

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PO. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276

512/463-6100

January 30, 1995

Susan Pritchett, Chair Tarrant CHC Route 17, Box 283P Fort Worth, TX 76126

RE:

WEBB BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDING 27" x 42" marker w/ post Job # 13295 Received: 01/23/95

Dear Ms. Pritchett:

We have received the above-referenced marker application. The application will be reviewed and evaluated by the Texas Historical Commission staff in the order in which it was received. Currently, there is a three to four month wait between the time marker applications are received and evaluated. Because applications for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designations (RTHL) require an architectural review in addition to a historical evaluation, RTHL applications may take slightly longer. Should additional information be needed for the review, we will contact you and any parties listed below at that time. After any deficiencies have been corrected, we will send copies of the application to the members of the State Marker Review Board, who will make the final determination of the topic's acceptability for marking.

We will notify all parties as soon as the Board makes its decision. If the topic is approved for marking, payment will be requested at that time. 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 the contracting foundry, we suggest that the date of the marker dedication not be set until the completed marker is received.

We appreciate the effort made to record this topic. Should there be any questions about the status of this marker application, please contact me at 512/463-5853.

Sincerely.

Egina & Kaase Office Manager

Local History Programs

pc:

Gene Sloan Joye K. Evetts

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 12, 1995

Ms. Cynthia Beeman Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed is an application for a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark for the Webb Baptist Church Building. The Webb Baptist Church Building is now owned by the Webb Fraternal Organization who is sponsoring the historical marker. The sponsor plans to involve the church congregation and others in the community in the dedication ceremony.

We are pleased to recommend this application.

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts Marker Chairman 4400 Idledell Fort Worth, TX 76116

cc: Mrs. Susan Pritchett, Chairman

APPLICATION FORM OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): Webb Baptist Chur	ch Building
County: Tarrant	_
Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions	from nearest town on state highway map):
7000 Zuefeldt, Arlington, TX 76018	
7,000 240-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10	
Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if ap	plicable):
APPROVAL OF COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION	
The application and narrative history must be approved by the Texas Historical Commission.	e county historical commission before forwarding to
Chairperson's Signature:	Date: January 12, 1995
Address: Route 17 Box 283P, Fort Worth, TX 76	Phone: (817) 244-3369
The CHC chair automatically will receive all copies of corresponden	
	Texas Department of Transportation.
Mailing address: 7000 Zuefeldt, Arlington, Tex	
	Phone: <u>(817) 472-6088</u>
XXXXXXXXSignature: Jene flow (Commi	ttee Chairman for Historical Marker)
Do you wish to receive copies of all correspondence concerning this	marker application? 🛱 Yes 🗖 No
To whom should the request for payment be addressed?	
Name: Webb Fraternal Organization - Attentio	n: Gene Sloan
(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization	n, or public entity.)
Mailing address: 7000 Zuefeldt, Arlington, TX 760	18
	Phone: (817) 472-6088
Does this person wish to receive copies of all other correspondence co	oncerning this application? Yes No
Is there anyone else to whom all correspondence concerning	사람들이 되고 하다면 하는 것이 하고 있는데 아이들이 모양하다 수 있는데 이 것이 되었다.
(One additional name and address only, please.)	
Name: Joye K. Evetts	
Mailing address: 4400 Idledell	
Fort Worth, TX 76116	Phone: (817) 244-1232

Name: Webb Fraternal Organization	
Street address: 7000 Zuefeldt, Arlington,	Texas 76018
Phone: (817) 472-6088	*)
TYPE AND SIZE OF MARKER DESIRED (please check of	one only)
Sub	oject Markers
appropriate for topics such as cemeteries, church congrega	iveys no legal restrictions to the property. Subject markers are tions, businesses, persons, events, and institutions. These markers attached to a surface other than the foundry-provided post, please
☐ 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar)	5225
☐ 27" x 42" marker with post	\$750
☐ 27" x 42" marker without post (see below)	\$700
☐ 18" x 28" marker with post	\$450
☐ 18" x 28" marker without post (see below)	\$400
If not on post, to what (block of granite, gatepost, etc.) will Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.)	the marker be attached?
Recorded Texas F	listoric Landmark Markers
deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integration for the structure (see Marker P description (lot and block numbers) for the property to be designation is the medallion and plate (also referred to as a may be ordered for those who wish a greater amount of his	
☐ Medallion and 16" x 12" plate with post	5356° 400
☐ Medallion and 16" x 12" plate without post (see below)	5300 3 50
27" x 42" marker with post	5750-850
☐ 27" x 42" marker without post (see below)	SAK- 800
☐ 18" x 28" marker with post	S 450- 5-50
	5400-500
☐ 18" x 28" marker without post (see below)	

Before forwarding your material to the Texas Historical Commission, please check to make sure you've included the following items. Incomplete applications cannot be considered and may be returned to the applicant.

