

Eastern Star refused to have marker.

Application was made without their approval.

Since their approval was never acquired, application could go no further.

(2 Attempts to change their mind. Their attorney had advised them against it, saying it would hamper their efforts to sell the property.)

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118



June 27, 1984

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 E. Division
ARlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

I trust that you and your officers have given the official Texas Historical Marker application for Eastern Star Home careful consideration, and hope that you soon will authorize the application process to resume. I fear that your advisors have labored under a misconception that official Texas historical subject markers place restrictions on the owners' use and control of the property. Nothing could be farther from the truth, as the Constitution of the United States remains intact, including the constitution rights of property.

This is a banner year for official Texas Historical markers for Masonic orders (see enclosures). Nothing would please me more than to include the subject marker for the Eastern Star Home on our list of markers commemorating the stellar role of Masonic endeavors in our great area.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

enclosures

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118

March 16, 1984



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 E. Division
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

I apologize for submitting the official Texas historical marker application for the Eastern Star Home before the final decision to submit it had been made. I had been given to understand that a vote on that matter had been taken.

Please continue the process to authorize the application, for the nonrestrictive subject marker will be a tribute to your fine organization. If the Eastern Star Home should ever be moved to another location, the marker, which will be the property of the Home, can be relocated.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

cc: Dan Utley, Texas Historical Commission



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512) 475-3092

March 13, 1984

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 East Division
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

Thank you for notifying us of your intent to withdraw the Eastern Star Home marker application. We fully understand the authorization process you outlined in your letter.

We are enclosing a copy of the history submitted with the application. The original will be kept in a pending file in our office, in case the application is ever reactivated.

If our office can ever be of assistance to your organization, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Dan K. Utley, Director
Research and Markers Department

DKU/cy
cc: Duane Gage

Enclosure

1111 E. Division
Arlington, Texas 76011



Telephone
(817) 265-6263

RECEIVED
MAR 12 1984

MRS. LOUISE W. ARMSTRONG
Grand Secretary
March 8, 1984

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mr. Dan K. Utley
Director of Research
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

In re: EASTERN STAR HOME

Dear Mr. Utley:

This letter is to confirm the request made this afternoon by long distance telephone to withdraw the Application on file in your office for a Historical Marker for the Eastern Star Home of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, located in Arlington, Texas.

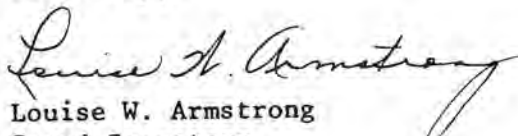
As explained to your Secretary, the Application dated February 16, 1984, is an illegal document as no authorization has been granted.

Before any such Application can be submitted to your Office, it first must be approved by the Worthy Grand Matron, the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter Benevolences and finally by vote of the membership of the Grand Chapter of Texas, O.E.S. No such action has been taken.

Our sincere thanks for mailing the copy of your letter dated February 23, 1984, addressed to Mr. Duane Gage in reference to our Home.

We appreciate the work the Texas Historical Commission is doing for our State.

Sincerely,


Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512) 475-3092

February 23, 1984

Duane Gage
828 Harwood
Hurst, Texas 76054

RE: EASTERN STAR HOME
18" x 28" Subject marker with post

Dear Mr. Gage:

This letter is to notify you that we have received the above referenced marker application.

The application first will be reviewed and evaluated by the Texas Historical Commission staff. Should additional information be needed, you will be contacted. After any deficiencies have been corrected, copies of the application and the history will be sent to the members of the State Marker Committee, who will make final determination of the topic's acceptability for marking.

You will be notified as soon as the committee makes its decision. If the topic is approved for marking we will request payment at the time of notification. If not approved, the application will be returned along with a letter of explanation.

Because of the variables involved in the marker process and because we must coordinate our orders with the schedule of a contracting foundry, we would ask that dedication dates not be set until you have received notice that the marker has been shipped.

We appreciate your interest in preserving the history of Texas.

Sincerely,

Dan K. Utley
Director of Research

DKU/ev

cc: Order of the Eastern Star

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

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

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

February 16, 1984

TARRANT

County

EASTERN STAR HOME

Date

1. Title of marker Eastern Star Home
1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011
2. Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, archeological site, etc., where marker is to be placed.
1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011
3. Marker site (street address or highway number)
Arlington, Texas
4. City or nearest city. If marker is to be placed on a highway or in a small community, you must briefly explain how to get there from nearest town shown on a Texas Highway Department road map. For example, "Marker will be in Bastrop Beach, which is 6 miles southeast of Angleton on FM 523."
Marker Site: Front Lawn of Eastern Star Home
5. Distance (miles, yards, feet) and direction (north, south, east, west) of subject from marker site. For example, "Subject is 1/2 mile southwest of marker site."
6. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, Arlington, Texas 76011 City
Owner of marker site Address
7. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, Arlington, Texas 76011 City
Sponsor of marker Address
8. % TCJC NE Campus 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76054 City
County chairman Address
"I have reviewed the narrative for this marker and attest to its accuracy."
9. Patsy Sawyer Foster, Administrator, 1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011 City
Person to whom marker is to be shipped Street Address
Note: If marker is to be placed on a highway right-of-way, it will automatically be shipped to your district highway engineer.
10. Surface to which marker will be attached (i.e., wood, brick, stucco over stone) if not on post.

ORDER FORM

Please consult page 7 for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Then mail this application and narrative history, together with a check made payable to the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, to the address above. No applications will be accepted unless payment is included. If marker application is cancelled after the inscription is written, the Texas Historical Commission will deduct the cost of writing the inscription from the refund.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

5% state sales tax must be added to the price, except if purchased by a tax exempt organization.

- | | | With Tax |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) | \$175 \$183.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16" x 12" building marker with post | \$225 \$236.25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16" x 12" building marker without post | \$175 \$183.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | National Register plaque | \$ 35 \$ 36.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 27" x 42" subject marker with post | \$575 \$603.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 27" x 42" subject marker without post | \$525 \$551.25 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 18" x 28" subject marker with post | \$325 \$341.25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 18" x 28" subject marker without post | \$250 \$262.50 |

MARKER REPLICA PAPERWEIGHT

This item should be ordered at the same time marker is ordered. Indicate quantity desired. Allow six months for completion of marker for receipt of paperweight.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3" x 4" plastic paperweight mounted with replica of marker | With tax \$ 75 \$ 78.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Medallion paperweight, allows four lines of engraving | \$ 25 \$ 26.25 |

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Please indicate quantity desired and location:

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign | \$ 65 | With Tax \$ 68.25 |
|---|-------------|-------------------|

These will be placed by the District Highway Engineer

- Black and white (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
 Green and white (for interstate highways)

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 18" x 22" Historical Marker (in black and white only) | \$ 65 | With tax \$ 68.25 |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
- For city and county roads. Applicant must supply post.

- With arrow pointing straight ahead
 With arrow pointing left
 With arrow pointing right

HISTORY
OF
THE
EASTERN STAR HOME
(1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011)

Story compiled by:

Mrs. June McKinney, Secretary
Richland Hills Chapter #1040
1983-1984

General Chairman Founders Day
1982-1983 Grand Chapter of Texas

Worthy Matron Richland Hills #1040
1979-1980

EASTERN STAR HOME

The Order of the Eastern Star was founded by Dr. Rob Morris, a Master Mason. In Michigan in 1867, the first Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star was organized. All Grand Chapters of all states were united under one organization, called General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 16, 1876. The General Grand Chapter has jurisdiction over all Grand Chapters in the U. S., the Provinces in Canada and the Grand Chapter of Puerto Rico. The Grand Chapters of New York and New Jersey are independent and are not recognized by this Grand Chapter, as they have different acceptable rules of membership. The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland has jurisdiction over Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, So. Africa, New Zealand and Australia. In Washington, D. C., an International Temple and all offices of General Grand Chapter are located.¹

The idea of providing a home for the Eastern Star Ladies of Texas is credited to Mrs. Laura B. Hart and Dr. Alfred C. McDaniel. These two dedicated Eastern Star members served the Grand Chapter of Texas and also the General Grand Chapter. Mrs. Laura B. Hart served as Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas in 1892-1893,² and Most Worthy Grand Matron in 1903.³ Dr. McDaniel served as Worthy Grand Patron in 1901-1902,⁴ and Most Worthy Grand Patron from 1919 until 1922.⁵

1 Information gathered from Ritual

2 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1892-1893-11th Session

3 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1903-1904-22nd Session

4 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902-20th Session

5 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1919-1920-38th Session

In the 1900 session of Grand Chapter, Mrs. Laura B. Hart introduced a resolution for the creation of a fund that would be used to build a home for the aged and Indigent Masons of Texas. Dr. McDaniel signed this resolution along with Mrs. Hart, and it was adopted by the 1900 session of Grand Chapter.⁶

Because the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Texas was promoting a home for the aged Master Masons of Texas, Dr. McDaniel in 1902⁷ recommended that funds be set aside to provide a home for aged Eastern Star members.

By taking a portion of the dues paid by members and putting in a fund called "The Charity Fund"⁸ a trust was built in which the Eastern Star Home was constructed. A permanent fund was started in 1909⁹ and by an amendment it became impossible to use this money without the vote of delegates at two Grand Chapter Sessions.

In the Grand Chapter Session of 1911¹⁰ it was decided a definite plan would be formulated for the development of the Home. In the Grand Chapter Session of 1912¹¹ the increase of the Home Fund gave the Board of Trustees the confidence they needed to advance to a more concrete plan for the erection of the Home.

