

16" x 12" Official Texas Historical Building Marker
Harrison County - 11-23-73 - 615 N. Washington St.,
Marshall

NS

GINOCCHIO-COOK-PEDISON HOUSE

ITALIAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS LEADER

CHARLES GINOCCHIO (1844-98) AND WIFE

ROXANA SETTLED IN MARSHALL IN 1871;

BUILT THIS HOME, 1886. ARCHITECT:

C. G. LANCASTER, DESIGNER OF COUNTY

COURTHOUSE. IN GINOCCHIO HOUSEHOLD

WAS A NEPHEW, GEORGE J. SIGNAIGO,

WHOSE PARENTS-IN-LAW, MR. AND MRS.

BEHN COOK, BOUGHT PLACE IN 1900, HAD

SIGNAIGOS LIVE WITH THEM UNTIL 1912,

RETAINED TITLE UNTIL 1945. OWNERS

SINCE 1945: GRECIAN-AMERICANS, MR.

AND MRS. A. P. PEDISON, EX-OPERATORS

OF GINOCCHIO HOTEL DINING ROOM.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1973

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

Harrison County Aug. 14, 1973 Date

1. Ginoecchio-Synaigo-Pedison House Marker title or subject 4007

2. Same as (1) Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, etc., where marker is to be placed

3. 615 N. Washington Ave. 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 the nearest town shown on a current Texas road map. For example, "Marker will be in Bastrop Beach, which is 6 miles southeast of Angleton on FM 523."

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

6. Mr. & Mrs. A.P. Pedison Owner of marker site Marshall, Texas Address City

7. Owner and H.C. Survey Committee, Marshall, Texas Sponsor of marker Address City

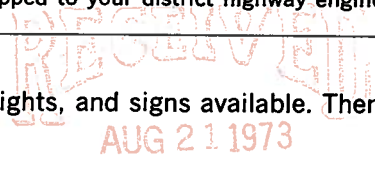
8. Mass S. Lane Endorsement of county chairman 3704 Fitzgerald Address Marshall City

9. A.P. Pedison Person to whom marker is to be shipped 615 North Washington Street Address Marshall, Texas 752 City

Note: If marker is to be placed on a highway right-of-way, it will automatically be shipped to your district highway engineer.

ORDER FORM

Please consult the marker catalog for specifications of the markers, paperweights, and signs available. Then check the items desired below.



HISTORICAL MARKERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker with post \$400 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker marker with post \$ 95 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker without post \$375 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker without post \$ 80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker with post \$200 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building plaque only \$ 60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker without post \$175 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14" medallion only (for replacement purposes) \$ 20 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) \$ 80 |

MARKER REPLICA PAPERWEIGHT

This item should be ordered at the same time marker is ordered. Indicate quantity desired.

- 3" x 4" plastic paperweight with replica of marker inside \$ 25

SCOTCHLITE HIGHWAY DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

- Please indicate quantity desired.
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign \$ 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 22" Historic Route sign (in black-and-white only) \$ 25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> black-and-white (for state highways, U.S. highways) | <input type="checkbox"/> with arrow pointing straight ahead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> green-and-white (for interstate highways) | <input type="checkbox"/> with arrow pointing left |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> with arrow pointing right |

Mail this application and your narrative history, together with a check made payable to the Texas Historical Foundation, to

Research Department
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Please note that no applications will be accepted unless payment is included. You will be notified as soon as possible if your application is approved. If it is not approved, your check and other material will be returned. In general, at least 90 days are required to process and manufacture an historical marker. For rush orders, a surcharge of 50 percent over and above the regular price will be assessed to cover the cost of special handling. Under no circumstances will applications be accepted for processing in less than 45 days.

Ginocchio-Pedison House

(First and last owners, in between owners were Behn Cook and the George J. Signaigo family.)

4007

615 N. Washington Avenue, Marshall, Texas City Outlot 86, N.W. and Lot 21, Mason Addition, in a part of the Peter Whatstone League Grant of Land. This property was examined by 2 members of the survey team from Austin under Gary Hume when they made their second trip to Marshall in the Fall of '72 to inventory property for the Texas Program of the National Register, Theodore Power and John Volz.

Structure Checklist:

- 1. Prior owners of the lots following Peter Whetstone were J.H. Van Hook et ux, and L.H. Norwood et ux. Charles A. Ginocchio had rented the property from the owners before purchasing it for the purpose of operating a brick yard. The kiln has been located on the property, date for this operation was 1876. Early ownership from Abstract.

Charles A. Ginocchio, builder of the house, purchased the lots as follows: lot 21, from J. H. Van Hook et ux in 1885. Book 21, page 138 H.C. Deed Records. Lot 86 was purchased from L.H. Norwood et us, in 1886, Deed Records of Harrison County, Book 21, Page 137.

The Estate of Charles Ginocchio sold the house and lots to the parents of Mrs. George J. Signaigo (wife of the nephew of the builder) Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook Jan. 31, 1900. Deed Records Harrison County, Book 59, pg. 349. By affidavit, Dec. 22, 1919 shared title of the property with the Cook s' daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Signaigo. (from abstract)

The title passed to the George J. Signaigo in the estate of Mrs. Behn Cook. The property was sold on April 12, 1945 to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. A.P. Pedison. Deed Records Book 284, Page 101, deed from Elizabeth Cook Signaigo and George J. Signaigo to the A.P. Pedisons.

- 2. The house was constructed almost immediately on purchase of the property, according to personal interviews with descendants. The property was bought to furnish accomodations for the enlarged Ginocchio family, brought about when Roxie Walters Ginocchio brought her sisters' orphaned sons to Marshall to live wwith the Charles Ginocchio. (See A-2 and A-3 attached.)
- 3. Charles Ginocchio was an affluent business tycoon. He operated restaurants along the railroad lines in Arkansas, Texarkana, Marshall, Longview, Mineola, Dallas, and Fort Worth. After his frail daughter was born, they felt the need to settle in one city and they selected Marshall, in 1878. In 1876 he had built a Hotel, named the Ginocchio, with restaurant in Ft. Worth at the western terminus of the railroad, Later in 1896 he built the new Ginocchio Hotel in Marshall, next door to his 2 storied brick home (shown in photograph, now in hotel....the home in the backgrouur with the hotel under construction in the foreground.) See A-4 concerning daughter's frail health, and death...attached.)

(1844-1898)

4. The builder was Italian, born Charles A. Ginocchio, whose family left their picturesque home in Borzonasca, Italy when he was but 4 years of age. The Ginocchio family ~~were~~ prosperous people. With their close family friends, the Signaigo's, (Joseph and Mary) the Ginocchio's left Italy in 1848 due to disillusionment over the lack of unity in their homeland after various political rebellions. (See attached A-1). They moved to Richmond, Va. where both Charles Ginocchio and his childhood friend John Augustine Signaigo grew to young manhood and joined Robert E. Lee's army serving the CSA during the War Between the States with devotion and dedication.

After the war, the Ginocchio family moved to Little Rock, Ark. and Charles' friend, soon to become his brother-in-law, Joseph Augustine (Gus) moved to Memphis, Tenn., and then to Grenada, Mississippi, following a career in journalism, see A-1 last paragraph, attached for honors and detail of career, including that of serving as Italian Vice Consul from the State of Tennessee.)

In 1869 Charles Ginocchio visited his friend in Grenada where he met Roxana (Roxie) Walters (1850-1892). The two friends married sisters, Roxana became Mrs. Charles A. Ginocchio. Alice Walters became Mrs. J. Augustine Signaigo. They were the daughters of the very distinguished George C. Walters family. The daughters had been orphaned when George C. Walters and his wife had been killed in an accident on the way to their plantation home up the River in 1867. The Walters' home in Grenada was on Depot St.

In the meantime Charles and Roxie Ginocchio had moved to Little Rock, Ark. where their one child, Stella (1871-1887) was born. They moved to Marshall and made this their permanent home ^{in the year} 1871. Although his home was Marshall, he owned vast amounts of real estate in Fort Worth and many other cities and towns. Ginocchio invested in utility bonds and local civic bonds. (Certificates are in the Harrison County Museum). He operated "a large and sumptuous, elegant saloon under the old opera house uptown" (now where Matthewson Drug, and Pelz Jewelers are located. The stairs to the wine cellar and cellar are still used by the drug store for storage.)

*Spelling
shown in the
sumptuous*

Ginocchio also operated the Ginocchio Depot Restaurant next to the Express Office, and Ticket Office of the railroad. This property was purchased by Ginocchio from the Texas and Pacific (Deed Records of H.C.) and he later constructed the new Ginocchio Hotel around the old office, which is now the kitchen off the hotel and still used as such. (Pictures of this construction and also of the original buildings are framed and on the wall in the Coffee Shop of the hotel in Marshall today.) Ginocchio also operated a brickyard, on the property which he bought in 1865-1866 where he constructed his home.

Charles Ginocchio was host to the state's most affluent and prominent Railroad magnates. He often travelled to and from Marshall-Ft. Worth on the private car of the RR Presidents. (A number of pictures attest to this in the company of such dignitaries, both in the Museum and at the Hotel.) He played cards and dominoes with such personalities as Maj. Gen. K.M. Van Zandt, L.S. Thorne (Pres. and Gen. Manager of the T & P)

Family papers attest to the fact that Ginocchio was indeed instrumental or responsible for the T&P hiring Mr. Thorne. Other close personal friends of the wealthy hotel-owner and restaurateur were John W. Everman, Supervisor of Public Utilities in Dallas, John B. Laneri who later became a Ft. Worth partner in his enterprises. A close friend who helped him establish his hotel in Fort Worth was Col. John Peter Smith, called The Father of Fort Worth and who had moved to that place in 1859. Other well-known personages who visited with and were friends of the Charles Ginocchios were Winfield Scott, Col. B.B. Padlock, John H. Hoxie, Capt. M.B. Loyd and Howard W. Peak, to enumerate but a few.

Ginocchio's daughter Stella died a tragic death (details in A..4 attached.) Charles left shrines to Stella's memory in Little Rock, Ark. at St. Andrews Cathedral, a beautiful marble altar, a stained glass window, and one of the Stations of the Cross. Later when he and his nephew Gus visited Italy he had a beautiful marble monument made for Stella and his beloved wife Roxie who had also died. They are pictured ~~with the original~~ copies of the original photographs used by the sculptor (attached, pictures). The monuments are in Greenwood Cemetery in Marshall, Texas.

A yellow fever epidemic took the lives of Ginocchio's brother-in-law Gus Signaigo, and later his sister-in-law (his wife's sister, Alice Signaigo). Their sons survived. (Read details in A-2 & 3.) Roxie Walters Ginocchio brought her orphaned nephews to Marshall where Charles and Roxie raised them ~~as their own sons~~ as their own sons. Detailed story attached.

(11/22/1873-3/19/1952)

One of the nephews George J. Signaigo married Elizabeth Cook, (9/25/1876-11/13/1947) who was the daughter of native Marshallites Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook, who bought the Ginocchio house from the estate in 1900. The Cooks were quite prominent and their home was a social meeting place, as recorded in both A & B attached. Mr. Cook, a Surveyor, and the County Tax Assessor, and Land Agent. Gov. Jim Ferguson appointed Behn Cook and Honnicut of Marlin to survey the western border line between Texas and Oklahoma. (Family papers also recorded by granddaughter in attached B page 4)

The George Signaigo's also owned the property. Their influence and affluence are recorded in attached detailed information.

In 1945 Mr. and Mrs. A.P. Pedison bought the home. They are living there today. Both are naturalized citizens who came to the U.S.A. from the picturesque little Greek Island of Kios near the coast of Turkey and old Smyrna. The two Pedison brothers, Jimmy and A.P., came to New York in 1912. They moved to Marshall in 1924 to work for the Demittract Brothers (S & D) who had bought the Ginocchio Hotel. They lived at the hotel at this time. In 1930 A.P. Pedison received his citizenship papers, and in 1933 Mrs. A.P. Pedison received her papers. They were registered in Jefferson when the Federal District Court was located there before moving to Marshall. After Mrs. Cook's death in 1942 the Pedison family rented the house being surveyed. Jimmy Pedison returned to Greece soon after World War II, but the A.P. Pedison's remained here. In 1945 the A.P. Pedisons bought the house at 615 N. Washington, where they live today. Their children are James, Angela, Jimmy, Helen and Johnny, and all have been born in this house. (We do not have their birthdates, both Mr. and Mrs. Pedison speak broken English, Mr. Pedison has had a stroke, however, Helen will furnish this information in about a month when she comes to Marshall.)

The Pedison's operated the lunchroom at the Ginocchio Hotel until the passenger trains stopped running and soon after Hobart Key, Jr., and Gaines Baldwin purchased the hotel. The Pedison's live quietly at this residence. They have recently painted the inside and the outside wood trim. They have made no structural changes. About 1945 the North side porch was taken off, it had rotted out. The flower pit as it was called, is still in use on the South Side of the house, and a dependancy house lived in by the negro brick man Webb is still on the property. The Conservation Society has booked their September Quarterly Tea-Tour of this house.