- ✓ completed application form signed by the county historical commission
- ✓ narrative history with footnotes and bibliography
- ✓ photograph of the proposed marker location
- ✓ map indicating marker location and other sites related to the marker topic
- ✓ historic photo of property and current photographs of all elevations (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ legal description of property (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ floor plans (RTHL markers only)

Mail completed applications to: Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276 512/463-6100

Additional items, including paperweights, directional signs, and replacement parts for 1936 markers, are available. Please contact the Local History Programs office for a separate order form.

Rev. 1993

WEBB BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDING

By

Gene Sloan, Committee Chairman

Webb Fraternal Organization

7000 Zuefeldt

Arlington, Texas 76018

(817) 468-9992

(817) 472-6088 (Res)

Constructed in 1907, the Webb Baptist Church building served the congregation for 83 years until it was sold in 1990 to the Webb Fraternal Organization for use by the Webb Masonic Lodge, No. 1454.

Webb, Texas, a small farming community located in the southeast corner of Tarrant County, started around 1900 as a rural village. After nearly thirty years it only had sixteen residences, two small general stores, a soft-drink stand, a six room school house, and a cotton gin.

The nearest churches were in Mansfield, Arlington or Rehobeth and each at least nine miles away. Travel over that seemingly short distance was much more difficult for the residents of that day especially considering the effect of rain on the black dirt roads

of the region. Residents of Webb soon realized the need for their own church. At a revival meeting held by Reverend I. L. Rowden, a Methodist minister from Mansfield, along with a few members from the struggling Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, decided to organize the Webb Baptist Church.

Brother Arch Collins, a Baptist minister from Arlington, was asked to help organize the new church and baptize those converted in the recent revival. The church was organized on September 9, 1906 with about thirty (30) charter members. M. C. Jackson was called as the first pastor and held services every third Sunday.

A building fund was the first order of business for the new church and under Pastor Jackson's leadership, they purchased a lot from Dan Zeufeldt, a church member, for \$300.00.² Plans were soon made to erect a building. The present auditorium was completed in the summer of 1907. The auditorium served as Sunday School rooms by pulling burlap curtains across a section. It was divided in four sections for separate Sunday School

classes.

The first Ladies Aid and Missionary Society was organized on March 27, 1908.³ Mrs. Lummus, President; Mrs. Nathan Lowe, Vice-President; and Mrs. Ida Mae Ervin, Secretary, led the women in increasing the membership from the original nineteen to thirty members. The ladies assisted the church by raising money for altar chairs, carpets, tables and the repainting of the church windows.

During the next twenty years, the pulpit was filled by a series of part-time pastors, many of whom were students at the Southwestern Baptist Seminary who left the area after graduation. Roger Pryor, a returning veteran from World War I, was called as pastor in 1919. During his pastorate the church membership was 114 and attendance in Sunday School averaged 55.4

In the fall of 1927, the Pastor, George McCraw died, leaving the pulpit vacant for eight months, during which time the work became disorganized and the church declined. On August 3, 1928, Dr. J. M. Price of Southwestern Baptist Seminary, began what was to be the

longest running pastorate in the history of Webb

Baptist Church.⁵ His expertise and unceasing efforts

were applied to reorganizing the church, its program

and financial base. By 1930 Sunday School attendance

had doubled and preaching services were once again held

twice each month.⁶ By 1935 Webb Baptist Church was

again stable and growing. By 1945, in the midst of

World War II, church membership increased to over 200

and Sunday School attendance averaged 100.⁷

Due to increased attendance, additional space was needed. In 1947 a two-story educational wing, consisting of eight rooms and a baptistery, was added to the west end of the original structure at a cost of \$5,901.00.8

Dr. J. M. Price, who retired from the pastorate in September of 1949, was followed by Riley W. Eubank and James Hester, both of whom were Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary students. In August of 1954, a separate facility was constructed to house a kitchen and dining/meeting area.