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 6 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1900-1901 | 19th Session |
| 7 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902 | 20th Session, p.59 |
| 8 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902 | 20th Session, p.97 |
| 9 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 28th Session, p.38 |
| 10 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 29th Session, p.121 |
| 11 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 30th Session, p.131 |

During the next 10 years, the Home Fund continued to increase. In 1921 the Grand Chapter of Texas decided it had an obligation to provide a home for its elderly members who are no longer able to live alone, where they can live comfortable with care and lots of love.¹²

A permanent endowment Home Fund was accumulated and a location and site selected for the Eastern Star Home. At the 1922 Session of Grand Chapter the following resolution was adopted, looking toward the selection of a location for the Eastern Star Home. The Board of Trustees sent out a letter to all Grand Officers and past Grand Officers and to each subordinate chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas, setting out the details the Board thought necessary for a suitable location for the Eastern Star Home. Favorable climate, an abundant supply of good water, ample railroad facilities, good sanitary conditions, wholesale and retail markets of fruits and vegetables, meats, etc. near at hand, nearness of public schools so that such children as might come to live in the Home could be educated without undue additional expense to the Home, opportunity for church services for the aged members was also to be considered. The Board stated that they did not deem it desirable to own a large acreage for dairies, orchards, the keeping of pigs or chickens, for the members of the Home would probably need rest and care, instead of work and responsibilities. It was stated their desire was "it shall be a home of comfort and ease, rest and freedom from care, to have new, modern, fire-proof buildings, which will be the best that can be provided for our purposes and needs."¹³

12 Proceedings of 39th Session, p.92 of Grand Chapter

13 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 144 of Grand Chapter

Sugarland, San Marcos, Brownwood, Arlington, Marshall and San Antonio submitted offers of locations when Grand Chapter met in Dallas in October of 1922.¹⁴ By majority vote of all delegates present, and of Chapters represented, the property offered by Arlington was chosen. This was ten acres of land, donated by Samuel Poyntz Cockran, Past Worthy Grand Patron and his wife, and which adjoined the Masonic Home near Arlington, surely a most generous gift.¹⁵

Resolution was presented by E. J. Hosey, unanimously adopted by vote of Chapters and delegates, "that the board of Grand Trustees be authorized and directed to proceed at once to secure a suitable plan and to erect a suitable building, or buildings for use as a Home, the total sum to be expended-not to exceed the sum of \$150,000.00.¹⁶ In some manner information reached the members of Grand Chapter that the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington were anxious to secure the site donated by Mr. Cochran and his wife for the O.E.S. Home, and the following resolution was presented by Brother Hosey and unaniously adopted.

"Inasmuch as the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington are anxious to secure the site recently donated to the Trustees of the Home. The Grand Trustees are hereby authorized to, in the event of the new location on the Peters Farm being as favorably located as the one donated, having the same frontage on the Bankhead Highway and all other things being as well located, they have the authority to

14 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 131 of Grand Chapter

15 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 134 of Grand Chapter

16 Proceedings of 42nd Session, p. 136 of Grand Chapter

exchange the two sites. This is the donated site situated at the southwest corner of the present Old Folks Home."¹⁷

By April 11, 1924 the building had reached the point where the conerstone could be placed in the building.¹⁸ This ceremony was performed by Sam P. Cochran, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas AF and AM and Past Grand Patron of Texas proteming for the Worshipful Grand Master of Texas. Mrs. Norton B. Welborn was the Worthy Grand Matron and T. J. Halbrook was Worthy Grand Patron and both participated in the program.¹⁹ Its inscription reads "Eastern Star Home, Erected to God and Dedicated for Faternal Service by the Grand Chapter of Texas."²⁰

The Home was completed and on October 26, 1924, it was formally dedicated.²¹ The Home was opened on April 25, 1925 and nine ladies and one child were assigned rooms in their new Home.²² The Home was built with bedrooms for thirty-nine adults and nine children. From the opening until 1943, 34 children lived in the Home.²³ As of this writing the Home has (91) residents.²⁴ Each lady is given a private room which she fills with her own personal furniture, pictures, and mementos. Each door has the lady's name and name of her home Chapter. All the ladies not only belong to a Chapter, but are adopted by other Chapters who remember her at all special occasions.

17 Proceedings of 42nd Session of Grand Chapter, p.145

18 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, W. M. report, p.53

19 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, p.126

20 Cornerstone outside of O.E.S Home, S. E. corner

21 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt.-W.G.M. rpt.p.53

22 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt. p. 56

23 Grand Chapter Sessions 1925-1943 Newspaper in Museum O.E.S. Home

24 Home officials resource

Mrs. Rebecca Miles, Worthy Grand Matron, 1936 (who now is a resident of the Home) recommended that our constitution and laws be changed, to provide a separate board for the exclusive operation of the O.E.S. Home and for disbursing under established rules of the Benevolent Fund. This Board is known as the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter Benevolences and has five members, one elected each year from one of the five districts in Texas.²⁵

The need for a hospital was the project of Mrs. Mabel Harles Worthy Grand Matron in 1950.²⁶ In 1952 Mrs. Mildred Garlitz, Worthy Grand Matron raised over \$31,000.00 for the hospital fund²⁷ and in 1954 the Hospital unit was completed under the leadership of Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Mary Ella Shoverling.²⁸ The hospital or infirmary as the ladies refer to it, was licensed in 1971. Any lady who cannot care for herself is placed in the hospital where she has a private room and is cared for by nurses. The infirmary maintains a qualified nursing staff and a doctor is always on call. When necessary, the patients are transferred to Arlington hospitals where they are treated.

It was under the leadership of Mrs. Katherine Poulis, Worthy Grand Matron in 1958-59 when the Pink Ladies and Pink Ties was created.²⁹ This is a volunteer program to assist the Ladies with the many activities and projects they can do themselves. To be a Pink Lady or Pink Tie, each member donates \$1.00 and receives a pink heart to place on her/his dues card. This money is then used to buy supplies for the ladies ceramics, beauty shop and other needed items.

²⁵ Grand Chapter 54th Session, pg. 132

²⁶ Grand Chapter 68th Session, pg. 154

²⁷ Grand Chapter 71st Session

²⁸ Grand Chapter 69th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 145-46

²⁹ Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 373

During the year 1958=59 Mrs. Mildred Haney Harris, Past Grand Matron and Past Most Worthy Grand Matron was superintendent of the Home, a program was created to help supplement the money needed to keep the Home in good repairs and buy needed items for the Home.³⁰ This program is the first weekend in August and is named Founders Day in celebration of the birthday of the founder of the Eastern Star, Dr. Rob Morris. This year your editor is General Chairman of this committee and hopes to raise over \$75,000.00 for the Home. Each year it is very successful, with members coming in from all over the state to help with this two day celebration.

30 Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter - Welfare rpt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cornerstone outside O.E.S. Home, S.E. corner

Interviews with home officials

Grand Chapter Session Reports, 43rd G. Chapter

Proceedings of Grand Chapter Sessions, 1892-1943

Miscellaneous clippings and documents, in O.E.S. Museum

Welfare Reprt, Grand Chapter 77th Session 1959

Duane Gage

Would it be possible
to set up presentation of
Historical mocked for the
Home for about 3:00
on Sat Aug 6th. The
weekend will be Founder
Day week-end and
people from all over
the state will be at
the Home —

Please call me and
let me know what I
need to do as they have
more or less turned it
over to us to get
going —

Gene
281-26272

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118



September 27, 1983

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Anderson
S. J. Stovall
A. Lynn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Eno Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Sec. Larry Landis
Treas. John Hugh Smith

MEMBERS
Frances M. Allen
Gibbet Angulano
Mrs. J. J. Barker
Mrs. Joe Bos
Gene Brooks
Larry Rudanauro
Paul Campbell
Beth Canright
B. J. Clark
Marty Craddock
David Dinnest
Alla Lee Fitch
Beryl Gibson
Gary Havard
Marilene Juran
Gordan Kelley
Katherine Livingston
Charlie McCafferty
Steve Murrin
R. Patrick Norrie
Marilyn Patterson
Michael E. Patterson
Janie Reid
Carol Roark
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Joseph E. Scudiero
Billy W. Sills
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
Mildred Sprattling
Jon Vandagriff
Doyle Willis, Jr.
C. George Younkin

June McKinney
5328 Ammons Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76117

Dear June:

Congratulations on your fine application for an official Texas historical marker for the Eastern Star Home, Arlington. It can be submitted to the Texas Historical Commission successfully, I feel, if we will include the following:

1. A brief statement at the end of the first paragraph stating when the Eastern Star became organized in Texas.
2. Clarification of the selection of the site for the permanent location; a statement can be added to the end of the top paragraph on page 5.
3. A check for \$325.00, made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

I look forward to working with you and John on the successful completion of this marker project.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

Duane,

Finally got it typed and hope it is o.k.
I am enclosing the front copy of the book the Founders Day Committee, namely, June and John put out this summer. The story was written by my husband John and I used some of the material gathered for this as I felt it was more what the Historical Society could use, if not please let me know. Jim Ward Director of the Masonic Home has asked me to do the story on the Masonic Home, but I have not gotten the material to work with as yet. I will have more time now that Founders Day is over and the work has slowed down some. Our committee has received over \$64,000.00 as of this date and hoping for \$75,000.00 by Grand Chapter which is in November.

Best to you and Nancy and the girls.



June McKinney

EASTERN STAR HOME
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

JUNE MCKINNEY
HISTORY I

Presented for Credit
D. Gage's Hist. ~~2613~~
Dec 1981



It was in 1921 when the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, decided it had an obligation to provide a home for its elderly members who are no longer able to live alone, where they could live comfortable, with care and lots of love.

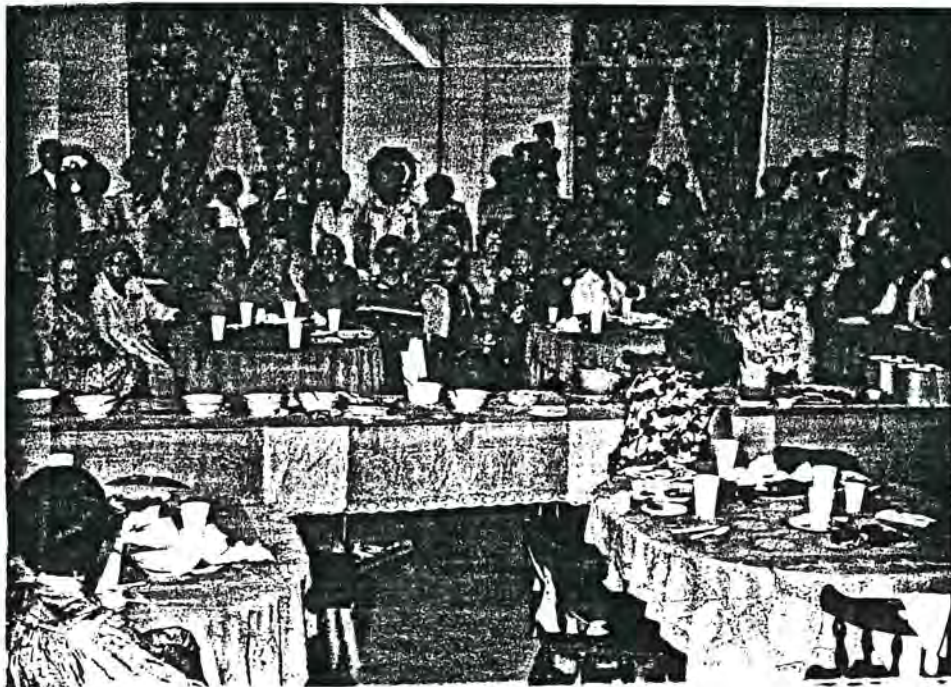
On October 22, 1923, construction began on land which was donated by Judge and Mrs. Sam P. Cockran in Arlington. The cornerstone was laid on April 11, 1924. Its inscription reads "Eastern Star Home, Erected to God and Dedicated for Fraternal Service by the Grand Chapter of Texas."