5. The architect who designed the house was C.G. Lancaster, who had designed the old courthouse, home of the Harrison County Historical Museum. Mr. Ginocchio served as his own contractor. (Family interview with descendants), *he was also Architect for Ginocchio Hotel*
6. The two storied home built of handmade brick, made and fired on the property, is a Blend of Victorian architectural style, popular in the period it was built with Italian-Mediterranean carved wooden trim on the exterior of the house a personality characteristic of the fusion of cultures that characterized the Italian born builder and his Plantation born, Mississippi bred wife of Anglo-Saxon heritage. The tall structure is pictured in the photo section showing a tall man on a ladder, looking relatively small in comparison as he paints the exterior wood trim. Close up pictures show window detail, the Rolak arches, carved cornices overhead each window and door, the quarter circle skylight dormers on the N. Side shot, storm cellar door (also door to tunnel). The lattice work trim at the N. Rear part of the home is in good repair and was there when the house was constructed. On the South Side of the house there is a brick "flower pit" which the early owners all used with pride.

The house had and has 10 rooms, originally there were 5 porches now there are ~~four~~ The house has two bathrooms upstairs and one bathroom downstairs. These were added. There were, and still are three fireplaces and mantels upstairs and three downstairs. These are the original mantels. The two outbuildings are the flower pit, mentioned and the dependency house. Both are the originals.

7. Mr. Ginocchio employed the craftsmen at the Texas and Pacific Shops to mill the woodwork used in the buildings decor. Some of the same curly pine from Louisiana used in the Ginocchio is also in this house, and the same style of window facings and trim, are also characteristic of the interior of the house. Fine sliding doors, molding, and plinth. In the living room the 13ft. 9in. ceilings, jambs and heads are all very wide with ribbed vertical and grooved decorative trim on all facings at windows and doors. Multi-circle ornamentation of plinths. Very wide baseboards are throughout the house. Most of the doorknobs are white porcelain and the stair detail is most unusual. There is a lovely old newel post. Outside the engaged columns are more Mediterranean than Victorian, but the cupola and finial are Victorian.

8. The residence is a private home, and since its construction always has been a home, never used as a public building of any kind.

The builder was a wealthy man, the location suited his need to be located between his two main businesses in the city of Marshall. It was a fine home, built of handmade brick and with handsome woodwork and plastered walls. It was a home where important people came and were warmly received.

9. There ~~is~~ ^{are} only one or two minor structural changes. (1) The chimneys were removed at the roofline. (2) The n. side porch has been removed. Both of these changes took place in 1945 ^{and were made} by the present owner. The chimneys were crumbling, and the n. porch had rotted. The building has not been moved. Onside, the only changes are additions within the regular partitioned walls ~~for~~ the bathrooms, made in the early 1900's by the Behn Cooks, and a kitchen that has been modernized by the present owners, the A.P. Pedisons.
10. The current condition of the structure is excellent. We were very alarmed up here last year, when the urban renewal people, (community development) studied it, as it was within the area designated for the community development program. However, the building was still in good shape, and the owners have had all of the outside trim painted, inside painted and the grounds have been trimmed and planted, and it is ^a very lovely old place, and will not be razed. We are most anxious to get this medallion to help us and the owners to preserve this historic old house, so there will not be questions raised again about the building, ^{and} about the need to preserve this lovely old place.
11. Photographs of various elevations of the building are attached. At the top of the first page of photographs is a picture of the original structure. The other pictures were made Spring of '73 when the painting was in progress. One will note, the only changes appear to be the chimneys ^s and the one n. porch that has been removed, and some slight alteration at roofline necessary for vents for an attic fan cooler.
12. (Does not apply)
13. As previously mentioned, up until ¹⁹⁴² ~~1948~~ this residence was a center of social and economic activity (see attached A & B family histories that go into detail, the various friends and social groups that graced this home. Since 1942, it has been the home of the Pedison s, naturalized Greek citizens of Greek heritage who have raised their family here and lived here quietly since 1942 where they rented the home until 1945, buying it at that time.
14. The home is a historic place, a sentinel of the fusion of cultures that the railroad brought to Marshall when it extended westward, with Marshall it's gateway into Texas from the East. The railroad brought many people. The Ginocchio's, Signaigos and their families who married into pioneer Marshall families, were among the very best. They were constructive and creative citizens. The three Signaigo girls, daughters of the George J. Signaigo's who once lived here are all married to very very prominent Dallas men. They returned for the Conservation Society's StageCoach Days tour

or rather two of them, Mrs. Rice and Mrs. Selectman, they too expressed the hope that the State's Texas Historical Commission will designate this structure to be worthy of recognition for a medallion. We are most indebted to these very busy and socially involved ladies for their interviews and family papers, histories, and pictures in this effort.

The Harrison County Survey Committee, H.C. Historical Society and its distaff arm, The H.C. Conservation Society have all worked jointly in this preservation and recognition effort, deeming it worthy to be preserved as a historic landmark.

15. Harrison County Deed Records
Files of the Ginocchio, Signaigo Families in the Harrison County Historical Museum.

Abstract on the house.

Interviews with the A.P. Pedison's and their daughter Helen, spring of '73.

Interviews with Mrs. J. Percival Rice, and Mrs. Frank Selectman of Dallas.

Attached family histories of the Ginocchio and Signaigo Families and the Behn Cook Family compiled by Alice Signaigo Rice.

This narrative compiled by Mrs. James K. Abney, Sr.
Marshall, Texas, 75670 P.O. Box 92.
Member of the H.C. Survey Comm.
Assigned to survey this house by the
Comm. Ch. Max Lale.

SIGNAIGO AND GINOCCHIO
FAMILY HISTORY

4007

If you follow the coast south from Genoa, Italy, in what is universally known as the eastern Riviera of the Mediterranean, you will come to the beautiful little city of Chiavari. From here turn north and follow the Trebbia River for about eight miles to Borzonasca, which lies at the foot of Mt. Griffi, in the Appennines. A short distance up the mountain a very old and famous Spa, St. Mary Of The Meadow, commonly called Sopra-La Croce, lies just above the confluence of two streams. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, besides the health springs, the little town boasted a large resort hotel, The Pittaluga, a lovely fountain, and among other things, an old Gothic⁽¹⁾ Church. In this church yard, lie many generations of ancestors of the Signaigo family. Here, in Sopra-La-Croce was born Joseph Angelo Signaigo (1800-1854), and here he married Mary Elizabeth Ghio (1799-1866). In the lovely old church had been baptized their five children - Catherine, Madeline, Joseph Augustine (Jan. 14, 1835 - Jan. 1, 1876), Mary and John Baptiste. (See birth certificate of Augustine, baptized by Rev. Antonio Neschio).

In the nineteenth century, in Italy, as all over Western Europe, the democratic spirit had risen in spite of repression. Leaders like Guiseppe Mazzini and Guiseppe Garibaldi, led the Italian movement. Many people in Italy hoped that national unity would follow all the upheaval, but they were disappointed. Local jealousies were too strong. The States would not work together.

Ambitious and appreciative of the possibilities of the United States of America in 1846, Joseph Angelo Signaigo and his close friends, John T. Ginocchio and his family from Borzonasca, decided to depart their native land and cast their lot in America. Landing first in New York, the two families journeyed on to make their home in Richmond, Virginia.

Joseph Augustine (Gus), the oldest son in the Signaigo family, was given the best education available. He spoke seven languages fluently and was an ardent student in history, economics and politics, but the real love of his life was poetry. He read, translated and wrote poetry from childhood.

In 1860, when Gus was 25, he and his friend, Charles Ginocchio, offered their services to the Confederacy. Charles was placed in the commissary department. Colonel Signaigo was enthusiastic in his support of the cause and later wrote many⁽¹⁾ poems about the various battles, life in the South, and about Gen. Robert E. Lee whom he idolized and under whom he served.

The Signaigo family moved to Memphis, Tenn., while the Ginocchio family chose Little Rock, Ark. Joseph Augustine Signaigo (Gus) selected journalism as his chosen profession. He worked for various papers, including one in Cairo, Ill., but finally went to work for the Memphis Appeal. At the same time he also wrote articles and poems for the New York Mercury; Waverly Magazine, Niagra Falls; Scott's Magazine, Atlanta, Ga.; and other publications. In 1866 he revisited Italy, his

native land, while serving in the capacity of Italian Vice Consul of the State of Tenn. In 1867, he bought a weekly newspaper in Granada, Miss., and renamed it The Granada Sentinel. His friend, Charles Ginocchio, came to Granada, and the two friends married the two daughters of George C. Walters who died in 1863 and his wife, who had been killed in an accident on the way to their plantation up the River in 1867. Roxana (1850 - 1892) became Mrs. C. A. Ginocchio, and Alice (1852 - 1878) became Mrs. J. Augustine Signaigo. The Signaigo family and the two younger Walters boys, John and William, moved into the large colonial Walter's home on Depot St. Alice and Gus had three sons, Augustine Walters Signaigo (6-5-1869 - Died Oct. 28, 1899), John B. (Aug. 30, 1870 - Died June 24, 1871), George Joseph Signaigo (Born Nov. 22, 1873 - Died March 19, 1952).

In the meantime, Charles and Roxie Ginocchio had moved to Little Rock, Ark. They had one daughter, Stella (1871 - 1887). At this time Little Rock was the terminus of the Iron Mountain Railway. One day while at the station, Charlie was so impressed with the lack of facilities for taking care of its patrons that he conceived the idea of establishing hotels and eating accommodations at the end of the terminus of railroads. He was young and hot headed and had succeeded in getting mixed up in politics, so he left town and had little or no trouble contacting the proper parties and selling them his idea. Soon, where the Missouri-Pacific reached the banks of the Red River at Texarkana, he planted his first roots in Texas soil. He successfully founded a well appointed R. R. Restaurant on the very premises of the trunk-line. However, he was not a one-town man, so it was with what amounted to nostalgia that he watched the rails spread slowly south. Finally not even success could hold him, and leaving someone in charge, he followed the new rail lines to Marshall, Texas. When he was awaiting the arrival of his first child, he determined to establish a permanent home in Marshall. He lived on N. Washington Ave. in a small house about the middle of the 500 block. He owned what was described in those days as "a large, sumptuous, elegant saloon located under the Opera House uptown." He still continued to operate the Ginocchio Depot Restaurant next to the Express Co. and Ticket Office. It was at this time that the incident occurred when Jim Currie killed the actor, Ben Porter, and wounded Maurice Barrymore (father of Lionel, John and Ethel). Charles Ginocchio was the first one to get to Mr. Porter and sent for the Catholic priest.

A few years earlier, back in Granada, Miss., it seemed that everyone in town was taking quinine for fever and night sweats. Gus was printing warnings against the "Yellow Jack" constantly in his paper. However, he became ill himself and died Oct. 1, 1876. Alice and the boys visited Marshall, at which time she decided she was unable to run the paper by herself. She returned to Granada, sold the paper, and was preparing to move to Marshall when the terrible epidemic of Yellow Fever hit, and the State of Mississippi was quarantined. Alice, Willie, Johnnie, and Augustine all became ill. All three boys pulled through but were never really strong after this. George had miraculously escaped the infection. Alice died (1878) and was buried in the Cemetery next to Gus and little Johnnie. On the first train that was allowed to go into Mississippi Roxie and Grandmother Ginocchio (Charlie's mother) went in to get the four boys. (Willie, Johnnie, Augustine and George)

All of Alice's and Gus's possessions were shipped to Marshall with the exception

above there are only three boys + Johnnie d. in 1877

of the upholstered furniture which the State required them to burn. (This is why we have all of the family records.) With the expanded family (Charles, Roxie, their daughter, Stella, and the four boys) it was decided a larger house was needed.

A street ran between the home of Paul Whaley and a brick yard which Charles Ginocchio owned. He decided to build a new hotel on the north side of this property, which was where North Washington met the R. R. tracks. Webb, a colored man, was in charge of making the brick. Mandy Webb, his wife, worked for Mrs. Ginocchio and later for the Signaigo family. (She attended the wedding of Alice Signaigo Rice in Dallas in 1924.) First he moved the street from the south boundary of his property and had it constructed next to the future location of the hotel. He renamed it Ginocchio St. On the lot which was left, next to Paul Whaley, he built Roxie a new home. *remembered later years - some later now 615 N. Washington* (539 N. Washington Ave.) When this was completed he constructed the new Ginocchio Hotel. The foundation was built on the "same principle of the floating foundations required in New Orleans. It rests on native fieldstone blocks measuring three and a half feet thick and eight feet deep. Beams for the construction consisted of 2 x 4 boards bolted together." (See Marshall News Messenger, Feb. 1, 1970). "Through his association with the railway, he purchased the curly pine for the hostelry in Victoria, La., and it was finished by expert craftsmen employed in the T & P car shop." (The tile floor and Ginocchio name were placed in the lobby at a later date by George Signaigo). When the hotel was completed, he then built two one-story brick houses across Washington Ave. from his home. One of these was for Emile Meyers who ran the saloon in the new hotel. Emile was a native of Alsace-Lorraine. He was married to Miss Carry Stein (Henry's sister), and they had two daughters, Louise and Stella (who was named for Mr. Ginocchio's daughter Stella). *The house was built before the hotel. A picture on wall in the kitchen shows construction with house in background.* The second house, next to the Allen residence (Nanny Allen Hill) was rented. *like Alice, was a staunch Baptist, but Charlie and Stella were Catholics. The three children were sent to the Catholic school since it was by far the best in Marshall. Roxie helped the Sisters in every way she could and saw that Stella did what was required of her in her religion, but she herself remained a Baptist. If the Sisters needed supplies such as mops, brooms, etc., they notified George or Augustine, and the next day Roxie sent them to the school. Father Granger was the priest in charge of their parish, and he was beloved by all of Marshall, Catholic and Protestant alike.*

While Augustine was not very strong, George was wiry, hard, firm, and all boy. He loved to fight, as all boys do, but he was told that if he started a fight, he would get a spanking at school as well as at home, unless he could prove that he hadn't started it or that he was helping Augustine or taking care of Stella.