Other pastors followed, and in 1976, Rev. Jim Aldridge became the first full time minister at Webb Baptist Church which had reached an all-time high resident membership of 221. 10

The expanding City of Arlington annexed the community of Webb in 1985.

The church building continued to serve the needs of the congregation until the late 1980s when the members decided to relocate to a five-acre site on the main road into the Webb community, approximately one-quarter mile from the present site, and to change their name to the First Baptist Church of Webb. 11

On July 25, 1990, the members unanimously approved the sale of the old church property located at 7000 Zuefeldt, Arlington, Texas to the Webb Fraternal Organization. The sale was finalized by the signing of the warranty deed by the trustees on October 5, 1990.

The original 1907 sanctuary was constructed in the shape of a cross with an east front entry, west pulpit area and wings to the north and south to accommodate

additional seating, if needed. Matching exterior wood siding was used on the Sunday School area which was added to the west end of the sanctuary in 1947. The original entrance was through an east door in the bell tower. In 1956-57, the entry was moved to a foyer on the east side. The foundation and structure were not affected.

The building's pier-and-beam foundation is sound. The wooden piers under the sanctuary area appear to be bois d'ark. Recently some square nails were found in the attic by some electricians who were upgrading the wiring. All the windows in the building are of wood sash, four-pane construction. The roof is steep and its structure is good.

The church building and grounds are in good condition and the building is presently occupied by the Webb Masonic Lodge, No. 1454, Arlington, Texas.

The Webb Baptist Church building, constructed in 1907, is thought to be the oldest in-tact church structure in southeast Tarrant County. It served the needs of the church congregation continuously for 83

years until it was sold in 1990 to the Webb Fraternal Organization. Since then, careful refurbishing has preserved the integrity of the structure which has found new use as the meeting place of the Webb Masonic Lodge, No. 1454.

FOOTNOTES

- Tincher, Dave, student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, "A History of Webb Baptist Church", Fort Worth, Texas, November 21, 1985, pgs. 1 and 2.
 - Tarrant County Deed Records, Vol. 10083, pg. 0749.
- Minute Book of the Ladies Aid and Missionary Society, 1908-1917, p. 1.
- 4 Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1919.
 - ⁵ Tincher, p. 6.
- 6 Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1930.
 - 7 Tincher, p. 11.
- g Tincher, p. 11.
 - 9 Tincher, p. 12
 - Church Records of Webb Baptist Church, June 9, 1976.
- Church Records of Webb Baptist Church, March 3, 1985.
 - Church Records of Webb Baptist Church, July 25, 1990.

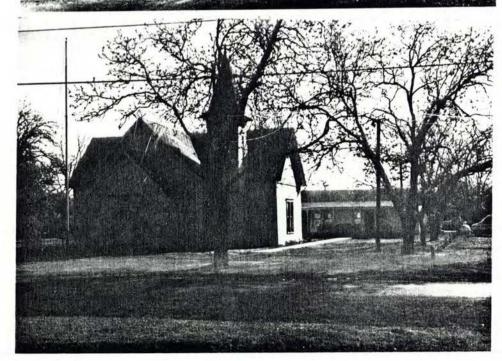
BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Historical photograph, 1907, donated by Lillie Ruth Loyd and Lizzie Duval.
- Interview. Liz Sloan, Church Clerk of First Baptist Church of Webb, with Gene Sloan, Arlington, Texas, August 15, 1994.
- Mansfield News-Mirror Centennial Edition, July 30, 1990.
- Minute Book of Ladies Aid and Missionary Society, 1908-1937.
- Personal knowledge of Gene Sloan, attained through observation and interviews with church members.
- Records of First Baptist Church of Webb.
- Records of Tarrant Baptist Association.
- Tarrant County Deed Records.
- Tincher, Dave, Student at Southwestern Baptist
 Theological Seminary, "A History of Webb
 Baptist Church", Fort Worth, Texas,
 November 21, 1985. (Copy located in the
 Tarrant County Historical Commission files.)