The doors of the Eastern Star Home opened to its first residents on April 25, 1925 and the home has been fulfilling its worthwhile purpose ever since. After the doors opened the Home grew and in 1931 two wings were added,

Page 2

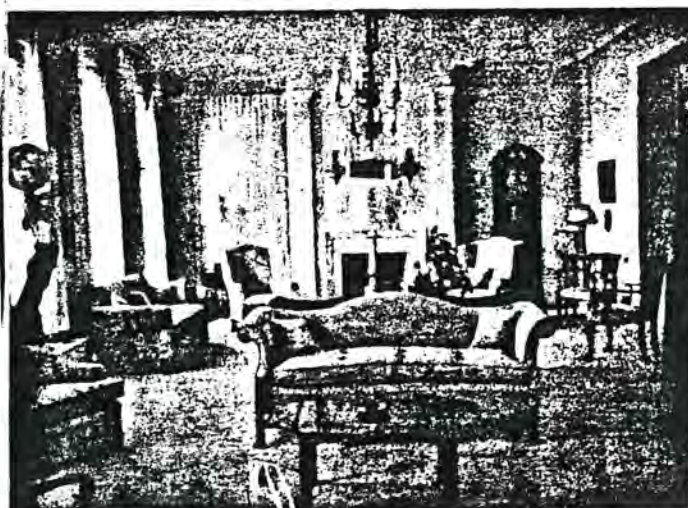
including a new kitchen and an enlarged dining room. In 1944-45 sixteen more rooms were built and a hospital added.

The home has an atmosphere of friendliness and love. The rooms are all light and cheery and in the downstairs living rooms there are many pieces of furniture brought by the ladies who have come to make this their home. Antique China cabinets display family heirlooms and keepsakes of their owners.



DINING ROOM WITH SEVERAL OF THE LADIES AT A PARTY GIVEN BY THE "CIRCLE OF LOVE"

The living rooms have many comfortable divans and chairs. Throughout the Home there are sitting rooms which have television sets and comfortable chairs. Jigsaw puzzles can be found on card tables in a lot of the rooms. All of these rooms overlook the grounds as they have many windows.



DOWNSTAIRS LIVING ROOM

MARY RUSHING, ONE OF THE LOVELY RESIDENTS SITTING IN ONE OF THE MANY SITTING ROOMS AT THE END OF THE WINGS. MARY IS A VERY TALENTED LADY, WHO HELPED AS ILLUSTRATOR AND CALLIGRAPHER ON A SHAP BOOK FOR THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON. MARY WROTE FOR THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE FOR MANY YEARS AND TAUGHT TEXAS HISTORY AND SPELLING IN JR. HIGH AND WAS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRIAN FOR 12 YEARS.

There is a well stocked library, including every type of book or other reading material you could want. The library service of Arlington visits the Home weekly where the ladies select books of their choice.



To keep our ladies beautiful, two beauty shops are available to the ladies. One is a volunteer shop and the other is serviced with a licensed beautician. The volunteer shop, which is free, has members from Chapters throughout the Metroplex who give a day of their time. I volunteer two days a month and always receive much more than I give.

Also ceramics are made and volunteers from the surrounding Chapters work with the ladies. The ladies are all talented in so many ways, sewing, needlecraft and art. These items are on display at all times and are for sale. The ladies help to supplement their income with this and are kept busy.

The dining room is spacious and has oval tables where each lady has her place at one of them. When Chapters give parties, this is where most are held. Richland Hills #1040, which is the Chapter my husband and I belong to, takes gifts and refreshments each month and play bingo. Each time 45 to 50 ladies attend.



DINING ROOM



CHAPEL

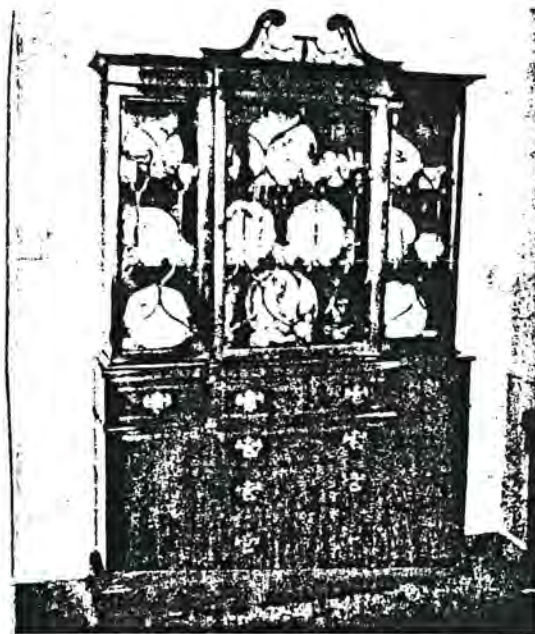
The Chapel is always open for private meditation or group sessions. Bible studies are held weekly usually lead by one of the residents. The ladies like

to sing and pianos and organs are located throughout the Home. There are many talented ladies who play and they take turns accompanying these singings. Each morning at 7:00 a.m. the ladies gather and sing gospel songs before they go in for breakfast.

As of this time there are ninety one (91) residents and each lady is given a private room which she fills with her own personal furniture, pictures, and mementos. Each door has the lady's name and the name of her home Chapter. All the ladies not only belong to a Chapter, but are adopted by other Chapters who remember her at all special occasions.



FRANCES MASSINGILL'S ROOM



CHINA CABINET DISPLAYED IN LIVING ROOM BELONGING TO MRS. MASSINGILL

To be able to enter our Eastern Star Home, you must be a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Texas for ten years and be sponsored by a Chapter. No age requirement, but she must need a home, be unattached and be able to take care of herself. Any real or personal property must be signed over to the Home

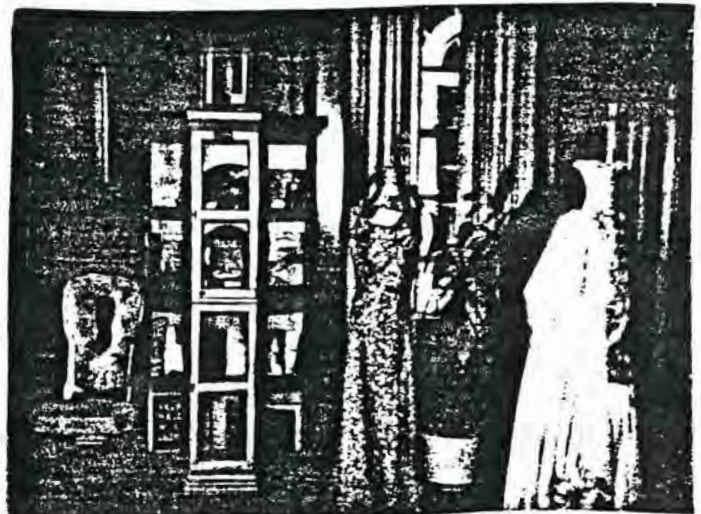
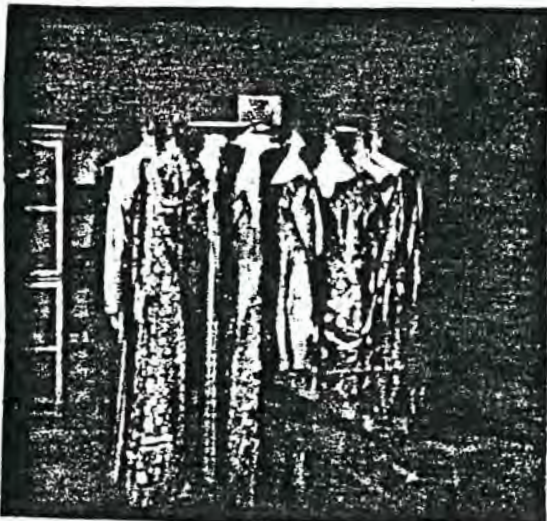
Page 6

and in turn each one is taken care of completely, plus they receive a small monetary amount each month to spend as they please.

The hospital or infirmary as the ladies refer to it was licensed in 1971. Any lady who becomes ill, is cared for there. The infirmary maintains a qualified nursing staff and a doctor is always on call. When necessary, patients are treated at Arlington hospitals.

Mrs. Minnie Rogers from Laredo Chapter has been in the Home for 28 years. She is 91 years old and has been a member of the Order for 58 years. She is very active and always attends our parties and does needlework. She has been at the Home while they have had seven different superintendents. Her only living relative lives in Indiana where she lived until she married a Texan and moved to Texas many years ago. Mrs. Aliena Hedding was ninety three and was the oldest resident at the Home until she passed away recently leaving Mrs. Rogers as the oldest resident.

Mrs. Patsy Sawyer Foster, the administrator-superintendent of the Home, is a gracious lady who finds joy in her work. She treats each lady as an individual and in so doing is loved by all.