Since Augustine was a very fine musician, and Alice and Gus had wanted the boys to love music, it was decided that George should take violin lessons. He hated practicing mostly because it interfered with his playing baseball, which was the love of his life. Just about the time he got a big game going, Aunt Roxie would call

him to come practice. He knew he had to mind her, but as he was grumbling and counting 1, 2, 3, 4, the pet parrot would say, "Poor Georgie, Poor Georgie." Aunt Roxie took his mask and breast protector away from him in hopes this would help the music, but she soon returned them as she learned that he was just playing without them.

Stella Ginocchio had had a birth injury which resulted in a partially paralyzed arm. Her parents took her all over the United States to famous doctors. Her condition was rapidly getting worse. The Johns Hopkins doctors diagnosed her condition as a brain tumor but would not recommend an operation. Finally Dr. E. L. Tompkins in Philadelphia undertook to relieve her great pain, but she died during the operation. Charles left shrines to Stella's memory in Little Rock, Ark., at St. Andrews Cathedral, a beautiful marble altar, a stained glass window, and one of the Stations of the Cross. Later when he and his nephew, Augustine Signaigo, visited Italy he had beautiful monuments made for Stella and Roxie (See Greenwood Cemetery). We have no definite dates, but we do know Gus and Alice Signaigo were married Tuesday, Sept. 1, 1868. Charles and Roxie Ginocchio were married about a year later. Augustine Signaigo was born June 5, 1869. Stella was born some time between this date and when George Signaigo was born Nov. 22, 1873. Therefore, I surmise that Charles and Roxie were married in 1869, and Stella was probably born 1871. We have a letter from a hospital to Roxie thanking her for fruit she had sent them in 1887. We think this was the year Stella died. I seem to remember my Daddy, George Signaigo, saying she was 16 when she died. Aunt Roxie died Tuesday, August 17, 1892 and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery next to Stella and her two brothers, William and John Walters.

Augustine was sent to Tawakoni, which was a Baptist College. His second year he attended St. Edwards College in Austin, Texas, from which he was graduated. After finishing the Catholic High School in Marshall, George was also sent to St. Edwards, (1888) and was graduated from here also. He was Captain of the Baseball team, and he was brilliant in Math. The year after he left the Math teacher gave his class two problems to solve. The terms were if they solved one they would be excused from final exams. John Copeland, of Marshall, was in this class. He simply wrote his best friend, Geo. Signaigo, and asked him to send him the problems solved. When he received the solutions he turned them in, but the head of the Math department immediately told him he would be required to take the exams. He told the class, "I know who sent this in, for I have never had but one pupil who could solve this, and that is George Signaigo."

When George returned to Marshall after graduation, his Uncle Charlie kept him busy running between Fort Worth and Marshall. In 1876, the T & P Railroad reached Fort Worth. Charles Ginocchio had started a new hotel, similar to the one in Marshall. He now turned all of the bookkeeping and buying over to George. Augustine was sent to Fort Worth to the new hotel. As busy as they were, George found time to organize a local Baseball team, which played Longview and other neighboring towns. The regular line up was - (see picture)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Pierce - Sec. & Treas. | 5. A. Adams - 1st B. | 9. H. Brownrigg - L. F. |
| 2. Munden - R. F. | 6. D. Powell - 3rd B. | 10. J. P. Copeland - Pitcher |
| 3. Medlin - Sub. | 7. H. Robertson - SS | 11. Eldridge - 2nd B. |
| 4. Geo. Signaigo - C. | 8. G. W. Munden - Mgr. | 12. Worthy - P. and C. F. |

They had to play the boys who could get away from work that day. On one occasion, Uncle Charlie sent for George to do something in Fort Worth when there was a big game in Longview. He finished his assignment and was supposed to get back to Marshall immediately. However, he managed to stop over in Longview between trains long enough to play and win the game. When he arrived in Marshall it was quite late at night, so he slipped into his room and slept in his underwear. The next morning Uncle Charlie awakened him by asking why he didn't return directly to Marshall as he had been told, and of course George assured him that he had. Uncle Charlie then asked him how his underwear had turned red unless he had had it on under a cheap red Marshall Team uniform.

In the meantime, George was having a wonderful time in Fort Worth with all of the young people he had met through Augustine and his friends from St. Edwards College. On his trips back to Marshall he suddenly found things much more entertaining. Augustine had written him that he had selected a young lady he was very anxious for George to like. She turned out to be Miss Elizabeth Alma Cook (9/25/1876 - 11/13/1947) who had returned from College in Oxford, Miss. (See Behn Cook Family) and against her Papa's wishes had persuaded him to give her a job in the Tax Office. She had just received three degrees from the University of Mississippi - one their regular B. A. with a Math Major, one in Elocution, and a business degree from the Draughton Practical Business College. This was in May 26-29, 1895. She was considered the best dancer in town. They were both very popular, and George and Augustine wrote in their diaries accounts of dances at Hynson Springs, Rosborough Springs, Newman's Hall; taking girls out for drives, eating at the Cook's Elgin's Hodges' etc. George and Will Pierce loved the shows which came to Marshall. The young couple were often with John Copeland and Sally Fry, Hattie Star and Les Spellings, Crick Green and Frank Kelly, Drayton Powell and Maud Elgin, Dr. Perry Rains and Norma Pitts, etc. They played Euchre, Whist, Duplicate Whist, Poker and other card games. They called at the homes of the Yorkeys (who lived back of Whaley lot), Lancasters, Popes, Fields, Arch Adams, Ches. Adams and many others. They went to the "Opening of Highland Lake" Tuesday, June 27, 1897. They attended the Opera House every time it was open. George had collected programs since he was a small boy and ushered for a ticket. In 1892, his programs burned, however, he kept a complete file of all in Marshall, Fort Worth, Dallas and New York until he died. After his death this collection and the files were given to The Theater Center at S. M. U., Dallas, Texas, and can now be located in the McCord Museum.

builder
George often helped Uncle Charlie pass the time by playing dominoes and Fantan with him and his friends, such as Maj. Gen. K. M. Van Zant, L. S. Thorne (President and general manager of the T & P Railroad. Ginocchio had been responsible for the T & P hiring Mr. Thorne.), John W. Everman, Supervisor of Public Utilities in Dallas, John B. Laneri, his manager and later partner in Fort Worth. He often rode from one town to another in the private car of Mr. Paul or Mr. Thorne. In George's diary he always mentioned how much he beat the old gentlemen. He remembered all of the stories his Uncle Charlie told about his friends who helped him when he opened the Ginocchio Hotel in Fort Worth. Some of them were Col. John Peter Smith, who moved to Fort Worth in 1859, and who was recognized as "The Father of Fort Worth," Colonel B. B. Pattock, John H. Hoxie, Captain M. B. Loyd, Winfield Scott and Howard W. Peak, the first white child born in Fort Worth.

After George returned from College, his Uncle was one of the first to realize what an excellent business man he had turned into. Friday, June 22, 1894, Augustine Signaigo and Charles Ginocchio departed on a trip to Europe, having left everything in George's care, with the help of Mr. Laneri. They sailed from New York, going by Gibraltar, and on to Genoa, Italy. They visited the family in Borzonasca and Sopra-La-Croce, toured all of Italy (where they attended to having the marble busts of Roxie and Stella made, which are in the Greenwood Cemetery), Switzerland and France. Then while they were in London, Augustine had several suits and an overcoat made for himself and George.

At times George did guard duty at Tyler Crossing. When the young men were away the young ladies who called themselves "The Rosebuds" kept busy with parties and groups who reviewed books and other literary subjects.

Ethel, the younger of the Cook daughters, had been in Oxford attending Univ. of Mississippi. (See Cook Family). ^{attached} There was an epidemic of Typhoid Fever and Ethel contracted it and died Nov. 25, 1896.

George and Elizabeth put off their wedding twice, first when Ethel died, and again when Charles A. Ginocchio had a heart attack in Fort Worth and died May 30, 1898. George and ^{Signaigo} Mr. John Laneri were named executors of his estate. They had foreclosed on the Star Grocery several years before and were running it and the Ginocchio Hotel at Marshall. The Hotel in Fort Worth had burned, but Mr. Ginocchio owned quite a lot of real estate in Fort Worth. After Roxie died, Charles, George and Augustine closed the home and moved to the hotel. They occupied Rooms 19 and 20, which were joined by an inside door. These rooms were at the south end of corridor. *(This suite of rooms is now being restored)*

On Sept. 28, 1898, George Joseph Signaigo and Elizabeth Alma Cook were married in a quiet ceremony at the Cook home. Mr. John Copeland and Miss Crick Green were their attendants. The young couple moved into The Ginocchio Hotel to live. They occupied 19 and 20, while Augustine moved into a room at the other end of the hotel (where the Keys have moved the Bar). He was quite sick with Tuberculosis and was away from Marshall most of the time. After their marriage George bought his bride two matched, high spirited horses, which she enjoyed and drove expertly. Augustine's health grew progressively worse, and the doctors suggested a change in climate. As George was busy settling the Ginocchio estate, it was decided that Elizabeth (George called her "Chugerlump" and Augustine called her "Hon") would take him to Big Spring and later to Colorado. The two brothers were very close, had never separated their property, and had a joint bank account. At this time they sold all of their property, including the old home, in Granada, Miss. (See files.) There was never any trouble about money. If Mrs. Signaigo needed money or anything else, she simply asked the brother nearest her. One day Augustine casually gave her a little package. It was his diamond stud which matched George's. He had had it set into a ring. When they knew that he was dying they brought him back to Marshall. He died Oct. 28, 1899, and was buried on the Ginocchio lot in Greenwood Cemetery. (June 5, 1869 - Oct. 28, 1899).

On Oct. 11, 1900, the young couple's first child was born. She was the star attraction at the hotel. They named her Mary Ethelene Signaigo for Ethel Cook.

In settling the Ginocchio estate, Charles Ginocchio's brother, Jim, and his two spinster sisters, Mary and Annie, decided they wanted the hotel as their part. None of them had had any experience, so in a matter of a year they had lost everything. George and his family had moved over to live with the Cooks who had bought the Ginocchio home across the street. He ran the Star Grocery Store, and had added three more hotel-eating houses to his investments. These were at Addis and Boyce, Louisiana, and Mineola, Texas. The two executors decided to readjust affairs and gave the Little Rock Ginocchio's, Jim, Mary and Annie, the full amount they would have received if they hadn't chosen the hotel. As long as they lived they continued to tell everyone how George had helped them out. He continued to take care of them and all of the other members of the family. He truly felt like they were his real relatives, and he had promised Uncle Charlie that he would always care for them.

George wrote of his Uncle: "Pride of heritage", "Love of country", "Strength of character", "Do unto others", "A true christian spirit", "A loving father and husband" are the things best left as a heritage and memory to one orphan boy whom he reared as his son, and who will cherish throughout his life his many benefactions.

George now bought The Ginocchio Hotel from the estate and ran it along with his other investments. He would send all of the available help from one hotel to the other, especially during the Cane Rush in Louisiana. He made as much money here in three months as he did in a year at the other places. In 1901, the Signaigo's took a long trip to New York and the East. Ethel was moved into Mama Cook's room. *of the Ginocchio Signaigo Pedion House*

On Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1902, Eudora Alice Signaigo was born. She was delivered by Dr. James F. Rosborough, and the attending nurse was Laura Witt. She was born at 6:40 A. M., and weighed seven pounds. The little girl was named for her two grandmothers, with the understanding from Mama Cook that the baby must be called Alice. She had practically no hair at birth, but when it did come in, it was dark brown curls. Dr. Rosborough said she was so good because she was "just a normal, healthy baby." Since there were so many in the family (Cooks, Signaigos, and Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Taylor, Behn Cook's mother) that Ethel gave each a name which every one else followed. Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook were Papa and Mama, Dr. and Mrs. Taylor were Grandpa and Grandma, Mr. and Mrs. Signaigo were Daddy and Meme. Elizabeth didn't like the name of Lizzie which most of her friends called her, so from then on everyone called her Meme. Mama and Papa kept the girls while the young couple when to dances and later chaperoned the younger crowd.

same lattice work on house today
On the morning of Oct. 9, 1904, Ethel and Alice were taken down on the Latticed back porch to play. Ethel always could tell when something unusual was going on, so when Grandma kept going up stairs for various reasons, Ethel began to want to go too. After a while Mama and Daddy came down and asked the little

girls if they would like to go up and see their new little sister. Ethel looked at the new baby and said, "I knew something was going on when I saw Dr. Rosborough come in with his little black bag, but the baby he left us surely is red." The new arrival was a little blond girl who was named Eula Lee Signaigo for Meme's best friend, Eula Lee Owens (Mrs. J. Elmore Holmes of Memphis, Tenn.) formerly of Oxford, Miss.