1994

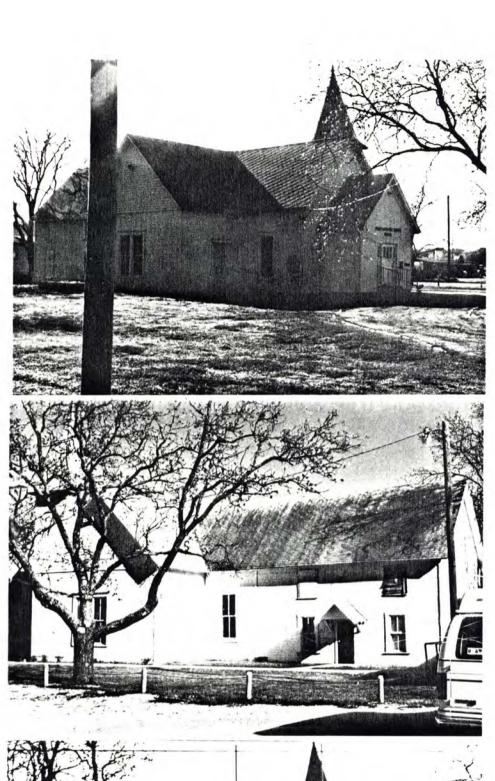


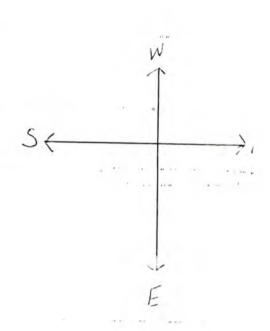




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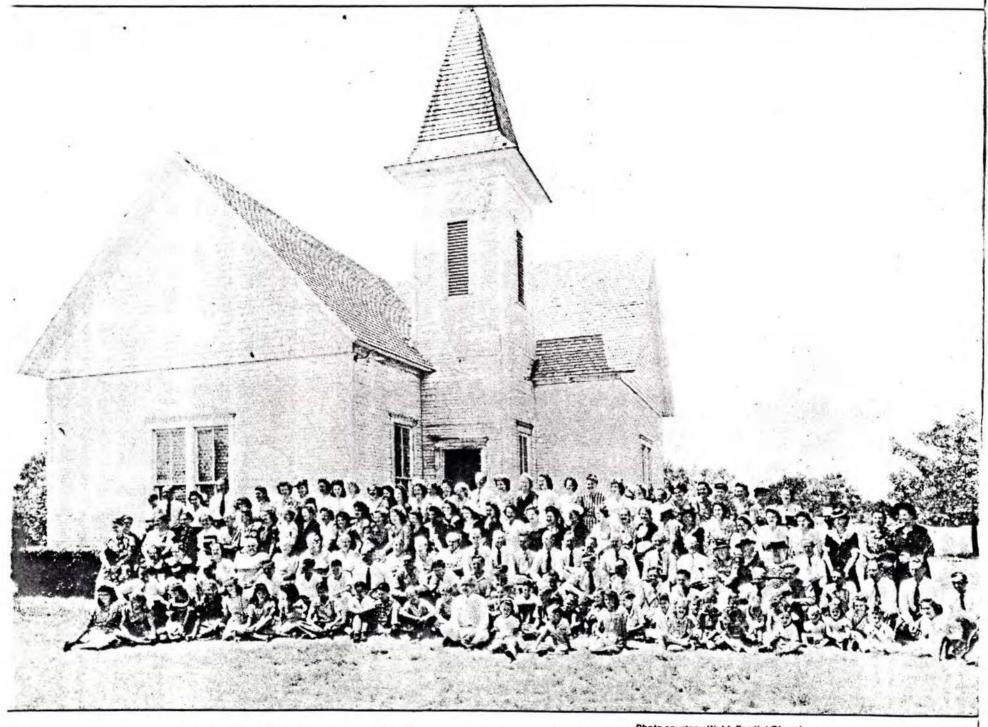
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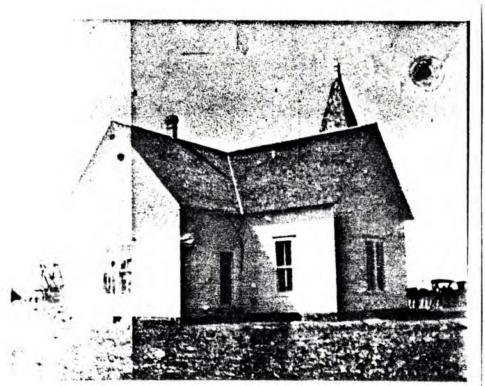






