 1975

Sallie R. Calloway Stinson died
in 1908.

They only had this one marriage.

I trust this will be of some
help. If I can be of any further assistance,
please let me know.

Sincerely,

Virginia Lee Stinson Lane

Friday PM

P.S. I have decided to enclose a copy of "Texas
& Texans - Printed 1914 - Vol. 5 -"

VLL

RECEIVED
JUL 20 1978

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Harrison _____

I Approve of the inscription for _____
The Belle Fry Gaines House

as sent to me August 17, 1978 _____ with one ex-
ception as noted.

Max S. Lee
signed

August 28, 1978
date

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

BOX 12242 • CAPITOL STATION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 • PHONE 475-3208

August 25, 1978

Mr. Bill Southwell, Jr.
The Southwell Company
P.O. Drawer 293
San Antonio, Texas 78206

5328

RE: _____

RE: 1774 - Medallion with 16" x 12" plate
without post

The Belle Fry Gaines House

Harrison _____ County

Dear Mr. Southwell:

Enclosed is an application for #1774 - Medallion with 16" x 12" plate
without post, The Belle Fry Gaines House, Marshall, Harrison
County, Texas.

We would appreciate a rubbing of this inscription.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Ann Goldman
/ag

SHIP TO: Mrs. Perry Harkins
1000 East Austin
Marshall, Texas 75670



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWRENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 11, 2002

Rusty Asaff
Action Realty
1002 E. Grand Avenue
Marshall, TX 75670

Re: *Belle-Fry-Gaines House, Marshall, Harrison County (RTHL)*

Dear Mr. Asaff:

Thank you for contacting our office on August 27, 2002 via telephone regarding the proposed moving of the Belle-Fry-Gaines House in Marshall. We would like to clarify the regulations that are associated with the building's Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation.

According to the provisions of the Texas Government Code, Chapter 442, Section 442.006(f):

A person may not damage the historical or architectural integrity of a structure the commission has designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark without notifying the commission at least 60 days before the date on which the action causing the damage is to begin. After receiving the notice, the commission may waive the waiting period or, if the commission determines that a longer period will enhance the chance for preservation, it may require an additional waiting period of not longer than 30 days. On the expiration of the time limits imposed by this section, the person may proceed, but must proceed not later than the 180th day after the date on which notice was given or the notice is considered to have expired.

The commission must be provided notice of the specifics of the proposed work **in writing from the property owner**. As we have not received this official notice for the proposed move (including details about the proposed new location for the house), the waiting period has not yet begun.

For your reference I am enclosing some materials that describe in more detail the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark program.

Thank you for your interest in the cultural heritage of Texas. If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Jeffrey Harris at 512/463-7687.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Harris".

Jeffrey Harris, Preservation Specialist
for: F. Lawrence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Margaret O. Agnor, Harrison County Historical Commission

FLO/JH

April 2, 2004

Harrison Co.

Richard Trimble
3145 Stanford Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75225

Dear Mr. Trimble:

Members of the Harrison County Historical Commission have noticed that you are doing construction work on the exterior of your house at 313 West Austin Street in Marshall.

The property, Belle Fry Gaines House, is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, the highest honor the state can bestow on an historic structure. Because it is an historically and architecturally significant Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, **all proposed work to the exterior must undergo review by the Texas Historical Commission before beginning.**

As the owner of a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark-designated structure, you must contact the Texas Historical Commission **before** any alterations are made to the exterior of your property. Unsympathetic changes to your house may result in fines, removal of the designation, and removal of the historical marker.

As soon as possible, please call the Texas Historical Commission's area architectural reviewer: **Jeffery Harris, Architectural Reviewer, Department of Architecture, Texas Historical Commission, 512-632-8750.**

Mr. Harris will carefully guide you in whatever work you undertake on your house, help you to keep the architectural integrity of your property intact, and help you retain the historical designation and marker on your house.

Thank you for owning and caring for a grand piece of Texas history.

Sincerely,

Margaret Agnor, Chair
Harrison County Historical Commission

Cc: Jeffery Harris, Architectural Reviewer, Texas Historical Commission
Dan Utley, Historical Marker Program, Texas Historical Commission