There were 26 little girls and one boy in the neighborhood. The cellar to the Cook home had a hard surface floor and an outside entrance. The whole neighborhood played cards and "dress up" here and in the big back yard. Next door Mamie Whaley had a play house. She, Stella Meyers and Nanny Allen were the Mamas, and the younger girls were the children. Some of the food they cooked on the little iron stove was terrible, but everyone ate it. The Whaleys had a cyclone shelter in their back yard, and on rare occasions the children were allowed to go down into it. Later when Mamie was a young lady they turned the back lot into a sunken garden with a gold fish pond. Miss Lillie (Mrs. Walter) Sedberry was always glad to have the children play at her house. She would place a sheet between the two front rooms and with the aid of a candle, make shadow picture shows. Mary, Lillie and Erie were the ages of the Signaigo girls, and so were Elise and Maude Sedberry who lived next door. Every Christmas in the Cook's parlor there was a tree which touched the ceiling and had lighted candles, ornaments and gifts for the three little girls. They were not allowed in the front parlor until Christmas morning, then the sliding doors were opened, and each child had a chair to put her presents on. Since all of the family ate at the hotel, the girls were allowed to take only one doll or toy to breakfast. Later in the morning the neighborhood children would come over as George had always selected something for each of them. On Easter he would bring from New Orleans beautiful eggs with scenes inside, etc.

Every Sunday morning Nanny Allen would come across the street and take the little girls to Sunday School at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church which was a few blocks up the street. When they came home she would stay and have dinner at the hotel with the family.

In 1910, George organized Marshall's famous semi-pro baseball team, The Marshall Blues. The team lived at the hotel on the third floor where the help lived. They had a private table in the dining room. Aaron Lacosky was the children's favorite. They thought he and "Daddy" owned and ran the team. Aaron was the shortstop and George was the manager. (See picture.)

When the street cars came to Marshall there were three branches all meeting at the Court House. The north branch came down N. Washington Ave., turned at Ginocchio St., turned north on Franklin and went on over to North Marshall. The west branch went up West Houston St. by West End School and turned right to make a loop back to the Square. It was great fun to take a ride on all three branches, as you could transfer at the Court House.

Dr. and Mrs. George Perry Rains moved into the home to stay until they could buy a home, (See Cook Family) and ended by staying several years. They became part of the family and everyone adored them. Dr. Rains had a little red car and he would take Alice with him when he payed calls. She was never allowed to go in anyone's home but had to sit out in the car. George had bought a car, a Great Southern (later Studebaker) and the thing in vogue was to drive out the old Longview road to the Hall Place and come back. This was three miles. All of the ladies had scarves over their hats, and the driver wore goggles. Later the Signaigo Family bought two Buicks, one for the hotel and one for their own use.

Every summer as soon as school was out, the family left for a summer trip. Some years they went to Manitou, Colo., or Minnesota, etc. They always took a nurse along. One year they went to New Orleans, took a boat to New York, and later through the Thousand Islands. This year Miss Nell Davis was a young lady and asked if she could go instead of the nurse. She was so sweet and made this trip one every one remembered. Every Christmas the children were taken to New Orleans to see Santa Claus. Since George bought supplies for the hotels here they were always entertained beautifully. They never missed Mardi Gras.

The children attended Miss Anna Alford's Kindergarden, Mrs. Spates' Kindergarden, and later West End School. It was a mile and three quarters and the whole neighborhood either walked or rode their bicycles together. Ethel started in the first grade. The next year when Alice started they put her up in the second grade with Ethel since St'Ethel had taught her everything she had learned. Miss Maude Perry was the teacher, and everyone adored her. Miss Katy Vanhook was the fourth grade teacher and she read stories like Robinson Crusoe to the class, but she read only one chapter a day so the pupils always had something to be good for as the reading was a prize for good behavior.

When the T & P put diners on their trains, this ruined George's business. He sold all of his hotels except the Ginocchio Hotel in Marshall. He placed Mr. Jim (Wink) Simpson as manager here and moved to Dallas in April, 1912, to go into the wholesale cigar business. He and Mr. J. Harper Brannon (who had married Uncle Charlie's niece) started a state wide business, Brannon-Signaigo Cigar Co. This association lasted until their deaths. George continued to run the hotel through his manager until when he leased it to the two Demittract brothers, and finally in sold it to them. The home he kept until after Mrs. Behn Cook's death in 1942, and then also sold this to the Demittracts. They later sold both places to the Pedisons, who lately sold the hotel to the Keys.

The Signaigo Family bought a home at 3321 Oak Lawn Ave. and it was headquarters for all of their Marshall friends, young and old. The "Rosebuds" always came to the State Fair.

The two partners alternated years of taking summer trips and staying home to run the business. They both went to Europe, South America, Asia, and several

times around the world. On one of these trips, Dr. and Mrs. G. P. Rains went with them. One summer they spent in Atlantic City. On their way they stopped in Marshall and picked up Hartwell Spellings and Ella Mae Rodgers. On another trip to Alaska they took Sarah Whaley (Mrs. Gordon Boone). One year they travelled through Yellowstone Park with a party of 125 Dallas friends, and then went on to California. On this trip they took Lady Maude Powell.

The three girls all graduated from Hockaday School. Alice and Ethel went to Hollins College, while Eula was graduated from S. M. U.

After Behn Cook's death, Mrs. Cook lived in Dallas, but she never gave up her home in Marshall and made regular visits back.

Ethel married Myron Everts Jan. 17, 1923. They have no children. Alice married J. Percival Rice Nov. 25, 1924, and they have four sons, George Signaigo Rice, John Carter Rice, Robert Cook Rice and James Percival Rice. Eula married Dr. Dayton McBride. They had two daughters, Shirley Elizabeth McBride (Mrs. Geo. P. Macatee III) and Eula Lee McBride (Mrs. Ed Crow Miller). After Dr. McBride's death, Eula married Dr. Frank Selecman.

Elizabeth Cook Signaigo died Nov. 31, 1947. George Joseph Signaigo died March 19, 1952. They are both buried in Hillcrest Mausoleum, Dallas, Texas.

Alice Signaigo Rice

June, 1972

4007

S I G N A I G O F A M I L Y

Joseph Angelo Signaigo (1800-1854)
Mary Elizabeth Ghio (1799-1866)

1848 came from St. Mary of the
Meadow or Sopra-La Croce, Italy to
America. First to Richmond, Virginia
Later to Memphis, Tenn.

Catherine (b.1833)
Married
Augustine John Signaigo
(No kin) moved to
Natchez, Miss.

Madeline
Married Louis
Montedonico
Memphis, Tenn.

Mary
m John
Batiste Zanone

John Batiste
m(1)Fortunia Larre
(2)Mary Zanone

Joseph Augustine (1-11-1835---- 10-1-1876)
m Sept 1, 1868
Alice Walters (Jan. 28, 1852 ---- 1878)

Sister of Mrs.
Chas. Minocchio

nephews of Charles & Polia Walters Minocchio

**
Augustine Walters Signaigo
(6-5-1869 ---- 10-28-1899)

John B. Signaigo
8-30-1870
5-24-1871

George Joseph Signaigo (11-22-1873
m 9-28-1898 3-19-1952)
Elizabeth Alma Cook (9-25-1876 ---
11-13-1947)

Mary Ethelene Signaigo
(10-11-1900---
m1-17-1923
Myron Everts
(3-2-1898---
(Jewelry Firm
Arthur A. Everts v/b)
Dallas, Texas

Eudora Alice Signaigo
(2-18-1902---
m 11-25-1924---
John Percival Rice
(6-5-1895---

Eula Lee Signaigo
(10-9-1904----
m(1) Dr. Dayton Carter McBride
(1-29-1900---9-29-1966)
m(2) Dr. Francis Asbur
Selectman
Senat. former Pres. of S. M. U.
Shirley Elizabeth Eula Lee
(12-9-31--- (7-8-1957-
m. Geo. P. Macatee III
m
Dr. Ed Cro
Miller

George Signaigo Rice
(11-10-1925---
m. 2-19-1955
Carroline Kelton
Sweatmon (11-8-27--
Children:
Stephen Kelton Rice
William Signaigo Rice
Alice Caroline Rice

John Carter Rice
(3-11-1929---
m. 12-26-1951
Harriet Thompson
(5-22-32---
Children:
John Evans Rice
Paul Carter Rice

Robert Cook Rice
(8-14-1931---
m. 1-23-1965
Katherine Barkley
Adams
(5-25-1939---
Children:
Elizabeth Barkley Rice
Katherine Cook Rice
Anna Carter Rice

James Percival Rice
(11-14-1937---
m. 3-25-1972
Myrtie Conway Rawlins
(9-27-1939---

John T. Ginocchio Sr. }

1848 came from Borzonasca, Italy to America.
Richmond, Va., and later Little Rock, Ark.

dt.	Charles A. (1844-1898)	Mary	Annie	Frank	John T. Jr.	James
m. Laferty	M. 1869					
Children:	Roxanna Walters (1850-1892)					
Alma	Stella (1871-1887)					
Stella						
George						

Charles A. Ginocchio

- 1844 - Born Borzonasca, Province of Genoa, Italy
- 1848 - Came to U.S.A - to New York & later to Richmond Virginia.
- 1861-65 Civil War Fought Under Robert E Lee
- 1869 - Visited to Grenada Miss.
- 1870 - Married Roxanna Walters of Grenada Miss.
- 1878 - Returned to Little Rock Ark. where his family had moved after the Civil War.

early 1871 - Daughter Stella was born -
1871 - later in year moved to Marshall following development of T&P built Restaurants in following

Texas
Marshall
Longview
Mineola
Dallas

FT Worth - 1876 - Hotel built before R.R. arrived -
Ginocchio Hotel in Ft. Worth

- 1878 - Brought to Marshall from Grenada nephews Roxanna's two brothers, John & William Walters
Roxanna's sister Alice W. Signaligo's two boys Augustine W. Signaligo & George Joseph Signaligo
- 1885-1886 Built the 2 story brick Ginocchio House
- 1887 - Daughter Stella died
- 1892 - Rette died (wife) - Mrs. Chas. Ginocchio
- 1894 - Trip to Europe & old home in Italy with nephew Augustine W. Signaligo to
- 1896 - New Ginocchio Hotel
- 1898 - Died May 30th in Ft. Worth Texas

4007



HISTORY

OF

THE BEHN COOK FAMILY

June 23, 1972

Hand daughter

4007

BEHN COOK FAMILY

The accompanying chart gives the Cook Family History back to Gloucester County, Bristol, England.

We will start with Thomas Abner Cook who lived in Clark County, Georgia, near Athens. He married a Miss Berry and they had one son, Abner A. Cook, who married Ann Elizabeth Coleman (11/27/1830 - d. 1856), the oldest child of John Goodwin Coleman (1806-1853) and his wife Eliza Featherstone Little (1808-1853). The Colemans both died in 1853 and their nine children came to Texas in 1854 with Ann Elizabeth Coleman and her husband, Abner A. Cook. (See Coleman Chart.) The young couple had two sons, Thomas and John Cook. Annie died in 1856 and Abner A. Cook married her younger sister, Emily Roper Coleman (b. 9/2/1839 - d. 19) in a very short time as he needed someone to help care for the little boys. They, in turn, had two sons, Behn (b. 6/26/1857 - d. 12/9/1932) and William Sidney (b. 2/5/1860 - d.). Abner A. Cook died some time between 1860 when Sid was born and December 3, 1862 when his widow, Emily, married Dr. Thomas H. Taylor of Harrison County, at Marshall, Texas. (See Wedding Certificate - Married by Rev. I. M. Binkley.) Emily and Dr. Taylor had two children, Emma Matilda (b. 11/22/1865 - d.) and Thomas Hillery (b. 8/17/1867 - d.), both of whom died in their teens.

About this same time, ⁽¹⁸⁶²⁾ the Melton family moved from Tennessee and started farming near Hallsville, Texas. Each year a group of men were selected to drive to Grand Saline to get the year's supply of salt for the community. Mr. Melton usually had charge of this undertaking.

Behn Cook learned to play the violin by ear, and although he never learned to read music, he enjoyed playing simple tunes. He picked up most of these at the local dances which he attended whenever possible.

Behn married Eudora Ann Melton (b. 12/28/1859 - d. 7/11 1942) on December 22, 1875 at the Melton home ten miles South of Marshall. Rev. Lacy Boone, a Methodist minister, performed the ceremony. They tried farming near Greenville, Texas, but quickly decided to return to be near their two families. They had a farm somewhere out of Marshall. Behn also taught school at this time.

Behn and Eudora (Dora) had two children, Elizabeth Alma (b. 9/25/1876 - d. 11/13/1947) and Mary Ethelene (b. 12/22/1879 - d. 11 25/1896). The family was very closely knit. Dr. Taylor came out to the farm to deliver both children. When Elizabeth was older, she lived with the Taylors during the winter so she could attend the Longview school.

Behn moved his family to Marshall around 1885. They lived across the street from the Catholic church and next door to the Powell family. (Later Drayton Powell lived with them while the Cook girls were at college.) The Cooks were Methodists and the Meltons were Baptists.

Behn was an excellent swimmer and a crack shot. When he was a young man, a gentleman came to Marshall and challenged anyone in town to a race. They were to swim to the dam at Caddo Lake and back. Every one took bets against him, and they chose Behn to represent them. He beat the newcomer so badly that he never returned to Marshall. Behn had been swimming as long as he could remember and belonged to Caddo and Highland Lake and other lakes in the neighborhood. He also loved to fish, but Dora was the real fisherman in the family.

Mr. Cook could shoot better than most men in Harrison County. Even when he was quite old when some of the family and friends came from Dallas to hunt with him, he would hit a bird after others had missed it. He taught his granddaughter, Alice, to shoot by putting a dime on the metal lock of Dora's "Flower Pitt", and giving her the dime if she hit it. He knew what trouble they would both be in if she missed. One morning as she was practicing, she decided to aim at the silver ball of the lightning rod on the roof of the house. She didn't realize that it would break but it shattered just as a man was walking past the house. When Behn came home to dinner at noon, instead of fussing at her he said, "That man is one of the best shots in town and he was on his way to my office. If you had missed I would never have let you shoot again."