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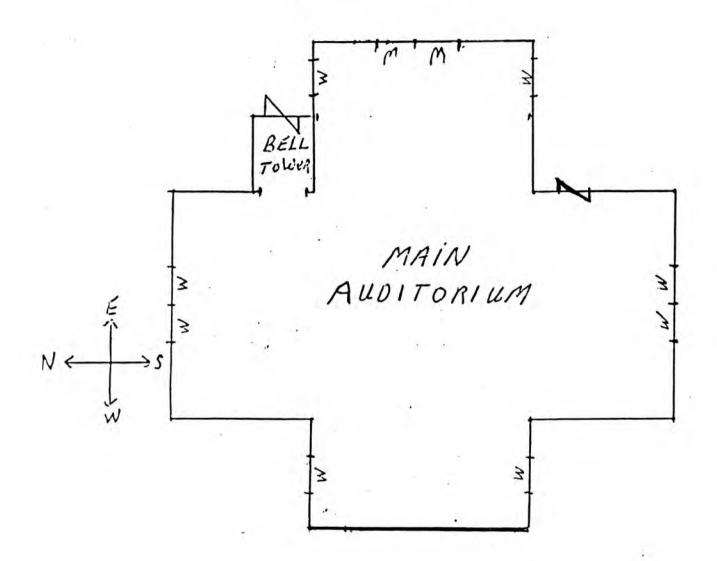
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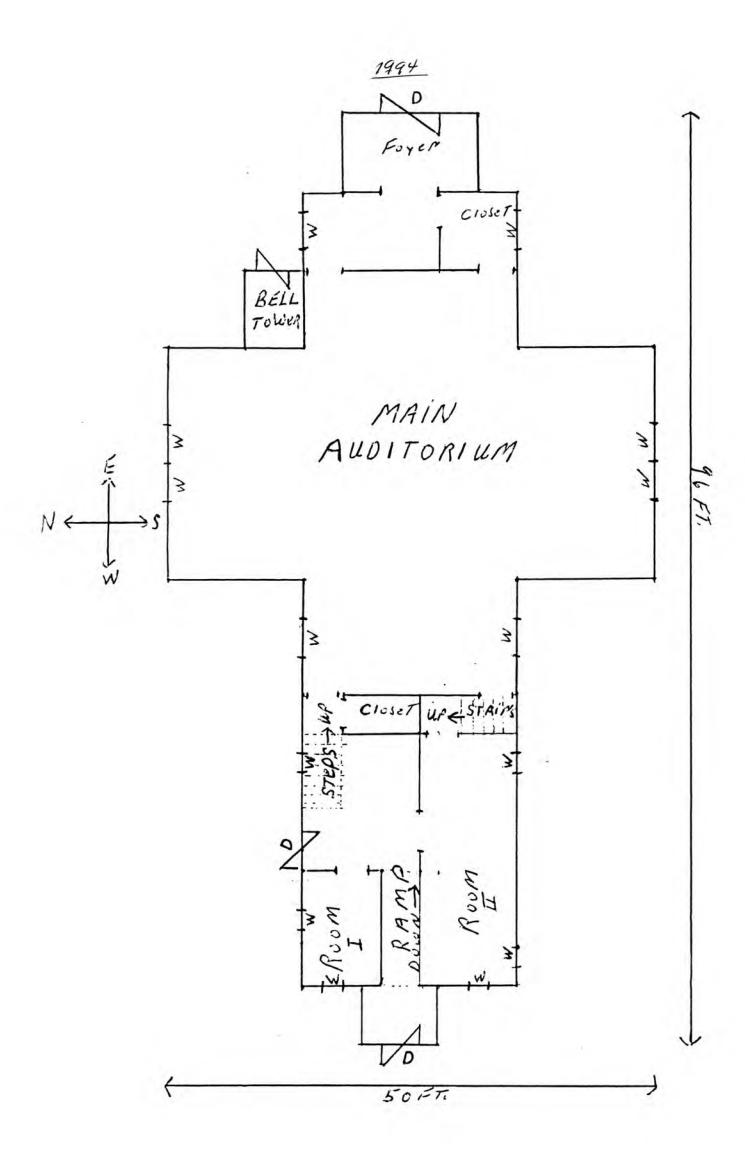
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