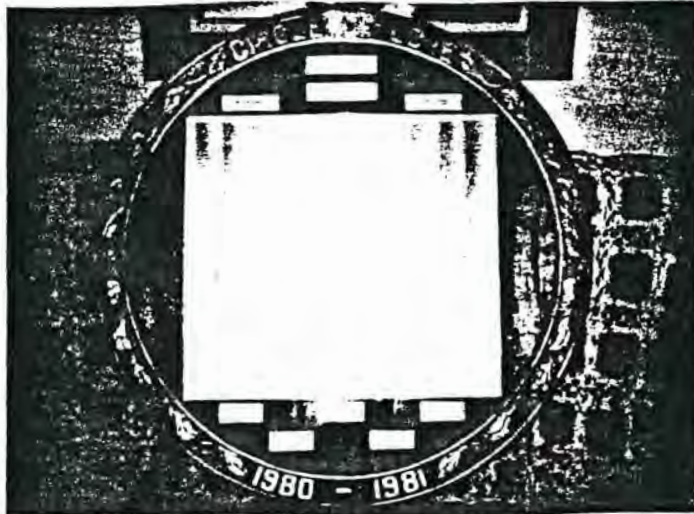


MUSEUM

Page 7

The Museum is a place of history and traditions of the Order. Many beautiful gowns worn by Worthy Grand Matrons since 1923-24, photographs, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks and emblems are on display here.

Many committees throughout the years have worked to help endow our beautiful Home. One of these projects this last year was the Circle of Love. It consisted of Worthy Matrons from the 723 Chapters throughout the state. I was privileged to be Chairman of this committee, and the money raised will go to help endow the Home. This plaque was made and now hangs in the Eastern Star Home with all the names of those on the committee. The Home Endowment Committee consists of one member from each five districts and collects money for the Home. They are a committee each year as the Circle of Love was a special committee for one year. The Humanitarian Committee collects from each member and the money is given to Home Endowment, O.E.S. Home, Estarl (Committee to award scholarships to divinity students), and other needy organizations.



CIRCLE OF LOVE PLAQUE

Rob Morris the founder of Eastern Star is honored each year with a Founders Day Celebration the last weekend of August. Members from all over

the state come in and help with this big event where the money made goes to buy needed items for the Home. This year was very successful and many things are being done to help beautify the Home. Each member donates through her or his Chapter and this in addition to the amount made on the Founders Day weekend, helps to supply the needs of our Home.

Our Grand Offices are located on the grounds of the Home. Mrs. Agnes Lee Howard, Grand Secretary for 10 years went out of office in October and Mrs. Louise Armstrong was elected as the new Grand Secretary. All the records of the 723 Chapters as of June 1, 1981, are here. Grand Chapter which is all the Past Matrons and Past Patrons of Texas meet once a year to elect new officers and to conclude the past years business. Reports are given by all committee Chairmen and all new amendments are presented and voted on. The next session will be in October 1982 and will be the 100th anniversary. The Worthy Grand Matron in office is from Fort Worth; therefore, Grand Chapter next year will be in Fort Worth. My husband and I are members of the Arrangement Committee for this year and it will be our job to help get this 100th Grand Chapter Session ready and see that it runs smoothly.

As any member can tell you, the Eastern Star Home is the pride of Texas and the ladies who reside there are our special friends. We each feel a responsibility to the Home and to the ladies who reside there. I feel as proud of the Home as if I helped build it.

INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE
Administrator-Superintendent.	6
Beauty Shops.	4
Chapel.	4
Committees.	7
Dining Room	4
Eligability	5
Grand Offices	8
Home Construction	1
Hospital.	6
Ladies of Home	2
Library	3
Living Room	2&3
Massingill, Frances	5
Museum.	6&7
Oldest Resident	6
Pride of Home	8
Rushing, Mary	3
100th Anniversary	8

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118

May 26, 1983



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Mr. Randy Thompson, Atty.
Oil and Gas Building
309 West 7th Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I have been consulting with Mrs. John McKinney, concerning the preparation of an official Texas historical subject marker for the Eastern Star Home in Arlington. Mrs. McKinney has informed me that you have advised that an application for an official Texas historical marker not be submitted, on the grounds that it might restrict the Home's control, use, and/or disposition of the property.

As you can see from the enclosed publication, property owners are not restricted by official Texas historical subject markers. Only official building markers for historic structures carry any restrictions, and they are only minor in nature, imposing a 60 to 90 day period before a landmark structure can be altered or demolished.

Official subject markers add a great deal of prestige to a site, and to the subject being honored, without placing any restriction on the owner's use or disposition of the property whatsoever.

Once you have studied the enclosed guidelines and policies, I am sure that you can agree that there is no reason to withhold this honor from the Eastern Star Home in Arlington. I would be most appreciative if you can notify the staff there that they can go on with their preparation of the marker application.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

201-2622

Jane
McKenney

8-23-82

Lawyer
said to

Shelue
marked Masons
union

Arlington 76012

275-2893

Mrs. Patsy Foster, Administrator
1201 E. Division ~~St~~
Eastern Star Home
Arlington 76011

Mrs. Gene Yation

P.O. Box 7195 76111

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711

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

February 16, 1984

TARRANT

County EASTERN STAR HOME Date _____

1. Title of marker Eastern Star Home

2. 1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011

Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, archeological site, etc., where marker is to be placed.
1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011

3. Marker site (street address or highway number)

4. Arlington, Texas

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

5. Marker Site: Front Lawn of Eastern Star Home

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

6. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

Owner of marker site Address City

7. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, Arlington, Texas 76011

Sponsor of marker Address City

8. % TCJC NE Campus 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76054

County chairman Address City

"I have reviewed the narrative for this marker and attest to its accuracy."

9. MARY WOLFF, Administrator, 1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011

Person to whom marker is to be shipped Street Address City

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

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

ORDER FORM

Please consult page 7 for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Then mail this application and narrative history, together with a check made payable to the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, to the address above. No applications will be accepted unless payment is included. If marker application is cancelled after the inscription is written, the Texas Historical Commission will deduct the cost of writing the inscription from the refund.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

5% state sales tax must be added to the price, except if purchased by a tax exempt organization.

		With Tax
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar)	\$175	\$183.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker with post	\$225	\$236.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker without post	\$175	\$183.75
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register plaque	\$ 35	\$ 36.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker with post	\$575	\$603.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker without post	\$525	\$551.25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker with post	\$325	\$341.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker without post	\$250	\$262.50

MARKER REPLICA PAPERWEIGHT

This item should be ordered at the same time marker is ordered. Indicate quantity desired. Allow six months for completion of marker for receipt of paperweight.

<input type="checkbox"/> 3" x 4" plastic paperweight mounted with replica of marker	\$ 75	\$ 78.75
<input type="checkbox"/> Medallion paperweight, allows four lines of engraving	\$ 25	\$ 26.25

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Please indicate quantity desired and location:

24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign \$ 65 \$ 68.25

These will be placed by the District Highway Engineer

- Black and white (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
- Green and white (for interstate highways)

18" x 22" Historical Marker (in black and white only) .. \$ 65 \$ 68.25
For city and county roads. Applicant must supply post.

- With arrow pointing straight ahead
- With arrow pointing left
- With arrow pointing right

HISTORY
OF
THE
EASTERN STAR HOME
(1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011)

Story compiled by:

Mrs. June McKinney, Secretary
Richland Hills Chapter #1040
1983-1984

General Chairman Founders Day
1982-1983 Grand Chapter of Texas

Worthy Matron Richland Hills #1040
1979-1980

EASTERN STAR HOME

The Order of the Eastern Star was founded by Dr. Rob Morris, a Master Mason. In Michigan in 1867, the first Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star was organized. All Grand Chapters of all states were united under one organization, called General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 16, 1876. The General Grand Chapter has jurisdiction over all Grand Chapters in the U. S., the Provinces in Canada and the Grand Chapter of Puerto Rico. The Grand Chapters of New York and New Jersey are independent and are not recognized by this Grand Chapter, as they have different acceptable rules of membership. The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland has jurisdiction over Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, So. Africa, New Zealand and Australia. In Washington, D. C., an International Temple and all offices of General Grand Chapter are located.¹

The idea of providing a home for the Eastern Star Ladies of Texas is credited to Mrs. Laura B. Hart and Dr. Alfred C. McDaniel. These two dedicated Eastern Star members served the Grand Chapter of Texas and also the General Grand Chapter. Mrs. Laura B. Hart served as Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas in 1892-1893,² and Most Worthy Grand Matron in 1903.³ Dr. McDaniel served as Worthy Grand Patron in 1901-1902,⁴ and Most Worthy Grand Patron from 1919 until 1922.⁵

1 Information gathered from Ritual

2 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1892-1893-11th Session

3 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1903-1904-22nd Session

4 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902-20th Session

5 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1919-1920-38th Session

In the 1900 session of Grand Chapter, Mrs. Laura B. Hart introduced a resolution for the creation of a fund that would be used to build a home for the aged and Indigent Masons of Texas. Dr. McDaniel signed this resolution along with Mrs. Hart, and it was adopted by the 1900 session of Grand Chapter.⁶

Because the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Texas was promoting a home for the aged Master Masons of Texas, Dr. McDaniel in 1902⁷ recommended that funds be set aside to provide a home for aged Eastern Star members.

By taking a portion of the dues paid by members and putting in a fund called "The Charity Fund"⁸ a trust was built in which the Eastern Star Home was constructed. A permanent fund was started in 1909⁹ and by an amendment it became impossible to use this money without the vote of delegates at two Grand Chapter Sessions.

In the Grand Chapter Session of 1911¹⁰ it was decided a definite plan would be formulated for the development of the Home. In the Grand Chapter Session of 1912¹¹ the increase of the Home Fund gave the Board of Trustees the confidence they needed to advance to a more concrete plan for the erection of the Home.