This quotation is from The Messenger's Special Edition, Marshall, Texas, August 1897, p. 6, and is titled "Behn Cook, County Tax Assessor."

"Mr. Behn Cook, this county's efficient and popular tax assessor, was born in Marshall in 1857, and has always made his home in Harrison County. His early life and young manhood were spent on a farm, he having come to this city to find a wider field for his abilities about twelve years ago, at which time he went into the land office of Amory R. Starr. Soon after he was elected County Surveyor, which office he continued to fill until he was elected assessor in 1894, to which office he was re-elected last November without opposition.

"Mr. Cook's labors in the important office which he holds have been arduous and unceasing and their fruits will remain a blessing to this county for years to come. During the radical regime a succession of incompetent and indifferent assessors had so mixed the rolls that their successors, up to the election of Mr. Cook, had quite enough to do to keep up with the current business of the county, and were unable to do very much towards solving the Chinese puzzle of mixed and conflicting headrights and surveys which they had inherited. He brought to this task a thorough knowledge of surveying and of the county's lands, and unlimited energy and the result shows for itself on the county records.

"When he went into office the abstracts of the county showed an unrendered roll of over \$300,000.00; they now show 50 percent less unrendered property than in 1894. This has been in part accomplished by a long, bulky, and systematic correspondence with the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in which every invalid or conflicting survey has been reported as soon as discovered. Mr. Cook has had a map made of every survey in Harrison County. These were taken by him from the County Surveyor's Records, and are absolutely correct. The fact that he is familiar with the interests of 75 percent of this county's owners, having memorized that percent of her headrights, has contributed largely to the accuracy of this work and to the facility with which it has been done.

"He is and has always been a staunch Democrat, and in his county's time of trial he did his whole duty in behalf of good local government, and did it nobly and well."

Dora sewed beautifully, and her two girls were always dressed in the latest fashion. (Her granddaughters still have trunks of these beautiful gresses.) Elizabeth had blue eyes like her father, and soft curly brown hair, but was small and dainty like her mother. (Dora was 5 ft. tall.) Ethel was larger with brown eyes and hair like her mother, but she was built more like her father's side of the family. The girls had many friends among the boys and girls. When the time came for them to go to college, it was decided to send Elizabeth to Union Female College in Lebanon, Tennessee; Maud Elgin, one of her best friends, also went that year. The next year the college was moved to Oxford, Mississippi, and made a part of the University. Elizabeth received three Degrees from here. One was the regular Science Degree with a major in Math, one in Elocution, and a Business Degree from the Draughton Practical Business College. This was in May 26 - 29, 1895. When she returned home she informed the family that she was going to get a job. They were very much against this, but compromised by letting her start working in her father's office helping to compile the Tax Lists. Mr. Chesley Adams had an office across the hall and would come in and recite poetry and Shakespear by the hour. Behn had his office in the Court House. His beautiful maps became the property of the County, and were used for many years as their official records. In the early 1900's he entered into a partnership with Mr. Berry Carroll. The title was "Cook and Carroll, Surveyors and Real Estate, attention given to land in any part of the state." This association was a pleasant and lasting one. At one time Mr. Edmond E. ^{Key} worked for him. Later he and Mr. Joe B. Carter formed a firm "Carter and Cook, Attorneys, Land Agents, and Surveyors." Mr. Carter was the lawyer and Notary Public, and Behn Cook was the surveyor and Notary Public. They advertised, "Titles examined, abstracts made, deeds written, etc. Special attention given delinquent Taxes - Office in Court House." This partnership was dissolved by mutual consent January 31, 1916.

As Elizabeth brought her books home from college, Behn taught Ethel all of the Math. As a result, when Ethel entered Oxford she was allowed to enter the Math classes at the Men's School. This was almost unheard of at this time. During her second year an epidemic of Typhoid Fever broke out, and Ethel took over the Math departments in both schools, and kept up her regular work. By the time she took Typhoid, the conditions were so bad that the school put all of the girls on the train and sent them home. Ethel died very shortly after she reached Marshall. Will Jones (later Dr. W. D. Jones of Dallas) recalled often how he met this train when he was working for the Express Company. It was a sad sight as most of the girls were too sick to walk and had to be carried off the train. Behn and Dora never got over Ethel's death. They grieved the rest of their lives.

4007

*Fusion of
cultures - Anglo Sax
Italian - Page 4 Cook
Signaigo*

After Elizabeth (Lizzie) returned from college she met and married George Joseph Signaigo. (11/22/1873 - d. 3/19/1952). Their wedding was put off due to Ethel's death, and then again when George's Uncle Charlie Ginocchio died. They were married very quietly at home with only two attendants. John Copeland and Miss Crick Green (later Mrs. Frank Kelly). They moved to the Ginocchio Hotel to live. Behn and Dora bought the Ginocchio home across the street from the hotel. (Then it was known as 539 N. Washington Ave.; later changed to 615.) Later the Signaigo family moved into the home with the Cooks. Also Dr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Taylor (Behn's Mother) came to live with them as both of their children had died.

The Cooks had a vegetable garden in which they grew some extra fine specimens. However what Behn was particularly proud of was Dora's flowers. She could grow anything, especially Roses, Dahlias, Hydrangeas and Cape Jasmine. Mrs. Ginocchio had been fond of flowers too, so Charles had had a "Flower Pit" built on the south side of the yard. There was a Lime tree at one corner of this building. Both ladies had beautiful ferns and pot plants which had to be put into the "Pit" in cold weather. Behn had brought in a Cypress tree and had it planted next to the hedge which divided his property from that of his cousin's, Paul Whaley. All the flower beds and Rose Garden were edged with brick placed overlapping at a slant. Mr. Ginocchio had planted imported fig trees, two varieties of Pears, an Apple tree in the back yard, and a large Holly on the north side of the front lawn. *see picture*

After Dr. Taylor died, his wife (Behn's Mother) lived six months with Behn and six months with Sidney. Her great grandchildren always looked forward to her return as she read stories to them and told them how "Gen. Sherman marched through Georgia, and every one had to hide their silver, etc."

All of the family ate at the Ginocchio Hotel. Since their dining room was not being used, the Cooks consented to let Dr. and Mrs. George Perry Rains (*Gen. Rains*) move into it. They had taken a trip to Europe after selling their house, and when they returned they could find no place to live. They expected to stay a few weeks and ended by remaining several years. They became part of the family, and everyone loved them devotedly. Dr. Rains (Patty) took care of all of the family, and one time saved Alice's life. After they they couldn't leave even if they had wanted to.

Behn always took an active part in politics, local and state. He had a picture of Gov. Colquit in his home. He was an ardent supporter of Gov. Jim Ferguson, who later had him and Mr. Honnicut of Marlin, Texas, appointed to survey the western border line between Texas and Oklahoma.

When automobiles came in he bought two cars, one for Dora and one for himself. He kept the cars in the old barn and had a gasoline pump installed. Dora quickly learned to drive, but he never tried. He kept a colored boy to drive him and carry his surveying equipment. Years later, during the oil boom, he could tell you exactly where to find corners and how to recognize his marks on the trees, etc. He had surveyed all of this property when the owners often met

him with guns to keep him off their property. He liked people and had a way of succeeding, not only in making his surveys, but also of making friends of the owners.

After the T & P Railway put diners on their trains, George Signaigo sold all of his hotels except The Ginocchio, and moved to Dallas in April 1912. He left a manager there and ran the hotel from Dallas. He later leased the Ginocchio to the Demitract Brothers (S. & D.). On Nov. 26, 1919 he sold the Ginocchio to the Demitracts for \$40,500.00.

Every year Dora would make enough preserves to last the Dallas family for a year; then she, Behn, and the driver would go to Dallas to see the State Fair. Their visit was spent in seeing their many friends, attending the Fair, and seeing their daughter and granddaughters. One summer they invited 12 of their granddaughters' friends, girls and boys, to come to Marshall with the Signaigo family. The Marshall paper called them "The Dallas Dozen". The Cooks took them and all of the Marshall crowd the same age to Caddo Lake for three days. Before they returned to Dallas, all the Marshall girls and boys entertained for them.

In 1918, Behn collapsed one day while he was surveying. He was taken to the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. He had cancer of the colon, and the doctors didn't think he could stand the operation. He got mad and asked if he beat any one of them in a fist fight would they operate. Dr. Judd jumped up and said, "I'll operate on any one with that much spunk." He was a man 6 ft. 2 in. tall and weighed around 200 pounds. He wore a size 5 shoe and yet his feet never gave him any trouble. When he came through the operation and arrived home, he weighed 99 pounds. He recovered very fast and was soon out surveying again.

Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on December 22, 1925 in Dallas, Texas, at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George Signaigo. Their three granddaughters and their families attended. Friends called throughout the afternoon.

From the Marshall Messenger - December, 1930:

"Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook Observe Fifty-Fifth Wedding Anniversary.

"Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook are celebrating their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary here today at home with a family dinner.

"Behn Cook and Miss Eudora Melton were married at the Melton home ten miles south west of Marshall on December 22, 1875, the Rev. Lacy Boone, a Methodist minister performing the ceremony. They have lived in Harrison County and Marshall all their lives.

"They have one daughter, Mrs. George Signaigo, and three granddaughters."
 Eula, Alice, Ethel

Fourteen years after his operation for cancer at the Mayo Clinic, Behn had a bad fall and hurt his leg. He soon developed uremic poisoning. He told the doctors he was sure he would be all right if he could just walk in the woods

4007

*Marshall
Houston*

3 - Page 6

again. He died Dec. 9, 1932, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery. His wife moved to Dallas and lived with her daughter. She would never consent to sell her home in Marshall and paid regular visits back home. She kept busy doing for others all of her life. In Dallas, she helped the school children learn to knit for the soldiers in World War II. She left many beautiful quilts, bed spreads, etc. which are cherished by her great grandchildren. She died July 11, 1942, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Marshall, Texas, next to her husband, Behn Cook, and her daughter, Mary Ethelene Cook.

COOK (E) FAMILYI. Richard Cooke, St. Augustine Parish, County Gloucester, Bristol, England.

Name of first wife not known. Children and date baptised:

1. John Cooke - 23 Oct., 1577
2. Anne Cooke - 9 April, 1580
3. William Cooke - 10 March 1582/3
4. Thomas Cooke - 21 April, 1585
5. Philip Cooke - 27 Dec., 1589

Married secondly, 22 May 1596 to Catherine Rawley, a Widow, in Church of St. Augustine Parish.

Son: Richard Jr., bap. 26 March 1598.

II. Philip Cooke, bap. 27 Dec. 1589 - m. 1st, Elizabeth _____. Children:

1. William Cooke, baptised 25 March, 1613
2. Anne Cooke, baptised 2 Oct., 1614

Married secondly - children and date baptised:

3. Lucie Cooke - 5 Feb., 1626/27
4. Mary Cooke - 22 Aug., 1628
5. Martha Cooke - 13 Jan., 1630/31

III. William Cooke, Baptised 25 March 1613, St. Augustine Parish, etc. above.

Married 1st Mary Blackborne of St. Augustine Parish. Son:

1. William Cooke, born about 1633 in Va. or enroute there.

Married secondly, Mary _____, in Virginia, probably. Son:

2. Philip Cooke, baptised 5 Jan., 1636/37 in St. Augustine Parish.

This William died in Surry Co., Va. without a will.

IV. William Cooke, Born about 1633 - married Joan Roper, dt. of Hugh Roper, Sr. of Burnham Parish, County Somerset, England between 1661-1665. Children:

1. Henry - m. Sarah _____. He died 1696.
2. John - m. Hannah Jones, dt. of James Jones. He died 1711.
3. William - m. Rebecca Jones, dt. of James Jones.
4. Reuben - m. Hannah Atkinson. He died 1750.
5. Thomas - m. Mary Jones, dt. of Arthur Jones. He died 1735.
6. Elizabeth - m. _____ Weaver.
7. Joannah - m. _____ Burch.

And possibly one or more sons:

8. Robert - who died in 1747.

This William died in Isle of Wight Co., Va. Will Bk. 1, pp. 32 I of W Co.

V. John Cooke - of Southwark Parish, Surry County, Va., married one of the daughters of James Jones of Prince George County, Va. and had children as follows:

1. Henry - died in 1774. See VI herewith.
2. John - m. Dianah _____, died about 1743.
3. Joannah or Jane Cook.

COOK(E) FAMILYB-8
Page 2

VI. Henry Cook of Meherrin Parish, County of Brunswick, Virginia
Married at least four times, but names of wives not known, nor
which was the mother of the children named below. His will was
dated 11/13/1774. His last wife was Elizabeth Price, but there was
no issue from this marriage. He was 84 years old when he died.

Children:

1. Sarah, m. George Rives.
2. Mary, m. Thomas Lanier
3. Anne, m. _____ Lowe
4. Betty, m. David Peeples (WMC has been in touch with a Mrs.
Mrs. Buell of Okla. and Texas of this branch.)
5. Henry, m. Elizabeth Wall. Died before his father, in 1764.
6. Jane, m. John Cato.
7. Drury Cook, m. 1st in Va. - Drucilla - then moved to North
Carolina, and thence to Clark County, Ga., near Athens.
8. John, m. Sept. 24, 1759 - Betty Brown in Va. - moved with
brother Drury to N. C. then to Fairfield Co., S. C.