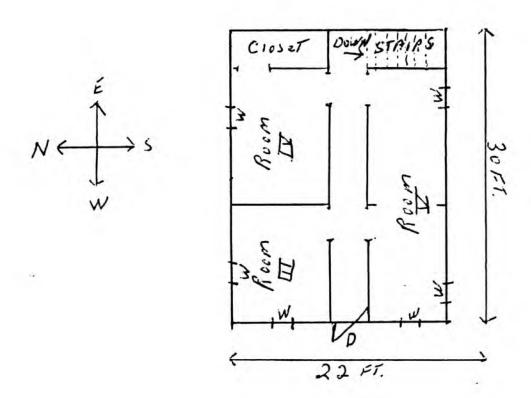
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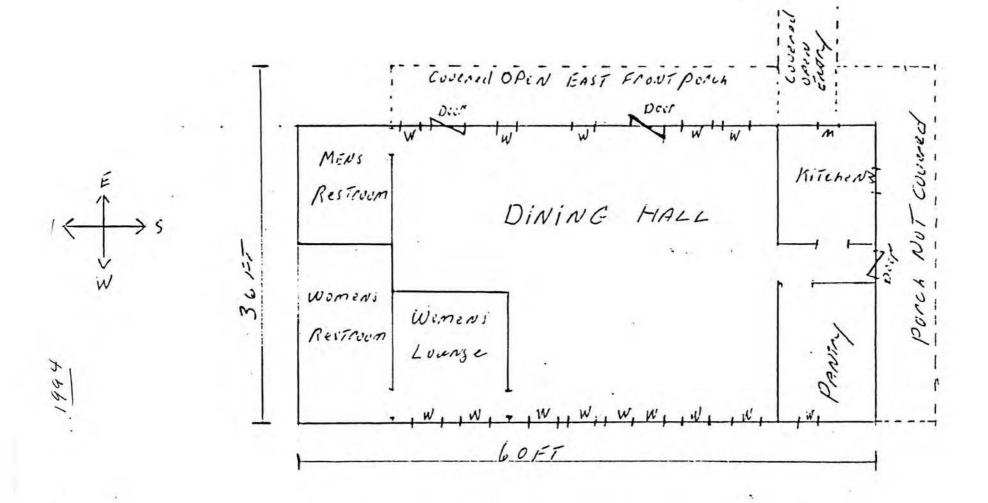
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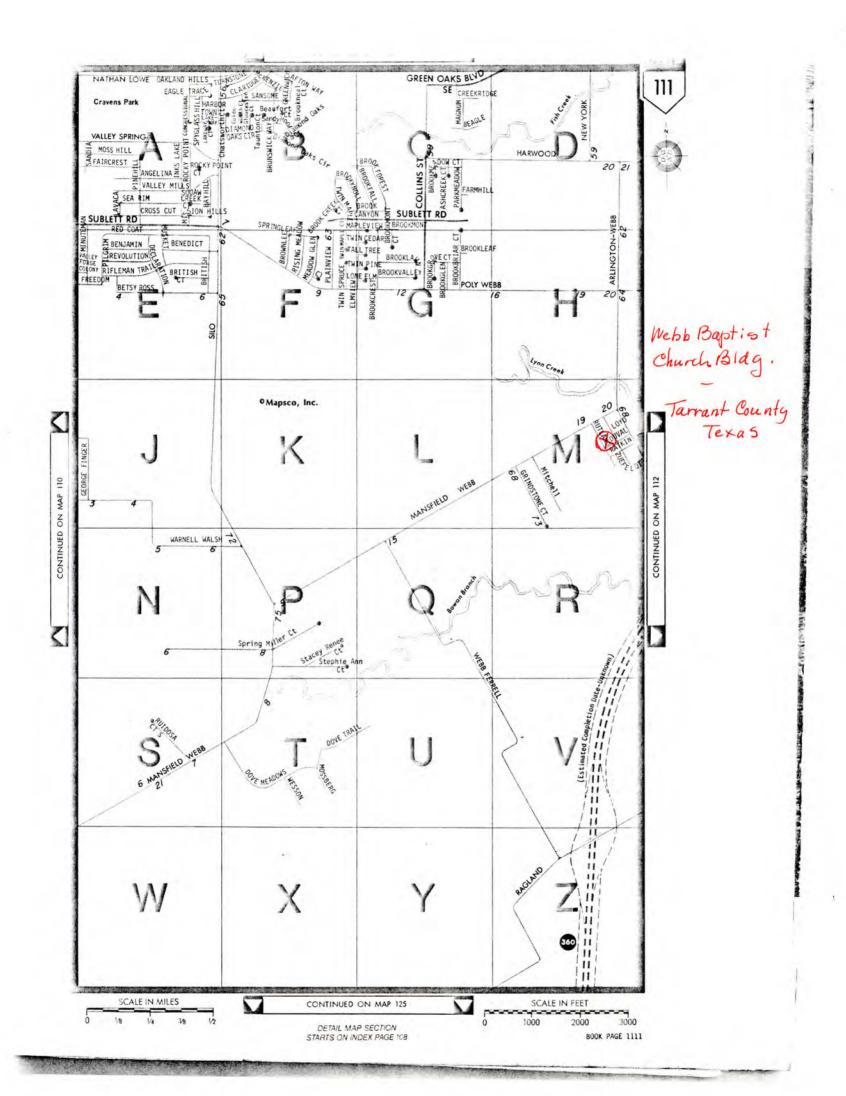
ABOUE ROOMS I+II