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 6 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1900-1901 | 19th Session |
| 7 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902 | 20th Session, p.59 |
| 8 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902 | 20th Session, p.97 |
| 9 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 28th Session, p.38 |
| 10 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 29th Session, p.121 |
| 11 | Proceedings of Grand Chapter | 30th Session, p.131 |

During the next 10 years, the Home Fund continued to increase. In 1921 the Grand Chapter of Texas decided it had an obligation to provide a home for its elderly members who are no longer able to live alone, where they can live comfortable with care and lots of love.¹²

A permanent endowment Home Fund was accumulated and a location and site selected for the Eastern Star Home. At the 1922 Session of Grand Chapter the following resolution was adopted, looking toward the selection of a location for the Eastern Star Home. The Board of Trustees sent out a letter to all Grand Officers and past Grand Officers and to each subordinate chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas, setting out the details the Board thought necessary for a suitable location for the Eastern Star Home. Favorable climate, an abundant supply of good water, ample railroad facilities, good sanitary conditions, wholesale and retail markets of fruits and vegetables, meats, etc. near at hand, nearness of public schools so that such children as might come to live in the Home could be educated without undue additional expense to the Home, opportunity for church services for the aged members was also to be considered. The Board stated that they did not deem it desirable to own a large acreage for dairies, orchards, the keeping of pigs or chickens, for the members of the Home would probably need rest and care, instead of work and responsibilities. It was stated their desire was "it shall be a home of comfort and ease, rest and freedom from care, to have new, modern, fire-proof buildings, which will be the best that can be provided for our purposes and needs."¹³

12 Proceedings of 39th Session, p.92 of Grand Chapter

13 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 144 of Grand Chapter

Sugarland, San Marcos, Brownwood, Arlington, Marshall and San Antonio submitted offers of locations when Grand Chapter met in Dallas in October of 1922.¹⁴ By majority vote of all delegates present, and of Chapters represented, the property offered by Arlington was chosen. This was ten acres of land, donated by Samuel Poyntz Cockran, Past Worthy Grand Patron and his wife, and which adjoined the Masonic Home near Arlington, surely a most generous gift.¹⁵

Resolution was presented by E. J. Hosey, unanimously adopted by vote of Chapters and delegates, "that the board of Grand Trustees be authorized and directed to proceed at once to secure a suitable plan and to erect a suitable building, or buildings for use as a Home, the total sum to be expended-not to exceed the sum of \$150,000.00.¹⁶ In some manner information reached the members of Grand Chapter that the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington were anxious to secure the site donated by Mr. Cochran and his wife for the O.E.S. Home, and the following resolution was presented by Brother Hosey and unaniously adopted.

"Inasmuch as the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington are anxious to secure the site recently donated to the Trustees of the Home. The Grand Trustees are hereby authorized to, in the event of the new location on the Peters Farm being as favorably located as the one donated, having the same frontage on the Bankhead Highway and all other things being as well located, they have the authority to

14 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 131 of Grand Chapter

15 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 134 of Grand Chapter

16 Proceedings of 42nd Session, p. 136 of Grand Chapter

exchange the two sites. This is the donated site situated at the southwest corner of the present Old Folks Home."¹⁷

By April 11, 1924 the building had reached the point where the conerstone could be placed in the building.¹⁸ This ceremony was performed by Sam P. Cochran, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas AF and AM and Past Grand Patron of Texas proteming for the Worshipful Grand Master of Texas. Mrs. Norton B. Welborn was the Worthy Grand Matron and T. J. Halbrook was Worthy Grand Patron and both participated in the program.¹⁹ Its inscription reads "Eastern Star Home, Erected to God and Dedicated for Faternal Service by the Grand Chapter of Texas."²⁰

The Home was completed and on October 26, 1924, it was formally dedicated.²¹ The Home was opened on April 25, 1925 and nine ladies and one child were assigned rooms in their new Home.²² The Home was built with bedrooms for thirty-nine adults and nine children. From the opening until 1943, 34 children lived in the Home.²³ As of this writing the Home has (91) residents.²⁴ Each lady is given a private room which she fills with her own personal furniture, pictures, and mementos. Each door has the lady's name and name of her home Chapter. All the ladies not only belong to a Chapter, but are adopted by other Chapters who remember her at all special occasions.

17 Proceedings of 42nd Session of Grand Chapter, p.145

18 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, W. M. report, p.53

19 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, p.126

20 Cornerstone outside of O.E.S Home, S. E. corner

21 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt.-W.G.M. rpt.p.53

22 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt. p. 56

23 Grand Chapter Sessions 1925-1943 Newspaper in Museum O.E.S. Home

24 Home officials resource

Mrs. Rebecca Miles, Worthy Grand Matron, 1936 (who now is a resident of the Home) recommended that our constitution and laws be changed, to provide a separate board for the exclusive operation of the O.E.S. Home and for disbursing under established rules of the Benevolent Fund. This Board is known as the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter Benevolences and has five members, one elected each year from one of the five districts in Texas.²⁵

The need for a hospital was the project of Mrs. Mabel Harles Worthy Grand Matron in 1950.²⁶ In 1952 Mrs. Mildred Garlitz, Worthy Grand Matron raised over \$31,000.00 for the hospital fund²⁷ and in 1954 the Hospital unit was completed under the leadership of Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Mary Ella Shoverling.²⁸ The hospital or infirmary as the ladies refer to it, was licensed in 1971. Any lady who cannot care for herself is placed in the hospital where she has a private room and is cared for by nurses. The infirmary maintains a qualified nursing staff and a doctor is always on call. When necessary, the patients are transferred to Arlington hospitals where they are treated.

It was under the leadership of Mrs. Katherine Poulis, Worthy Grand Matron in 1958-59 when the Pink Ladies and Pink Ties was created.²⁹ This is a volunteer program to assist the Ladies with the many activities and projects they can do themselves. To be a Pink Lady or Pink Tie, each member donates \$1.00 and receives a pink heart to place on her/his dues card. This money is then used to buy supplies for the ladies ceramics, beauty shop and other needed items.

²⁵ Grand Chapter 54th Session, pg. 132

²⁶ Grand Chapter 68th Session, pg. 154

²⁷ Grand Chapter 71st Session

²⁸ Grand Chapter 69th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 145-46

²⁹ Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 373

During the year 1958=59 Mrs. Mildred Haney Harris, Past Grand Matron and Past Most Worthy Grand Matron was superintendent of the Home, a program was created to help supplement the money needed to keep the Home in good repairs and buy needed items for the Home.³⁰ This program is the first weekend in August and is named Founders Day in celebration of the birthday of the founder of the Eastern Star, Dr. Rob Morris. This year your editor is General Chairman of this committee and hopes to raise over \$75,000.00 for the Home. Each year it is very successful, with members coming in from all over the state to help with this two day celebration.

30 Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter - Welfare rpt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cornerstone outside O.E.S. Home, S.E. corner

Interviews with home officials

Grand Chapter Session Reports, 43rd G. Chapter

Proceedings of Grand Chapter Sessions, 1892-1943

Miscellaneous clippings and documents, in O.E.S. Museum

Welfare Reprt, Grand Chapter 77th Session 1959

Masonic Home
1501 Th. Division
Arlington

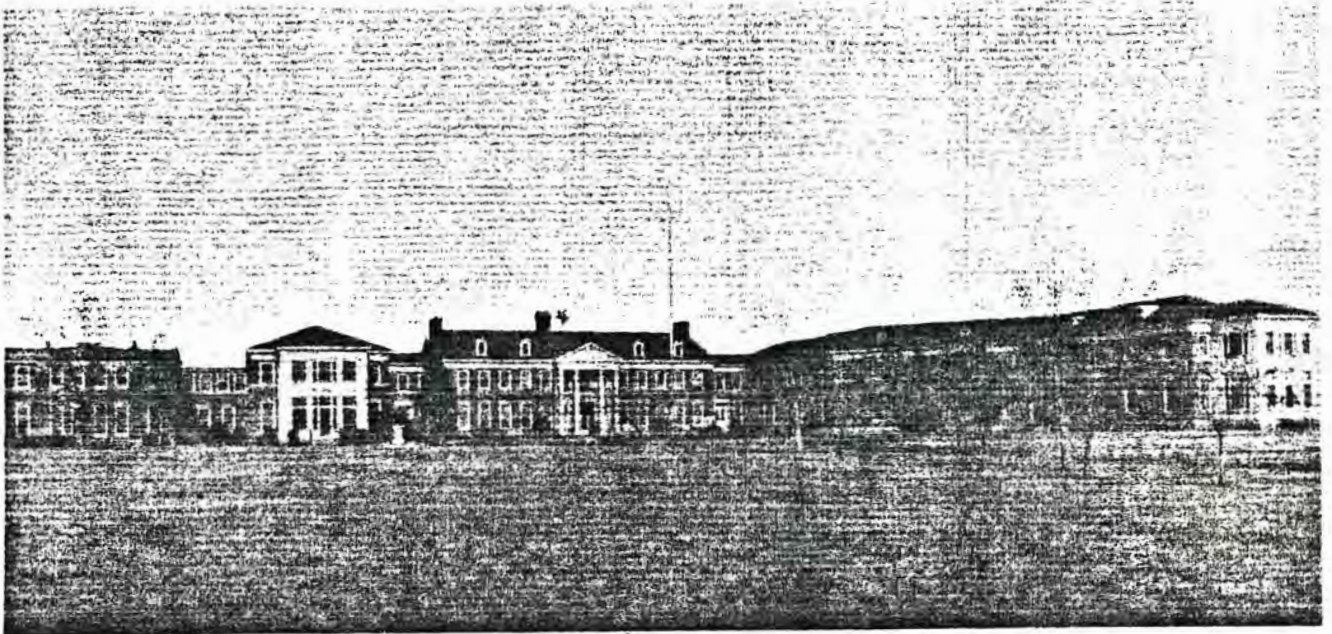
Founded in 1907

Contact Jim Hard
275-2008

O.E.S. Home 1201 E. Division
First construction began 10-22-23
Cornerstone laid 5-11-24
Doors opened to first residents 5-25-25