VII. Drury Cook - born in Va. - Married Drucilla in Va. Moved to N. C. and
thence to Clark County, Ga., near Athens. Had following children:

1. John Cook (under 21 yrs. in 1772/74 when grandfather's will was
made and proved).
2. Rebecca Cook, m. Zadock Cook of Clark Co., Ga.

Drury Cook married secondly, Matilda Fennell, whether in Ga. or N. C.
unknown. Children:

3. James Cook
4. Nathan Cook - see VIII below.

VIII. Nathan Cook - married Sarah Atkinson - Children:

1. Thomas Abner Cook - moved to Texas
2. Ben
3. Mary
4. Elizabeth
5. Louraine
6. William Arnold Cook - remained in Ga.

IX. Thomas Abner Cook - m. Miss Berry. Moved from Clark Co., Ga. to
Texas. Son:

1. Abner A. Cook - Born in Ga., married Ann Elizabeth Coleman
in Ga. Married Emily Roper Coleman in Texas.

X. Abner A. Cook - (b. _____ - d. 1861/2) Born in Clark Co., Ga. Married
Ann Elizabeth Coleman (b. 11/27/1830 - d. 1856) Moved to Texas 1854.
Children:

1. Thomas
2. John

Abner A. Cook married secondly Emily Roper Coleman (b. 9/2/1839 - d. 19) m. 1856. Children:

3. Behn Cook, m. Eudora Ann Melton ✓
4. William Sidney Cook m. Clara Beddo

Emily Roper Coleman Cook married Dr. Thomas H. Taylor Dec. 3, 3, 1862. They had two children, Emma Matilda Taylor (b. 11/22/1865 - d.) and Thomas Hillery (b. 8/17/1867 - d.)

XI. Behn Cook (b. 6/26/1857 - d. 12/9/1932) Married 12/22/1875 to Eudora Ann Melton (b. 12/28/59 - d. 7/11/1942) Both born in Harrison County, near Marshall, Texas. Children: ✓

1. Elizabeth Alma Cook (b. 9/25/1867 - d. 11/13/1947) was married 9/28/1898 to George Joseph Signaigo (b. 11/22/1873 - d. 3/19 1952) Children:

(1) Mary Ethelene Signaigo (b. 10/11/1900 -) married on 1/17/1923 to Myron Everts (b. 3/2/1898 -). No children.

(2) Eudora Alice Signaigo (b. 2/18/1902 -) married on 11/25/1924 to John Percival Rice (b. 6/5/1895 -)

Children: *(Prominent Dallas Attorney)*

(a) George Signaigo Rice (b. 11/10/1925) married 2/19/1955 to Carolyn Kelton (b. 11/8/1927). Children, Stephen

Kelton Rice, William Signaigo Rice, Alice Carroline Rice.

(b) John Carter Rice (b. 3/11/1929) married 12/26/1951 to Harriet Thompson (b. 5/22/1932). Children, John Evans Rice, Paul Carter Rice.

(c) Robert Cook Rice (b. 8/14/1931) married 1/23/1965 to Katherine Barkley Adams (b. 5/25/1939). Children, Elizabeth Barkley, Katherine Cook, Anna Carter Rice.

(d) James Percival Rice (b. 11/14/1937) married 3/25/1972 to Myrtie Rawlins (b. 9/27/1939).

(3) Eula Lee Signaigo (b. 11/9/1904) married on 9/6/1926 to Dr. Dayton Carter McBride (b. 1/29/1900 - d. 9/29/1960) Children:

(a) Shirley Elizabeth McBride (b. 12/9/1931) married 9/4/1954 to George Pettit Macatee III (b. 3/30/1928). Children, George Pettit Macatee IV, Dayton Charles, Dorothy Tandy, Adrienne Elizabeth, Mark McBride Macatee.

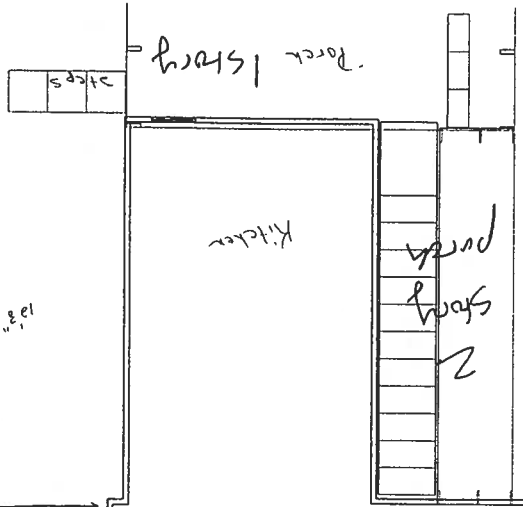
(b) Eula Lee McBride (b. 7/8/1937) married on 9/5/1959 to Dr. Ed Crow Miller (b. 8/31/1925). Children, John Crow, Shirley Elizabeth, Bryan McBride Miller.

✓ Eula Lee Signaigo married secondly on 11/11/1967 to Dr. Francis Asbury Selecman (b. July²⁸ 1901).

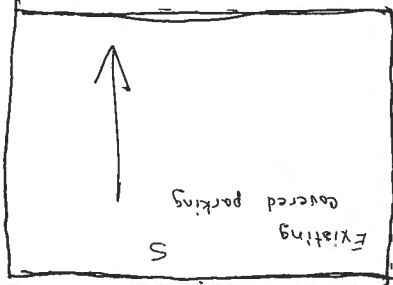
2. Mary Ethelene Cook (b. 12/22/1879 - d. 11/25/1896).

Prominent Dallas family of Jewelers

1/8" = 1 ft.

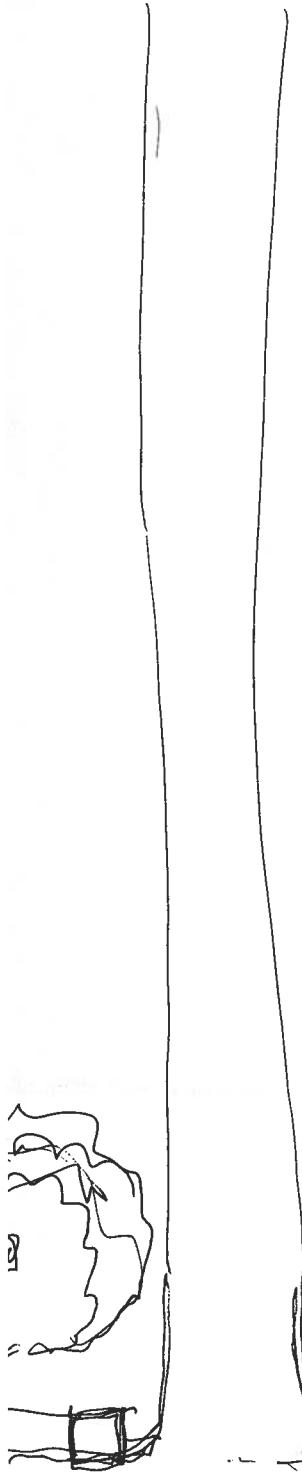
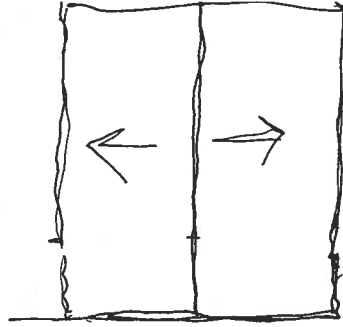
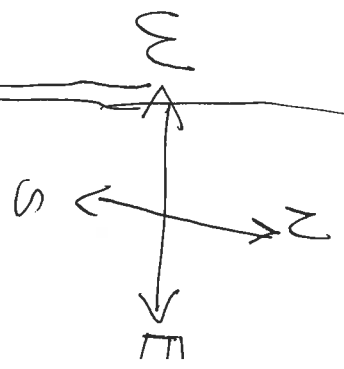


12'8" x 20'6" Garage is located 35' from kitchen wall.



615 N. Washington
Marshall, TX. 75670
#1 needed - look - Edison Home

1 story porch





The house was painted inside and trim outside in spring 1973.

2.

4007



North side view showing unusual road line
Entrance to basement shows above. Passage runs from basement under Giolocchis street to interior of Giolocchis Hotel - now closed off.

The woodwork and molding is very beautifully made.



Newel post - front stairway

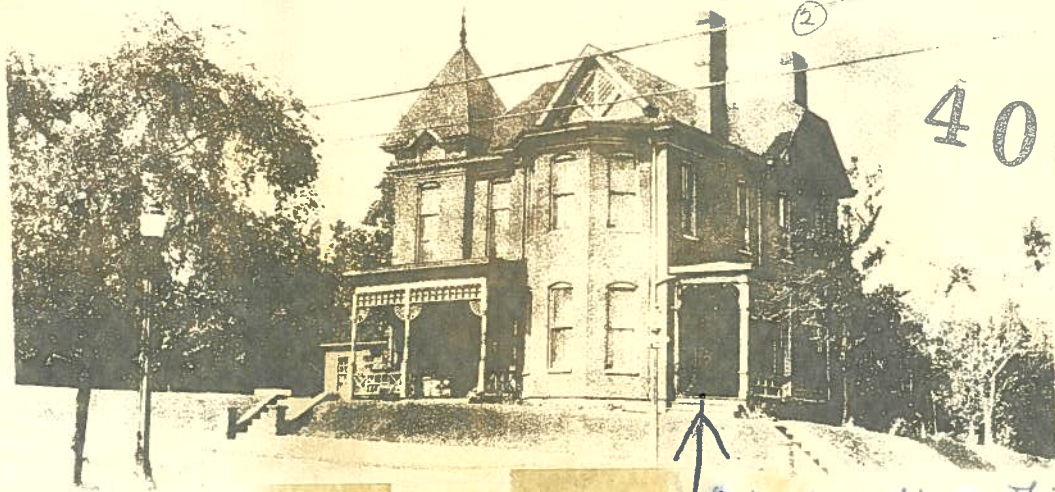
Craftsman at Texas and Pacific shops milled much of interior woodwork.

Wide double sliding door



Original photograph of the house - inscribed, signed - Reason
615 D. Washington Ave. Marshall, Tex.

Two chimney
closed at roof line.



4007

Only alterations - This side porch
on N. side has been removed.

Same house - 1978



Kolak arch over window



18" x 12" side opening above window

4007

Dependency house at back where negro Webb



lived who made brick to build house

Brick yard was located on the back of the property, before Girocchio built his home here, brick yard was owned by builder, and the brick used to build the house was made on the property by a negro named Webb, Mandy Webb, his wife worked for Mrs. Girocchio and later for the Signaigo family. (So attached to family Mandy Webb attended wedding of Alice Signaigo Rice in Dallas in 1924)

The dependency house is still on the property back of the 2 storied brick house, located at 615 N. Washington.

Remnants of kiln where brick were made located by Ted Power of

4007



Charles Diocchio (center) with nephews
(l.) Augustus, and (r.) George Signaigo.
Photographed in Marshall, Texas, 1896.

Charles Diocchio, Builder of house.
George Signaigo, nephew owner,

Original photograph in
Harrison Co. Historical Museum
Marshall, Texas



Top - side view - Stella

4007

Stella, Ginocchio, only child of builder.
(1871-1887). Marble monuments sculptured
in Italy from the above picture. Original
picture in H. C. Museum.

Monument with sculptured bust of
Stella on marble columned pedestal
with Mrs. Ginocchi's likeness
sculptured in marble base on
next page were commissioned
on trip to Italy by Charles Gin-
occhio and his nephew Augustine
Signaigo during a visit to the
homeland.

Monument is in Greenwood Cemetery
Marshall, Texas.



FRONT - Middle

Stella had a birth injury. Famous doctors
studied her case. Johns Hopkins doctors
diagnosed her case as a brain tumor.
She was partially paralyzed.

6.



Rose Walters Ginoecchio

4007

Bruce & Corti,

Artists

COR. WASHINGTON AVE. & BURLESON ST.
Marshall, Tex.

Italian marble monument with Rose Walters Ginoecchio sculptured in bas relief base made from picture above. (original in H. C. Hist. Museum)

Monument with Mother + Daughter



In background - Signaids in Foreground

4007



Mrs. George Joseph Signaigo (nee Elizabeth Cook)
 (9/25/1876 - 11/13/1947) Marshall, Texas
 (original photo - H.C. Historical Museum)

Mother of three Signaigo daughters, all married
 to prominent Dallas men.

(1) Ethel, m. Myron Everts - (no children)

(2) Alice, m. J. Percival Rice, Attorney,
 4 sons: George Signaigo Rice, John Carter Rice,
 Robert Cook Rice, & James Percival Rice.

(3) Eula m. 1st hus. Dr. Danton Mc Bride, (d.) 2 daughters, Shirley Elizabeth
 (Mrs. G.P. McCarter II), Eula, (Mrs. Ed Crow Miller)



Mr. and Mrs. Behn Cook, made on their 50th Wedding Anniversary celebrated in Dallas at home of daughter, Mrs. George Signaigo 3321, Oak Lawn, Dec. 23, 1925.