CURRENT Flown PLAN
(1994)



Webb Baptist Church Building Tannant County, Texas



SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY . SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

A HISTORY OF WEBB BAPTIST CHURCH

SUBMITTED TO PAUL GRITZ

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE

BAPTIST HISTORY

171-444

SECTION E

DAVE TINCHER
NOVEMBER 21, 1985

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This writer wishes to thank Pastor James Edwards for his assistance and encouragement in the compiling of this paper. Appreciation is also expressed to all of the members of Webb Baptist Church who so enthusiastically supported this writer's efforts and contributed information about their church. Joyce Winkle, Bill "Doc" Eddelman and Lizzy Duval are particularly appreciated for their willingness to give their time for an interview. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Liz Sloan for the invaluable assistance she provided through her willingness to help arrange interviews and supply needed information.

1906 to 1915

Webb, Texas, a small farming community located in the southeast corner of Tarrant county was started around 1900. The rural village has always been small in area and population. After nearly thirty years it only had sixteen residences, two small general stores, a soft-drink stand, a six-room school house, and a cotton gin. 1

The nearest churches were in Mansfield, Arlington, or Rehobath and each at least nine miles away. Travel over that seemingly short distance was much more difficult for the residents of that day especially considering the effect of rain on the black dirt roads of the region. Residents of Webb soon realized the need for their own church. At a revival meeting held by Reverend I. L. Rowden, a Methodist minister from Mansfield, at the school house a number of adults in the community were converted. As a result some of the Baptists, along with a few members from the struggling Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, decided to organize the Webb Baptist Church.

Brother Arch Collins, a Baptist minister from Arlington, was asked to help organize the new Church and baptize those converted in the recent revival. The church was organized on September 9,

¹J. M. Price, notes on Webb Baptist Church,1948.

²Unknown, History of Webb Baptist Church (mimeographed).

1906 with about thirty charter members. M. C. Jackson was called asthefirstpastor and held services everythird Sunday. 3

A building fund was the first order of business for the new church and soon, under Pastor Jackson's leadership, they purchased a lot from Dan Zeufeldt, a church member, for \$300.00. Plans were soon made to erect a building. The present auditorium, without the foyer, was completed in the summer of 1907. Rev.

P. M. Murphy, of Dallas, preached the dedication service of the debt-free building only a few months before pastor Jackson's resignation in 1908.

The church was without a pastor for most of the next year before calling J. N. Hunt in 1909. Pastor Hunt served the church for six years and led them to nearly double the membership. Most members lived in the surrounding countryside and would have to travel over poorly maintained dirt roads to reach the church each service. J. N. Hunt resigned the pastorate in 1914 and was remembered as having helped to build the church, both in numbers and spiritual strength. Webb was again without a pastor for most of the next year except for a short period of service by Reverend Sypes. 6

³Unknown, History of Webb Baptist Church (mimeographed).

⁴ibid.

⁵ibid.

⁶Much of the early information, such as charter members, exact dates of pastors service and names of early church officers were destroyed in a fire at the Zugfeldt home.

The first Ladies Aid and Missionary Society was organized on March 27, 1908. Mrs. Lummus, President; Mrs. Nathan Lowe, Vice-President; and Mrs. Ida Mae Ervin, Secretary, soon led the women in increasing the membership from the original nineteen to thirty members. The ladies assisted the church by raising money for Alter chairs, carpets, tables, and the repainting of the church windows.

⁷Unknown, history.