Contact: Miss Agnes Lee Howard
Grand Secretary
265-6263

**OUR
EASTERN STAR
HOME**



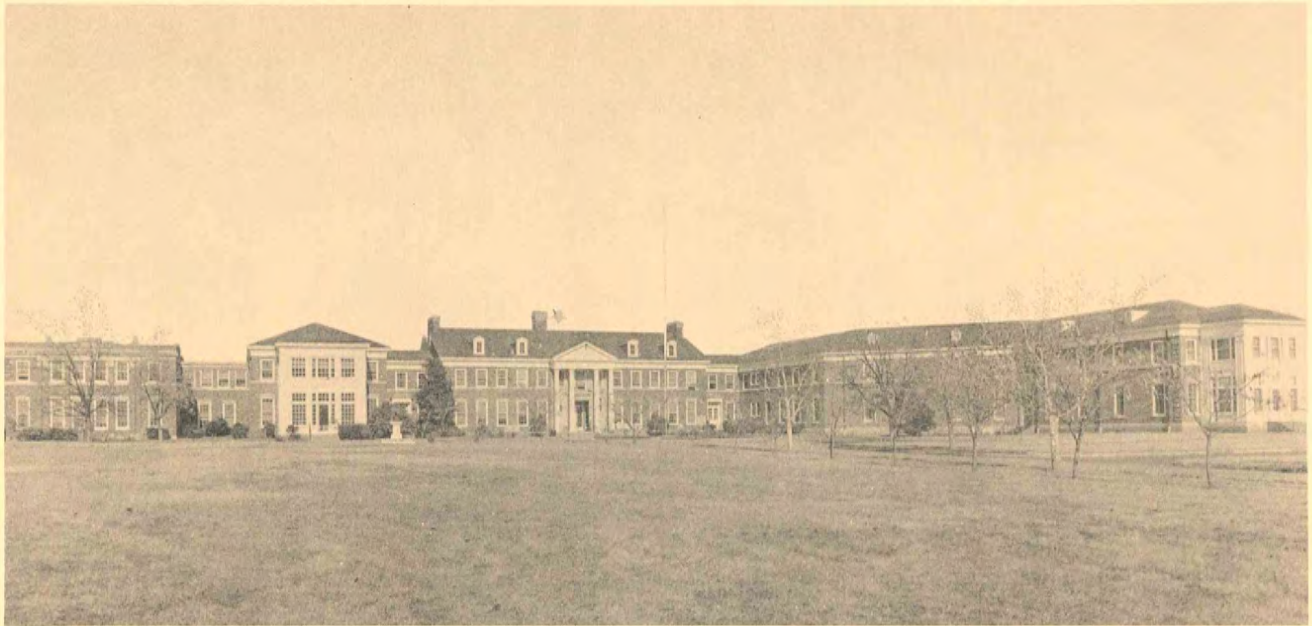
**Presented By
THE
FOUNDERS DAY COMMITTEE
1982 - 1983**

**LOIS BELL
WORTHY GRAND MATRON**

**GENE BELK
WORTHY GRAND PATRON**

**GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**

OUR
EASTERN STAR
HOME



Presented By
THE
FOUNDERS DAY COMMITTEE
1982 - 1983

LOIS BELL
WORTHY GRAND MATRON

GENE BELK
WORTHY GRAND PATRON

GRAND CHAPTER OF TEXAS
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

April 15, 1998

Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 East Division Street
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Grand Secretary:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you yesterday concerning the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation for the Eastern Star Home of the Grand Chapter of Texas in Arlington. My proposal is to, with your complete cooperation and permission up-front, resubmit the application originally sent in September, 1983, making the necessary changes to update the application. The Historical Marker Committee of the Tarrant County Historical Commission will assist you in all aspects of this application

Enclosed are the 1998 guidelines and application form. Your official nomination will need to include a historic photograph from 50 years ago, current black and white photographs of all four sides of the structure, complete floor plans (may be drawn by hand), an architectural description and a documented (footnotes and bibliography) narrative history describing the property's history and historical/architectural significance.

Call me if you have questions about the enclosed material. When your nomination is complete, it should be submitted to me for review and critique by the Marker Committee.

Once the Tarrant County Historical Commission approves your nomination, we will forward it to the Texas Historical Commission in Austin for their review. Upon their approval, they will request payment of the marker fee and your approval of the proposed marker inscription prior to the casting of the marker. The completed marker will be shipped to the sponsor. A dedication usually follows, with participation by the marker sponsor, any local historical organization involved with the project, and the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Please keep in touch as you conduct your research and write your nomination. We'll be glad to help direct your efforts. Good luck !

Sincerely,

David J. Jusiewicz, Marker Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission
712 East Dallas Street
Mansfield, Texas 76063
Telephone: 817-477-3218



June 27, 1984

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 E. Division
ARlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

I trust that you and your officers have given the official Texas Historical Marker application for Eastern Star Home careful consideration, and hope that you soon will authorize the application process to resume. I fear that your advisors have labored under a misconception that official Texas historical subject markers place restrictions on the owners' use and control of the property. Nothing could be farther from the truth, as the Constitution of the United States remains intact, including the constitution rights of property.

This is a banner year for official Texas Historical markers for Masonic orders (see enclosures). Nothing would please me more than to include the subject marker for the Eastern Star Home on our list of markers commemorating the stellar role of Masonic endeavors in our great area.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

enclosures

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118

March 16, 1984



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 E. Division
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

I apologize for submitting the official Texas historical marker application for the Eastern Star Home before the final decision to submit it had been made. I had been given to understand that a vote on that matter had been taken.

Please continue the process to authorize the application, for the nonrestrictive subject marker will be a tribute to your fine organization. If the Eastern Star Home should ever be moved to another location, the marker, which will be the property of the Home, can be relocated.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

cc: Dan Utley, Texas Historical Commission



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

March 13, 1984

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512) 475-3092

Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary
Grand Chapter of Texas
Order of the Eastern Star
1111 East Division
Arlington, Texas 76011

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

Thank you for notifying us of your intent to withdraw the Eastern Star Home marker application. We fully understand the authorization process you outlined in your letter.

We are enclosing a copy of the history submitted with the application. The original will be kept in a pending file in our office, in case the application is ever reactivated.

If our office can ever be of assistance to your organization, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Dan K. Utley, Director
Research and Markers Department

DKU/cy
cc: Duane Gage

Enclosure

EASTERN STAR HOME
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

JUNE MCKINNEY
HISTORY I

Presented for Credit
D. Gage's Hist. 2613
Dec 1981



It was in 1921 when the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, decided it had an obligation to provide a home for its elderly members who are no longer able to live alone, where they could live comfortable, with care and lots of love.

On October 22, 1923, construction began on land which was donated by Judge and Mrs. Sam P. Cockran in Arlington. The cornerstone was laid on April 11, 1924. Its inscription reads "Eastern Star Home, Erected to God and Dedicated for Fraternal Service by the Grand Chapter of Texas."

The doors of the Eastern Star Home opened to its first residents on April 25, 1925 and the home has been fulfilling its worthwhile purpose ever since. After the doors opened the Home grew and in 1931 two wings were added,

Page 2

including a new kitchen and an enlarged dining room. In 1944-45 sixteen more rooms were built and a hospital added.

The home has an atmosphere of friendliness and love. The rooms are all light and cheery and in the downstairs living rooms there are many pieces of furniture brought by the ladies who have come to make this their home. Antique China cabinets display family heirlooms and keepsakes of their owners.



DINING ROOM WITH SEVERAL OF THE LADIES AT A PARTY GIVEN BY THE "CIRCLE OF LOVE"

The living rooms have many comfortable divans and chairs. Throughout the Home there are sitting rooms which have television sets and comfortable chairs. Jigsaw puzzles can be found on card tables in a lot of the rooms. All of these rooms overlook the grounds as they have many windows.



DOWNSTAIRS LIVING ROOM

MARY RUSHING, ONE OF THE LOVELY RESIDENTS SITTING IN ONE OF THE MANY SITTING ROOMS AT THE END OF THE WINGS. MARY IS A VERY TALENTED LADY, WHO HELPED AS ILLUSTRATOR AND CALLIGRAPHER ON A SCRAP BOOK FOR THE WORTHY GRAND MATRON. MARY WROTE FOR THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE FOR MANY YEARS AND TAUGHT TEXAS HISTORY AND SPELLING IN JR. HIGH AND WAS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRIAN FOR 12 YEARS.

There is a well stocked library, including every type of book or other reading material you could want. The library service of Arlington visits the Home weekly where the ladies select books of their choice.



To keep our ladies beautiful, two beauty shops are available to the ladies. One is a volunteer shop and the other is serviced with a licensed beautician. The volunteer shop, which is free, has members from Chapters throughout the Metroplex who give a day of their time. I volunteer two days a month and always receive much more than I give.

Also ceramics are made and volunteers from the surrounding Chapters work with the ladies. The ladies are all talented in so many ways, sewing, needlecraft and art. These items are on display at all times and are for sale. The ladies help to supplement their income with this and are kept busy.

The dining room is spacious and has oval tables where each lady has her place at one of them. When Chapters give parties, this is where most are held. Richland Hills #1040, which is the Chapter my husband and I belong to, takes gifts and refreshments each month and play bingo. Each time 45 to 50 ladies attend.



DINING ROOM



CHAPEL

The Chapel is always open for private meditation or group sessions. Bible studies are held weekly usually lead by one of the residents. The ladies like

to sing and pianos and organs are located throughout the Home. There are many talented ladies who play and they take turns accompanying these singings. Each morning at 7:00 a.m. the ladies gather and sing gospel songs before they go in for breakfast.

As of this time there are ninety one (91) residents and each lady is given a private room which she fills with her own personal furniture, pictures, and mementos. Each door has the lady's name and the name of her home Chapter. All the ladies not only belong to a Chapter, but are adopted by other Chapters who remember her at all special occasions.



FRANCES MASSINGILL'S ROOM



CHINA CABINET DISPLAYED IN LIVING ROOM BELONGING TO MRS. MASSINGILL

To be able to enter our Eastern Star Home, you must be a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Texas for ten years and be sponsored by a Chapter. No age requirement, but she must need a home, be unattached and be able to take care of herself. Any real or personal property must be signed over to the Home

Page 6

and in turn each one is taken care of completely, plus they receive a small monetary amount each month to spend as they please.

The hospital or infirmary as the ladies refer to it was licensed in 1971. Any lady who becomes ill, is cared for there. The infirmary maintains a qualified nursing staff and a doctor is always on call. When necessary, patients are treated at Arlington hospitals.

Mrs. Minnie Rogers from Laredo Chapter has been in the Home for 28 years. She is 91 years old and has been a member of the Order for 58 years. She is very active and always attends our parties and does needlework. She has been at the Home while they have had seven different superintendents. Her only living relative lives in Indiana where she lived until she married a Texan and moved to Texas many years ago. Mrs. Aliena Hedding was ninety three and was the oldest resident at the Home until she passed away recently leaving Mrs. Rogers as the oldest resident.

Mrs. Potsy Sawyer Foster, the administrator-superintendent of the Home, is a gracious lady who finds joy in her work. She treats each lady as an individual and in so doing is loved by all.