Owners of Genocchio House: Jan. 21, 1900 to 1945 -
Jointly owned with daughter and son-in-law
George J. Signaigo from 1919 to 1945
Deed records of H. C. 89 pg. 349

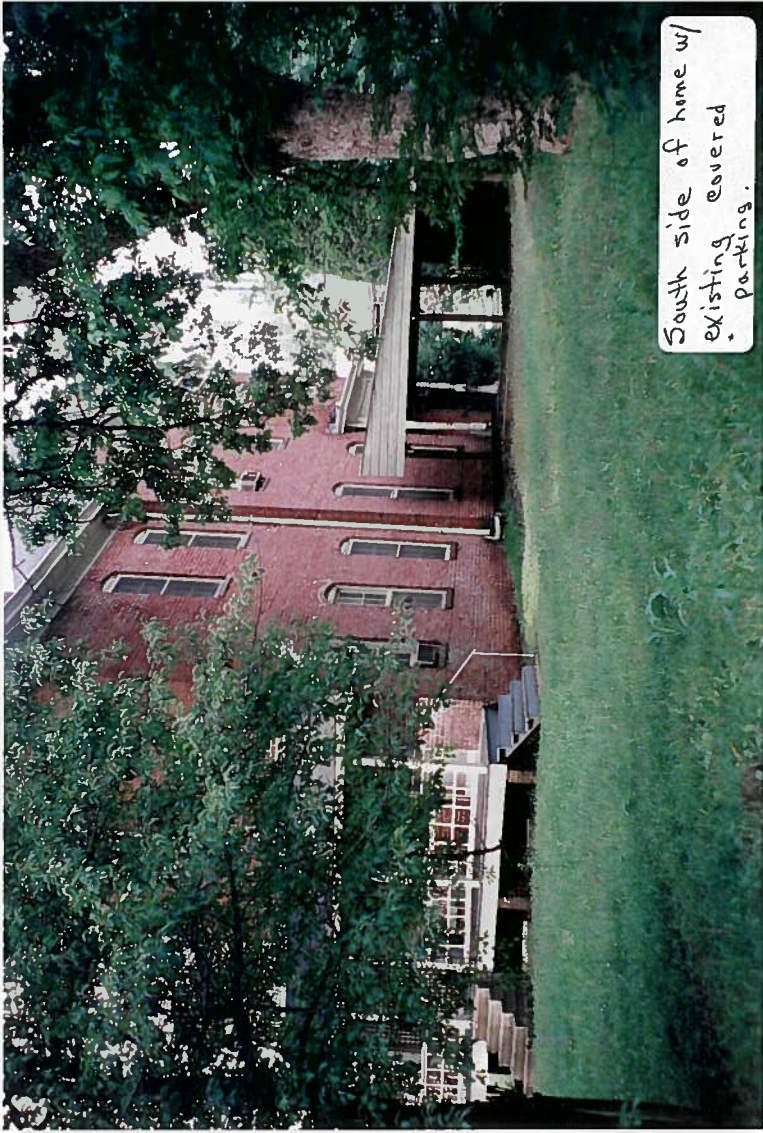




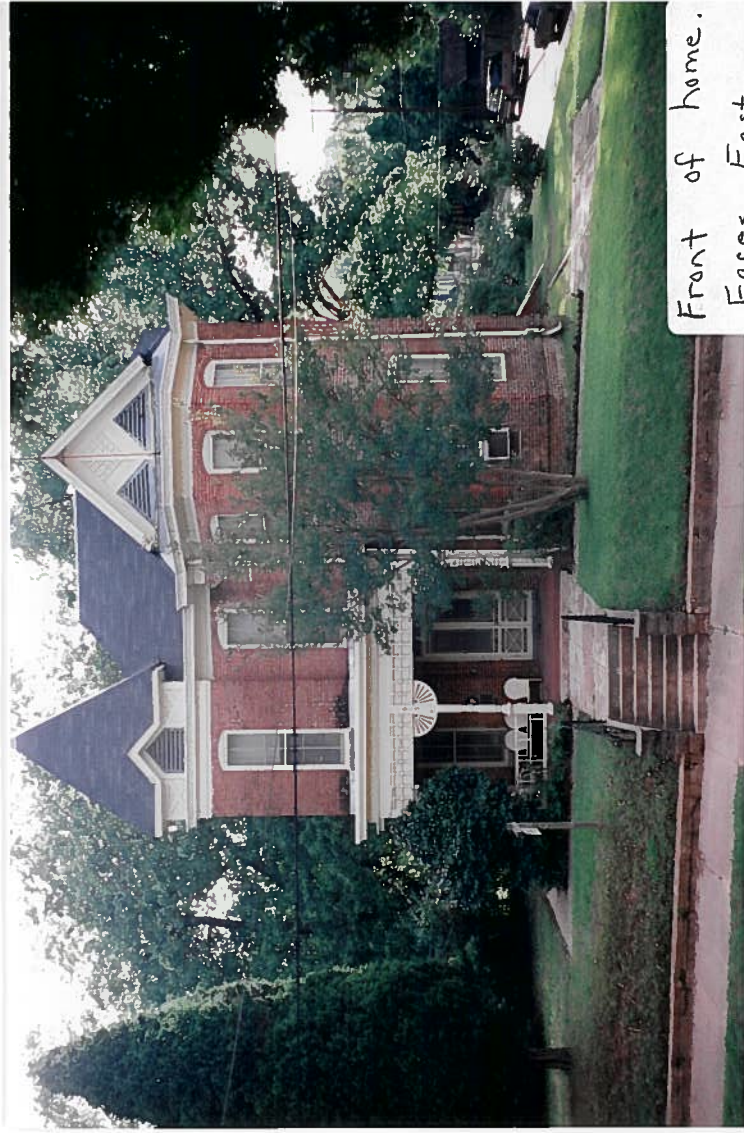
Front (East) and
North side of home



Back of home (west)
and North side.



South side of home w/
existing covered
parking.



Front of home.
East



Back of home.
West

DEDICATION DATE (if known) _____

MARKER NAME ^{Cook-} ~~Signage~~ Ginocchio-Pedison House

JOB#

4007

TOWN Marshall

COUNTY

Harrison

DATE 8-21-73

16"x 12" OTH Building Marker (w/o post)

\$80.00

MARKER

SIZE

PRICE

A. P. Pedison

SIGNER OF CHECK

PROCEDURE FOR MARKER APPLICATION

INITIAL

DATE

gna	8-21-73	1. Application checked and dated
gna	8-21-73	2. Check deposited
DP	8/21/73	3. Folder checked and approved
DP	8-21-73	
		4. Additional information sent for
<i>gna</i>	<i>8-22-73</i>	5. Letter of approval sent, permanent record and DSA recording, labeling, listed & filed in current marker work
DP	9-12-73	6. Checkout to inscription writer
RZ	9-17-73	7. Sent for State Marker Committee approval
<i>gna</i>	<i>10-16-73</i>	8. Inscription submitted for County approval
DP		9. Highway permission secured (if necessary)
<i>gna</i>	<i>10-23-73</i>	10. Order sent to Southwell
<i>DP</i>	<i>11-21-73</i>	11. Rubbing checked
<i>gna</i>	<i>11-23-73</i>	12. Stencil cut
<i>gna</i>	<i>11-26-73</i>	13. Recorded for Marker Guide
<i>gna</i>	<i>11-26-73</i>	14. News release sent, w/copy to TSHSC President (Recorded Landmark Certificate sent, if necessary)
<i>gna</i>	<i>12-4-73</i>	15. Notice of shipment sent
<i>gna</i>	<i>12-5-73</i>	16. Extraneous material deleted, folder given to architectural historian
		17. Folder placed in completed marker file

NAME OF MARKER Ginocchio-Signaigo-Pedison House

TOWN Marshall, COUNTY Harrison

DATE 8-21-73

TO: TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
FROM: TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

4007

On this date the Texas Historical Foundation received a donation for a 16"x 12" OTH Building Marker. 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: NS

Truett Latimer: Approved - If I can read & understand the typescript - I'm sure the SMC can too.

BAH

8-21-73

Initial Date

Deolece Parmelee: The information is great. Gary Hume should express a judgment also. (The typescript is dreadful, or will be when it comes time for us to copy and send to SMC. Could we hire it retyped by a professional, Mr. Watson, please?) D. Parmelee, 8-21-73

GARY HUME:

ARCHITECTURALLY, THE STRUCTURE MEETS ALL REQUIREMENTS.
9LH 8-21-73

Jan
1/10

FROM
THE DESK
OF
Jess Whatley
1801 Lavaca

Oct 3-73

Mr. Truett Latimer.

Dear Truett:

It is a pleasure for me to send you two sheets of Historical senes from Marshall and Harrison County Texas.

It is possibe they may not mean much to you or be any thing that you can use. Any way I thought you might enjoy seeing them.

Best good wishes.

Jess

Please call me if you need to know how to pronounce ** Ginocchio----You will notice in the story the name-- Augustine and Alice Signaigo-----they in later years--the family developed the Brannoni Signaigo Cigar factory in Dallas.

RECEIVED

OCT 9 1973

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE



Texas Historical Commission

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

October 17, 1973

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

RE: Ginocchio-Cook-Pedison House
16"x 12" OTHBuilding Marker (w/o 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:

Bob Watson
Director of Program

TL/km

Harrison

I approve of the inscription for Ginocchio-Cook-

Pedison House

as sent to me October 17, 1973 .

RECEIVED

OCT 23 1973

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY
COMMITTEE

Max S. Love

Signed

10-21-73

Date

Texas Historical Commission staff (DP), 9/13/73;
State Committee synthesis (DP), 10/15/73

16"x 12" Official Texas Historical Building Marker
Harrison County (Order #4007)

Location: 615 N. Washington St.,
Marshall

GINOCCHIO-COOK-PEDISON HOUSE*

ITALIAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS LEADER

CHARLES GINOCCHIO(1844-98)AND WIFE

ROXANA SETTLED IN MARSHALL IN 1871;

BUILT THIS HOME,1886● ARCHITECT:

C.G.LANCASTER,DESIGNER OF COUNTY

COURTHOUSE●IN GINOCCHIO HOUSEHOLD

WAS A NEPHEW,GEORGE J.SIGNAIGO,

WHOSE PARENTS-IN-LAW,MR.AND MRS.

BEHN COOK,BOUGHT PLACE IN 1900,HAD

SIGNAIGOS LIVE WITH THEM UNTIL 1912,

RETAINED TITLE UNTIL 1945●OWNERS

SINCE 1945:GRECIAN-AMERICANS,MR.

AND MRS.A.P.PEDISON,EX-OPERATORS

OF GINOCCHIO HOTEL DINING ROOM●**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1973***

4007

FILE COPY - DO NOT REMOVE

*3/8" lettering to contrast with text

**3/8" lettering

***1/4" lettering

RECEIVED
READY FOR

OCT 23 1973

SOUTHWELL ORDER
TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

APPROVED

Truett Latimer

by Bob Watson
10-23-73

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

BOX 12243 • CAPITOL STATION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 • PHONE GR3-3288

October 23, 1973

Mr. Bill Southwell, Jr.
The Southwell Company
P.O. Drawer 289
San Antonio, Texas 78208

4007

NO. _____

~~We~~ Medallion #1545, with 16" x 12" Plate

~~Ginocchio-Cook-Pedison House
Marshall, TX
Harrison - County~~

Dear Mr. Southwell:

Enclosed is an application for Medallion #1545, with 16" x 12" Plate,
Ginocchio-Cook-Pedison House, for the Marshall, Harrison County.

We would appreciate a rubbing of this inscription.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Gertrude N. Amador
Secretary

GNA/s

Enclosure

SHIP TO:

A. P. Pedison
615 North Washington
Marshall, TX 75670 -

Ginocchio-Pedison Home Becomes Historic Landmark



The long-lasting blend of architectural styles and fusion of cultural heritage resulting from westward expansion of the railways will be uppermost this afternoon as the Conservation Society members and their guests tour the A. P. Pedison home at 615 N. Washington Ave.

Just over a century ago, expansion of transcontinental railway passenger service brought to this area many new businesses and cultures, precipitating Charles Ginocchio to select Marshall for his family home. The affluent businessman had established restaurants, hosteries and other enterprises which followed railroad routes from Arkansas and Louisiana into Texas.

Seeking new opportunity in this land, the Ginocchio family moved to America

from Italy with their friends, the Signaigos after the Garibaldi rebellion. Settling in Richmond, Va., in the 1840's, young Charles Ginocchio and Augustine Signaigo grew to manhood and served with courage and loyalty in the Confederate States of America under General Robert E. Lee. Following the War Between the States, the two lifelong friends married sisters—Roxana and Alice Walters from Grenada, Miss.—thus uniting the two families by marriage.

Charles Ginocchio had many enterprises—a brickyard, a plush saloon under the opera house, where Matthewson Drug and Pelz Jewelry are located today; and the restaurant and saloon by the Texas and Pacific station where actor Maurice Barry-

more was wounded by Jim Currie.

Ninety years ago and 11 years prior to constructing the Ginocchio Hotel, Charles Ginocchio built the house at 615 N. Washington for his enlarged family. Following a yellow fever epidemic in Mississippi which took the lives of Augustine and Alice Signaigo, Mr. and Mrs. Ginocchio brought the Signaigos' orphaned sons to Marshall to raise as their own.

The two-storied house was constructed of brick hand-pressed on the site and fired in a kiln, remnants of which may still be located on the property.

The structure combines the popular Victorian architectural style of the era with hand-carved wooden trim above doors and windows so

characteristic of the Italian Riviera. This blend of architectural styles and fusion of cultural heritage of families that lived here is a note of change on the significance of the westward expansion of the rails.

Skilled craftsmen from the Texas and Pacific Shops milled the fine cornices, doors, windows, woodwork and wainscoting that distinguish the residence as one of the finest homes of the era still extant today.

Located in the community development area, the old house has been rehabilitated and is qualified to be saved, having been brought up to standards of qualifications by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Pedison.

Not only has the house been rehabilitated, it has been

awarded an architectural medallion by the Texas Historical Commission. Papers designating the home as a historical landmark will officially be presented this afternoon. Max Iale, chairman of the Harrison County Historical Survey Committee, will make the presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Pedison, midway during the tea hours.

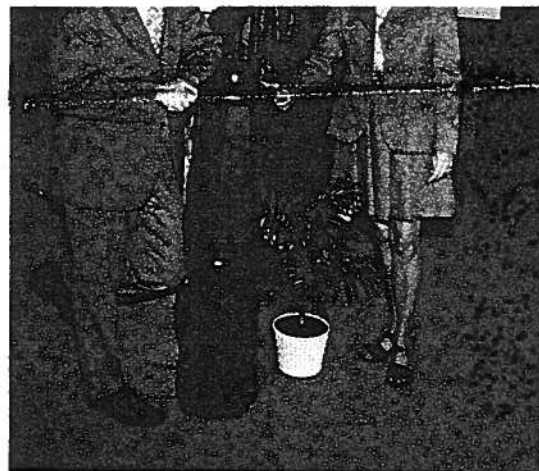
The Pedisons, natives of the Greek Island of Kios, will be joined by their children and grandchildren in welcoming Conservation Society guests from 3 to 4:30 this afternoon. Also in the houseparty will be Mrs. James K. Abney Sr., chairman of the society, and descendants of the Signaigo family and The Rosebuds, one of Marshall's early day social clubs which often met in the home.



TOP LEFT: Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Pedison pose for a family portrait with their daughters and sons, left to right, Mrs. George W. (Angela) Cook Jr. and Miss Helen Pedison, both of Longview, James A. Pedison and John Pedison of Marshall.

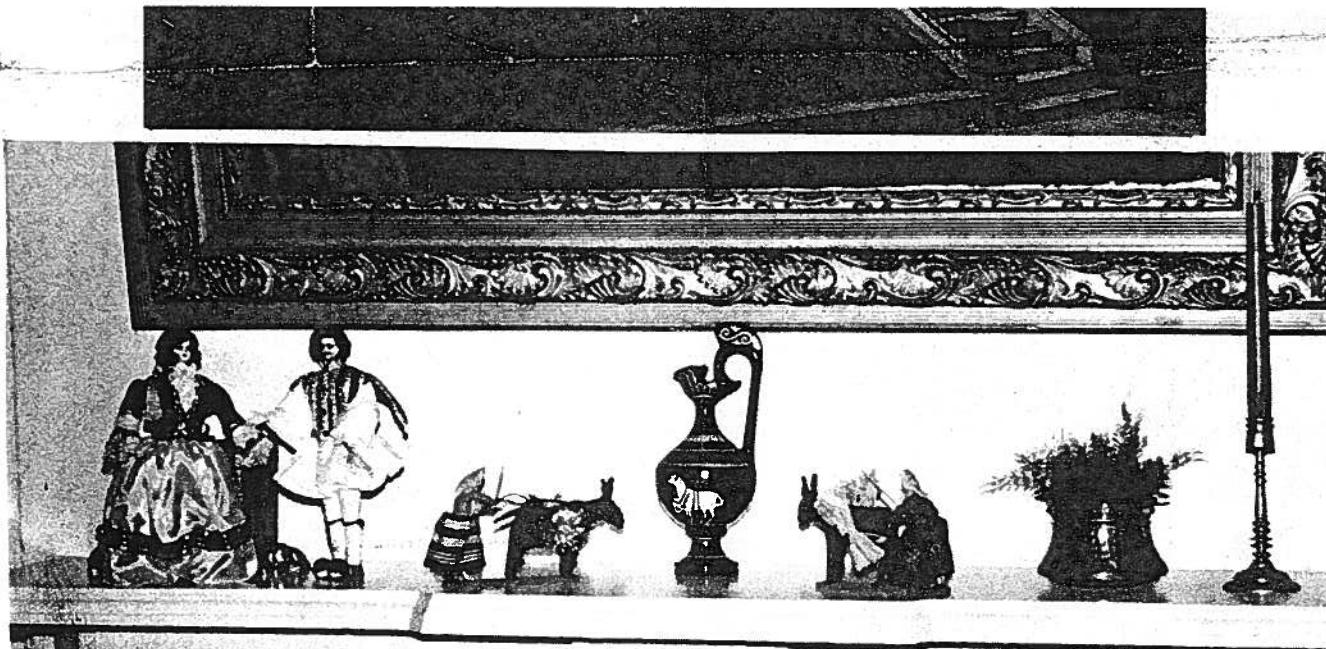
TOP RIGHT: A blend of architectural styles makes the house at 615 N. Washington to be officially recognized.





TOP RIGHT: A blend of architectural styles marks the house at 615 N. Washington, to be officially recognized this afternoon as a historic landmark.

CENTER LEFT: Pictured by the hand-carved staircase are George Cook Jr., Mrs. John Pedison and Mrs. James A. Pedison, who will assist in greeting guests today.



CENTER RIGHT: Grecian urns, Greek dolls in native dress, models of peasant women at work, copper urns and carved brass candlesticks are among mementos from their homeland to be on display at the tea-tour.

OF INTEREST TO
WOMEN

Photos by Frankie McConnell

LOWER LEFT: Granddaughters of the homeowners, Diane and Carol Cook of Longview, finger "worry beads," dressed in traditional Greek costumes.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The James Pedison children, Paul, Susan and Beth — are pictured in an upstairs bedroom which has the original furnishings.



July 6, 1997

RECEIVED

JUL 09 1997

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Ms. Linda Roark , Preservation Consultant
Division of Architecture
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Re: Ginocchio-Cook-Pedison House
615 N. Washington
Marshall, TX

Dear Ms. Roark

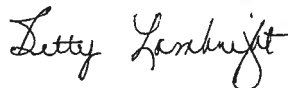
While visiting with you recently, via telephone, concerning the home we are purchasing, you indicated you would assist with plans for covered parking. I have enclosed some photographs which should give you an idea about the location of the existing covered parking structure (which we plan to take down) and other structures on the property. In addition, I have enclosed a rough sketch (not to scale) which will hopefully allow you to see the location of the existing drive way and one-car garage (which we plan to use as a workshop).

The only objection we have to the location of the existing covered parking structure is that it blocks the view and light from the dining room. Access to the house is generally through the side door which enters into a hallway which makes the existing location very convenient.

Naturally, we are interested in the most cost efficient and aesthetically pleasing structure we can construct. In addition to parking space for two cars, we would like to incorporate some storage space in the range of 200 square feet.

If you have any questions, please call me at 903-789-3460 or write me at the address below. Any assistance you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours



Betty Lambright
Rt. 2, Box 94 AB
Karnack, TX 75661



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

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

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

August 11, 1997

Ms. Betty Lambright
Route 2, Box 94 AB
Karnack, Texas 75661

Re: *Ginocchio-Cook- Pedison House, 615 N. Washington, Marshall,
Harrison County, Texas (RTHL)*

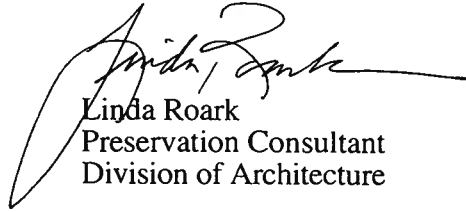
Dear Ms. Lambright:

Thank you for your letter regarding demolition of the existing carport next to the subject historic house, and construction of a new carport. Without a dimensioned site plan, it is difficult to make specific recommendations, but I will try to give some general guidance.

The placement of the existing carport is not too bad, since it is hidden from the public view by the "pot pit" building and vegetation. A new carport could be placed in a similar location, or even further west between the kitchen and the garage and still be hidden from public view. The other possibility would be to place the new carport to the south of the garage, if that land is in your ownership. It appears that area is being used for parking currently, and I think the existing vegetation would hide a carport somewhat from view there. Our primary recommendations would be that the new carport be of simple design, hidden as much as possible from the public view, and not attach to the house.

For your use, I am enclosing a copy of information from the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark file on the property. The historic photograph in the file does appear to indicate that the "pot pit" was an original structure on the property. Interestingly, the marker text incorrectly states that the architect of your house, C. G. Lancaster, also designed the historic Harrison County Courthouse. While Lancaster designed the additions to the Courthouse, the original design was done by J. Riely Gordon. We would welcome any additional information or changes you have on the property for our file. Please feel free to contact me at 512/463-9122, if you have any questions or concerns about this letter.

Yours truly,



Linda Roark
Preservation Consultant
Division of Architecture

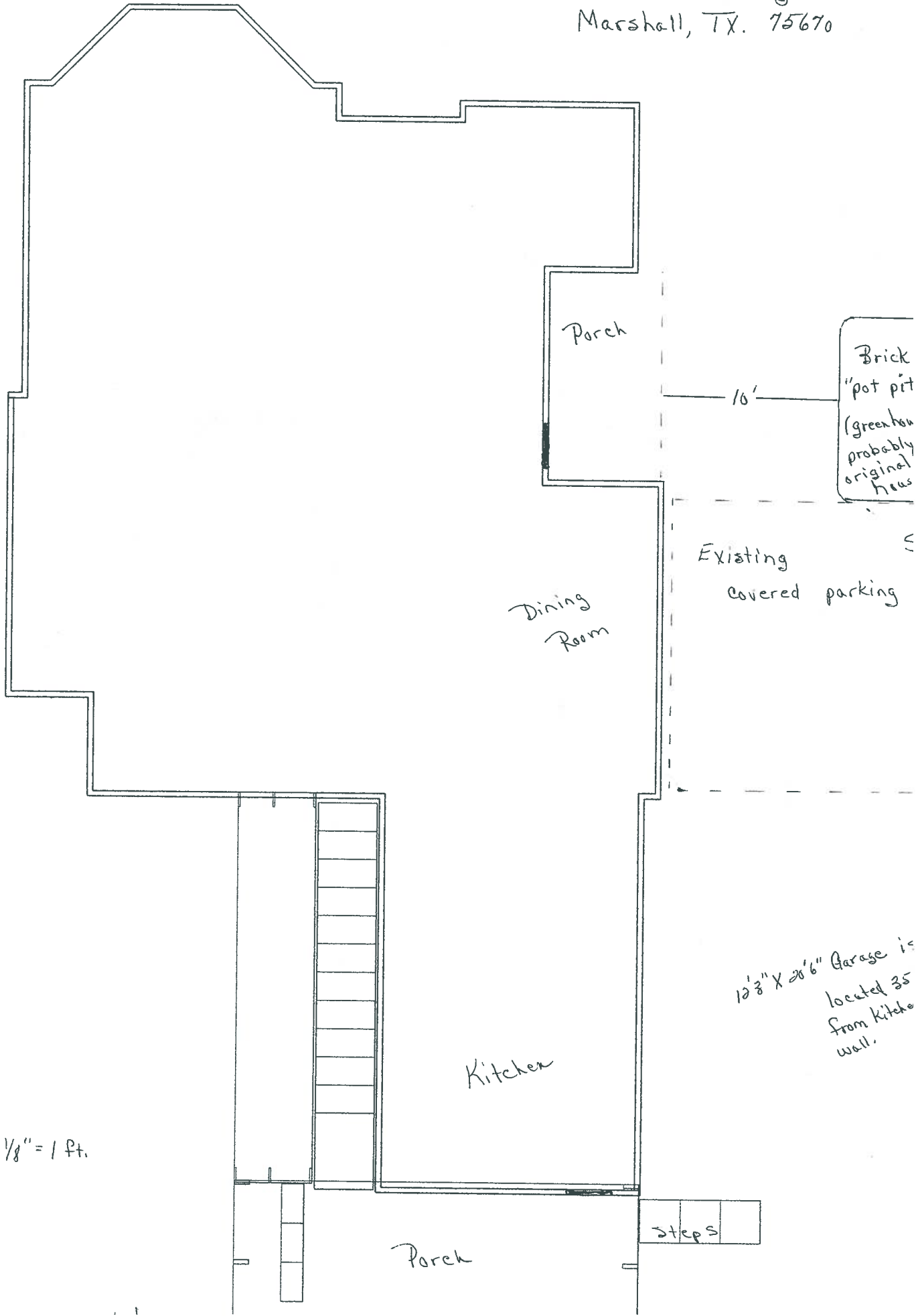
Enclosures

c: Harrison County Historical Commission

E

Ginocchio - Cook - Pedison Home
615 N. Washington
Marshall, TX. 75670

N



Scale (approx) = 1/8" = 1 ft.



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

LTP

George W. Bush • Governor
John L. Nau, III • Chairman
Curtis Tunnell • Executive Director
The State Agency for Historic Preservation

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276

(TELEPHONE) 512/463-6094

(FAX) 512/463-6095

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

TO: Morris O'Tyson 127 Circle Drive Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901	DATE: 9.30.97 RE: <i>Ginocchio Hotel, Marshall, Harrison County (RTHL, NR)</i>
--	---

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE ATTACHED:

COPIES	DESCRIPTION
1 ea.	information on preservation easements
1 ea.	information on publications that carry advertisements for historic real estate
1	Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks information brochure with written notification requirement

REMARKS: I hope this information is helpful. Please contact me at 512/463-9122, if you have any questions.

COPY TO: Files

SIGNED: Linda Roark
TITLE: Preservation Consultant