MUSEUM

Page 7

The Museum is a place of history and traditions of the Order. Many beautiful gowns worn by Worthy Grand Matrons since 1923-24, photographs, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks and emblems are on display here.

Many committees throughout the years have worked to help endow our beautiful Home. One of these projects this last year was the Circle of Love. It consisted of Worthy Matrons from the 723 Chapters throughout the state. I was privileged to be Chairman of this committee, and the money raised will go to help endow the Home. This plaque was made and now hangs in the Eastern Star Home with all the names of those on the committee. The Home Endowment Committee consists of one member from each five districts and collects money for the Home. They are a committee each year as the Circle of Love was a special committee for one year. The Humanitarian Committee collects from each member and the money is given to Home Endowment, O.E.S. Home, Estarl (Committee to award scholarships to divinity students), and other needy organizations.



CIRCLE OF LOVE PLAQUE

Rob Morris the founder of Eastern Star is honored each year with a Founders Day Celebration the last weekend of August. Members from all over

Page 8

the state come in and help with this big event where the money made goes to buy needed items for the Home. This year was very successful and many things are being done to help beautify the Home. Each member donates through her or his Chapter and this in addition to the amount made on the Founders Day weekend, helps to supply the needs of our Home.

Our Grand Offices are located on the grounds of the Home. Mrs. Agnes Lee Howard, Grand Secretary for 10 years went out of office in October and Mrs. Louise Armstrong was elected as the new Grand Secretary. All the records of the 723 Chapters as of June 1, 1981, are here. Grand Chapter which is all the Past Matrons and Past Patrons of Texas meet once a year to elect new officers and to conclude the past years business. Reports are given by all committee Chairmen and all new amendments are presented and voted on. The next session will be in October 1982 and will be the 100th anniversary. The Worthy Grand Matron in office is from Fort Worth; therefore, Grand Chapter next year will be in Fort Worth. My husband and I are members of the Arrangement Committee for this year and it will be our job to help get this 100th Grand Chapter Session ready and see that it runs smoothly.

As any member can tell you, the Eastern Star Home is the pride of Texas and the ladies who reside there are our special friends. We each feel a responsibility to the Home and to the ladies who reside there. I feel as proud of the Home as if I helped build it.

INDEX

SUBJECT	PAGE
Administrator-Superintendent.	6
Beauty Shops.	4
Chapel.	4
Committees.	7
Dining Room	4
Eligability	5
Grand Offices	8
Home Construction	1
Hospital.	6
Ladies of Home	2
Library	3
Living Room	2&3
Massingill, Frances	5
Museum.	6&7
Oldest Resident	6
Pride of Home	8
Rushing, Mary	3
100th Anniversary	8

1111 E. Division
Arlington, Texas 76011



Telephone
(817) 265-6263

RECEIVED
MAR 12 1984

MRS. LOUISE W. ARMSTRONG
Grand Secretary
March 8, 1984

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Mr. Dan K. Utley
Director of Research
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

In re: EASTERN STAR HOME

Dear Mr. Utley:

This letter is to confirm the request made this afternoon by long distance telephone to withdraw the Application on file in your office for a Historical Marker for the Eastern Star Home of the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of the Eastern Star, located in Arlington, Texas.

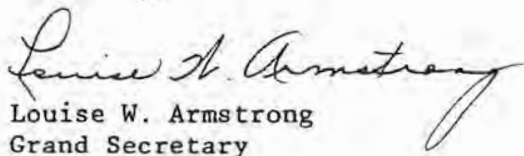
As explained to your Secretary, the Application dated February 16, 1984, is an illegal document as no authorization has been granted.

Before any such Application can be submitted to your Office, it first must be approved by the Worthy Grand Matron, the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter Benevolences and finally by vote of the membership of the Grand Chapter of Texas, O.E.S. No such action has been taken.

Our sincere thanks for mailing the copy of your letter dated February 23, 1984, addressed to Mr. Duane Gage in reference to our Home.

We appreciate the work the Texas Historical Commission is doing for our State.

Sincerely,


Louise W. Armstrong
Grand Secretary



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512) 475-3092

February 23, 1984

Duane Gage
828 Harwood
Hurst, Texas 76054

RE: EASTERN STAR HOME
18" x 28" Subject marker with post

Dear Mr. Gage:

This letter is to notify you that we have received the above referenced marker application.

The application first will be reviewed and evaluated by the Texas Historical Commission staff. Should additional information be needed, you will be contacted. After any deficiencies have been corrected, copies of the application and the history will be sent to the members of the State Marker Committee, who will make final determination of the topic's acceptability for marking.

You will be notified as soon as the committee makes its decision. If the topic is approved for marking we will request payment at the time of notification. If not approved, the application will be returned along with a letter of explanation.

Because of the variables involved in the marker process and because we must coordinate our orders with the schedule of a contracting foundry, we would ask that dedication dates not be set until you have received notice that the marker has been shipped.

We appreciate your interest in preserving the history of Texas.

Sincerely,

Dan K. Utley
Director of Research

DKU/ev

cc: Order of the Eastern Star

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Anderson
S. J. Stovall
A. Lynn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Elm. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Sec. Larry Landis
Treas. John Hugh Smith

September 27, 1983



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

MEMBERS
Frances M. Allen
Gilbert Anguano
Mrs. J. J. Barker
Mrs. Joe Bix
Gene Brink
Larry Budanuro
Paul Campbell
Beth Canright
B. J. Clark
Marty Craddock
David Dunnett
Alta Lee Futch
Beryl Gibson
Gary Havard
Marlene Juran
Gordon Kelley
Katherine Livingston
Charlie McCaffery
Steve Murfin
R. Patrick Norcia
Marilyn Patterson
Michael E. Patterson
Janie Reid
Carol Roush
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Joseph E. Soudiero
Billy W. Sills
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
Mildred Sprattling
Jan Vandegiff
Doyle Willis, Jr.
C. George Younkian

June McKinney
5328 Ammons Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76117

Dear June:

Congratulations on your fine application for an official Texas historical marker for the Eastern Star Home, Arlington. It can be submitted to the Texas Historical Commission successfully, I feel, if we will include the following:

1. A brief statement at the end of the first paragraph stating when the Eastern Star became organized in Texas.
2. Clarification of the selection of the site for the permanent location; a statement can be added to the end of the top paragraph on page 5.
3. A check for \$325.00, made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

I look forward to working with you and John on the successful completion of this marker project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Duane Gage". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Duane Gage
Chairman

May 26, 1983



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Mr. Randy Thompson, Atty.
Oil and Gas Building
309 West 7th Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I have been consulting with Mrs. John McKinney, concerning the preparation of an official Texas historical subject marker for the Eastern Star Home in Arlington. Mrs. McKinney has informed me that you have advised that an application for an official Texas historical marker not be submitted, on the grounds that it might restrict the Home's control, use, and/or disposition of the property.

As you can see from the enclosed publication, property owners are not restricted by official Texas historical subject markers. Only official building markers for historic structures carry any restrictions, and they are only minor in nature, imposing a 60 to 90 day period before a landmark structure can be altered or demolished.

Official subject markers add a great deal of prestige to a site, and to the subject being honored, without placing any restriction on the owner's use or disposition of the property whatsoever.

Once you have studied the enclosed guidelines and policies, I am sure that you can agree that there is no reason to withhold this honor from the Eastern Star Home in Arlington. I would be most appreciative if you can notify the staff there that they can go on with their preparation of the marker application.


Sincerely,

Duane Gage
Chairman

Duane,

Finally got it typed and hope it is o.k.
I am enclosing the front copy of the book the Founders Day Committee, namely, June and John put out this summer. The story was written by my husband John and I used some of the material gathered for this as I felt it was more what the Historical Society could use, if not please let me know. Jim Ward Director of the Masonic Home has asked me to do the story on the Masonic Home, but I have not gotten the material to work with as yet. I will have more time now that Founders Day is over and the work has slowed down some. Our committee has received over \$64,000.00 as of this date and hoping for \$75,000.00 by Grand Chapter which is in November.

Best to you and Nancy and the girls.



June McKinney

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711

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

February 16, 1984

TARRANT

County EASTERN STAR HOME Date _____

1. Title of marker Eastern Star Home

2. 1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011
Name of building, cemetery, public square, park, archeological site, etc., where marker is to be placed.
1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011

3. Marker site (street address or highway number)
Arlington, Texas

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

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

6. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, ARLINGTON, Texas 76011
Owner of marker site Address City

7. Order of the Eastern Star, % 1201 Division, Arlington, Texas 76011
Sponsor of marker Address City
Duane Dage

8. % TCJC NE Campus 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76054
County chairman Address City
"I have reviewed the narrative for this marker and attest to its accuracy."

9. Patsy ~~Salyer~~ Foster, Administrator, 1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011
Person to whom marker is to be shipped Street Address City
Note: If marker is to be placed on a highway right-of-way, it will automatically be shipped to your district highway engineer.

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

ORDER FORM

Please consult page 7 for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Then mail this application and narrative history, together with a check made payable to the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, to the address above. No applications will be accepted unless payment is included. If marker application is cancelled after the inscription is written, the Texas Historical Commission will deduct the cost of writing the inscription from the refund.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

5% state sales tax must be added to the price, except if purchased by a tax exempt organization.

		With Tax
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar)	\$175	\$183.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker with post	\$225	\$236.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" building marker without post	\$175	\$183.75
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register plaque	\$ 35	\$ 36.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker with post	\$575	\$603.75
<input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" subject marker without post	\$525	\$551.25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker with post	\$325	\$341.25
<input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" subject marker without post	\$250	\$262.50

MARKER REPLICA PAPERWEIGHT

This item should be ordered at the same time marker is ordered. Indicate quantity desired. Allow six months for completion of marker for receipt of paperweight.

<input type="checkbox"/> 3" x 4" plastic paperweight mounted with replica of marker	\$ 75	With tax \$ 78.75
<input type="checkbox"/> Medallion paperweight, allows four lines of engraving	\$ 25	\$ 26.25

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Please indicate quantity desired and location:

24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign \$ 65 With Tax
\$ 68.25

These will be placed by the District Highway Engineer

- Black and white (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
 Green and white (for interstate highways)

18" x 22" Historical Marker (in black and white only) .. \$ 65 With tax
\$ 68.25
For city and county roads. Applicant must supply post.

- With arrow pointing straight ahead
 With arrow pointing left
 With arrow pointing right

HISTORY
OF
THE
EASTERN STAR HOME
(1201 East Division, Arlington, Texas 76011)

Story compiled by:

Mrs. June McKinney, Secretary
Richland Hills Chapter #1040
1983-1984

General Chairman Founders Day
1982-1983 Grand Chapter of Texas

Worthy Matron Richland Hills #1040
1979-1980

EASTERN STAR HOME

The Order of the Eastern Star was founded by Dr. Rob Morris, a Master Mason. In Michigan in 1867, the first Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star was organized. All Grand Chapters of all states were united under one organization, called General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 16, 1876. The General Grand Chapter has jurisdiction over all Grand Chapters in the U. S., the Provinces in Canada and the Grand Chapter of Puerto Rico. The Grand Chapters of New York and New Jersey are independent and are not recognized by this Grand Chapter, as they have different acceptable rules of membership. The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland has jurisdiction over Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, So. Africa, New Zealand and Australia. In Washington, D. C., an International Temple and all offices of General Grand Chapter are located.¹

The idea of providing a home for the Eastern Star Ladies of Texas is credited to Mrs. Laura B. Hart and Dr. Alfred C. McDaniel. These two dedicated Eastern Star members served the Grand Chapter of Texas and also the General Grand Chapter. Mrs. Laura B. Hart served as Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas in 1892-1893,² and Most Worthy Grand Matron in 1903.³ Dr. McDaniel served as Worthy Grand Patron in 1901-1902,⁴ and Most Worthy Grand Patron from 1919 until 1922.⁵

1 Information gathered from Ritual

2 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1892-1893-11th Session

3 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1903-1904-22nd Session

4 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902-20th Session

5 Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1919-1920-38th Session

In the 1900 session of Grand Chapter, Mrs. Laura B. Hart introduced a resolution for the creation of a fund that would be used to build a home for the aged and Indigent Masons of Texas. Dr. McDaniel signed this resolution along with Mrs. Hart, and it was adopted by the 1900 session of Grand Chapter.⁶

Because the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Texas was promoting a home for the aged Master Masons of Texas, Dr. McDaniel in 1902⁷ recommended that funds be set aside to provide a home for aged Eastern Star members.

By taking a portion of the dues paid by members and putting in a fund called "The Charity Fund"⁸ a trust was built in which the Eastern Star Home was constructed. A permanent fund was started in 1909⁹ and by an amendment it became impossible to use this money without the vote of delegates at two Grand Chapter Sessions.

In the Grand Chapter Session of 1911¹⁰ it was decided a definite plan would be formulated for the development of the Home. In the Grand Chapter Session of 1912¹¹ the increase of the Home Fund gave the Board of Trustees the confidence they needed to advance to a more concrete plan for the erection of the Home.

6	Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1900-1901	19th Session
7	Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902	20th Session, p.59
8	Proceedings of Grand Chapter 1901-1902	20th Session, p.97
9	Proceedings of Grand Chapter	28th Session, p.38
10	Proceedings of Grand Chapter	29th Session, p.121
11	Proceedings of Grand Chapter	30th Session, p.131

During the next 10 years, the Home Fund continued to increase. In 1921 the Grand Chapter of Texas decided it had an obligation to provide a home for its elderly members who are no longer able to live alone, where they can live comfortable with care and lots of love.¹²

A permanent endowment Home Fund was accumulated and a location and site selected for the Eastern Star Home. At the 1922 Session of Grand Chapter the following resolution was adopted, looking toward the selection of a location for the Eastern Star Home. The Board of Trustees sent out a letter to all Grand Officers and past Grand Officers and to each subordinate chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction of Texas, setting out the details the Board thought necessary for a suitable location for the Eastern Star Home. Favorable climate, an abundant supply of good water, ample railroad facilities, good sanitary conditions, wholesale and retail markets of fruits and vegetables, meats, etc. near at hand, nearness of public schools so that such children as might come to live in the Home could be educated without undue additional expense to the Home, opportunity for church services for the aged members was also to be considered. The Board stated that they did not deem it desirable to own a large acreage for dairies, orchards, the keeping of pigs or chickens, for the members of the Home would probably need rest and care, instead of work and responsibilities. It was stated their desire was "it shall be a home of comfort and ease, rest and freedom from care, to have new, modern, fire-proof buildings, which will be the best that can be provided for our purposes and needs."¹³

12 Proceedings of 39th Session, p.92 of Grand Chapter

13 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 144 of Grand Chapter

Sugarland, San Marcos, Brownwood, Arlington, Marshall and San Antonio submitted offers of locations when Grand Chapter met in Dallas in October of 1922.¹⁴ By majority vote of all delegates present, and of Chapters represented, the property offered by Arlington was chosen. This was ten acres of land, donated by Samuel Poyntz Cockran, Past Worthy Grand Patron and his wife, and which adjoined the Masonic Home near Arlington, surely a most generous gift.¹⁵

Resolution was presented by E. J. Hosey, unanimously adopted by vote of Chapters and delegates, "that the board of Grand Trustees be authorized and directed to proceed at once to secure a suitable plan and to erect a suitable building, or buildings for use as a Home, the total sum to be expended-not to exceed the sum of \$150,000.00.¹⁶ In some manner information reached the members of Grand Chapter that the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington were anxious to secure the site donated by Mr. Cochran and his wife for the O.E.S. Home, and the following resolution was presented by Brother Hosey and unaniously adopted.

"Inasmuch as the Trustees of the Old Folks Home at Arlington are anxious to secure the site recently donated to the Trustees of the Home. The Grand Trustees are hereby authorized to, in the event of the new location on the Peters Farm being as favorably located as the one donated, having the same frontage on the Bankhead Highway and all other things being as well located, they have the authority to

14 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 131 of Grand Chapter

15 Proceedings of 40th Session, p. 134 of Grand Chapter

16 Proceedings of 42nd Session, p. 136 of Grand Chapter

exchange the two sites. This is the donated site situated at the southwest corner of the present Old Folks Home."¹⁷

By April 11, 1924 the building had reached the point where the conerstone could be placed in the building.¹⁸ This ceremony was performed by Sam P. Cochran, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas AF and AM and Past Grand Patron of Texas proteming for the Worshipful Grand Master of Texas. Mrs. Norton B. Welborn was the Worthy Grand Matron and T. J. Halbrook was Worthy Grand Patron and both participated in the program.¹⁹ Its inscription reads "Eastern Star Home, Erected to God and Dedicated for Faternal Service by the Grand Chapter of Texas."²⁰

The Home was completed and on October 26, 1924, it was formally dedicated.²¹ The Home was opened on April 25, 1925 and nine ladies and one child were assigned rooms in their new Home.²² The Home was built with bedrooms for thirty-nine adults and nine children. From the opening until 1943, 34 children lived in the Home.²³ As of this writing the Home has (91) residents.²⁴ Each lady is given a private room which she fills with her own personal furniture, pictures, and mementos. Each door has the lady's name and name of her home Chapter. All the ladies not only belong to a Chapter, but are adopted by other Chapters who remember her at all special occasions.

17 Proceedings of 42nd Session of Grand Chapter, p.145

18 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, W. M. report, p.53

19 Proceedings of 42nd Session of G. Chapter, p.126

20 Cornerstone outside of O.E.S Home, S. E. corner

21 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt.-W.G.M. rpt.p.53

22 Grand Chapter Session 43rd G. Chpt. p. 56

23 Grand Chapter Sessions 1925-1943 Newspaper in Museum O.E.S. Home

24 Home officials resource

Mrs. Rebecca Miles, Worthy Grand Matron, 1936 (who now is a resident of the Home) recommended that our constitution and laws be changed, to provide a separate board for the exclusive operation of the O.E.S. Home and for disbursing under established rules of the Benevolent Fund. This Board is known as the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter Benevolences and has five members, one elected each year from one of the five districts in Texas.²⁵

The need for a hospital was the project of Mrs. Mabel Harles Worthy Grand Matron in 1950.²⁶ In 1952 Mrs. Mildred Garlitz, Worthy Grand Matron raised over \$31,000.00 for the hospital fund²⁷ and in 1954 the Hospital unit was completed under the leadership of Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Mary Ella Shoverling.²⁸ The hospital or infirmary as the ladies refer to it, was licensed in 1971. Any lady who cannot care for herself is placed in the hospital where she has a private room and is cared for by nurses. The infirmary maintains a qualified nursing staff and a doctor is always on call. When necessary, the patients are transferred to Arlington hospitals where they are treated.

It was under the leadership of Mrs. Katherine Poulis, Worthy Grand Matron in 1958-59 when the Pink Ladies and Pink Ties was created.²⁹ This is a volunteer program to assist the Ladies with the many activities and projects they can do themselves. To be a Pink Lady or Pink Tie, each member donates \$1.00 and receives a pink heart to place on her/his dues card. This money is then used to buy supplies for the ladies ceramics, beauty shop and other needed items.

²⁵ Grand Chapter 54th Session, pg. 132

²⁶ Grand Chapter 68th Session, pg. 154

²⁷ Grand Chapter 71st Session

²⁸ Grand Chapter 69th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 145-46

²⁹ Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter pg. 373

During the year 1958=59 Mrs. Mildred Haney Harris, Past Grand Matron and Past Most Worthy Grand Matron was superintendent of the Home, a program was created to help supplement the money needed to keep the Home in good repairs and buy needed items for the Home.³⁰ This program is the first weekend in August and is named Founders Day in celebration of the birthday of the founder of the Eastern Star, Dr. Rob Morris. This year your editor is General Chairman of this committee and hopes to raise over \$75,000.00 for the Home. Each year it is very successful, with members coming in from all over the state to help with this two day celebration.

30 Grand Chapter 77th Session of Grand Chapter - Welfare rpt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cornerstone outside O.E.S. Home, S.E. corner

Interviews with home officials

Grand Chapter Session Reports, 43rd G. Chapter

Proceedings of Grand Chapter Sessions, 1892-1943

Miscellaneous clippings and documents, in O.E.S. Museum

Welfare Reprt, Grand Chapter 77th Session 1959