1916 to 1925

In 1916 the church doubled the number of preaching services and met for preaching on the first and third Sundays when E. D. Reece was called as pastor. He was remembered as a great pastor, a good singer and one of the best mixers in the history of Webb Baptist Church at the time of his resignation in 1919. Brother Reece also served as the pastor of Tate Springs Baptist Church for one year during his time as Webb.

A returning veteran from World War I, Roger Pryor was called as pastor during the latter part of 1919 and served for almost two years. During Reverend Pryor's pastorate the church membership was 114 and attendance in Sunday School averaged fifty-five members per week. ²

Following Roger Pryor's resignation the church called C. A. Todd who served until May 14, 1923. Church membership and attendance remained about the same during Brother Todd's ministry and services were still held on a half-time basis.³

Preparing for worship services in 1922 was much more difficult than it is today. Careful thought had to be given to insure there would be sufficient heat and light to conduct the

 $^{^{1}\}mathrm{Miss}$ Lizzy Duval, interview in her home, November 10, 1985.

²Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1919.

³Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1923.

service. An item from one of the church's early business meetings explains the differences:

Webb Baptist church met in regular conference on the eleventh day of November, 1922 transacting any business which might come before the church. A motion was made that the church should raise enough money to buy 100 pounds of carbide to fill the lights.

F. L. Huffstetler, a student at Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary was called as the next pastor but only
served the church for six months before he resigned. Membership and attendance dropped to its lowest point since the church
was organized. The situation improved some with the calling of
L. T. Grantham who served from February 10, 1924 until February
26, 1926, but the church continued to struggle and it was felt
that much of the instability was due to the frequent changes in
leadership. A majority of the pastors were students at the
seminary and usually left the field upon graduation. 5

....

⁴Jean Hester, A history of Webb Baptist Church.1955.

⁵Miss Lizzy Duval, interview.

1926 to 1935

The third decade of the church began an era of longterm stability and growth. The first few years were much the same as the preceding ten with leadership, though effective, of short duration. Rev. George McCraw was called as pastor on September 10, 1926 and served until his death in October of 1927. Webb Church was without a pastor for approximately eight months. During that time the work became disorganized and the church had become all but deserted. Pigeons were roosting in the auditorium and the situation seemed all but hopeless. 2

During July of 1928, C. R. Bullock, Tarrant Association
Missionary, brought Dr. J. M. Price, of Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary, to the church to conduct a study course.
The membership was so moved by Dr. Price that they voted to
extend a call as pastor. Dr. Price turned down the call and two
subsequent calls. The fourth call was accepted by Dr. Price and
on August 3, 1928 he began what was to be the longest running
pastorate in the history of Webb Baptist Church. 3

The task before Dr. Price was much the same as starting a new work. He applied his expertice and unceasing effort to

¹Unknown, history.

²Jean Hester, history.

³Unknown, history.

reorganize the church, its program and the financial base. The first task was to rebuild and stablize the membership. He then helped the church to establish a Sunday School to keep the people growing during the weeks when there was no preaching service. Dr. Price only preached on the third Sunday of each month. The visitation efforts of Dr. Price demonstrated his dedication to God's work. He averaged six visits per Sunday in the homes in the community and surrounding area, whether they were Baptist or not. 4

By the second year church attendance was reaching seventyfive with an average of thirty-eight attending Sunday School. By

1930 the Sunday School attendance had doubled and preaching
services were once again held twice each month. By 1935 Webb

Baptist Church was once again stable and growing and one of the
leading country churches in the area.

One of the most difficult tasks facing Dr. Price was the need to stabalize the financial basis of the church during the depression. He pursuaded the members to adopt a budget but that novel idea was soon rejected. Undaunted, Dr. Price again pursuaded the church to adopt and follow a budget. The opposition was overcome gradually by allowing the people to contribute cash or provisions on a weekly, monthly, annual or designated ... basis. 6 Dr. Price taught the church how to be financially.

⁴J. M. Price, notes.

⁵Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1930.

⁶Jean Hester, history.

responsible by his own example. He insisted that all bills be paid even before his salary was paid, and this was during the depression years when his salary at the seminary had also been reduced. 7

⁷Miss Lizzy Duval, interview.

1936 to 1945

The second decade of Dr. Price's ministry saw the church grow numerically, spiritually and financially. By 1944, the membership had doubled since he began his pastorate. During much of the time Dr. Price was serving at Webb, he was also pastor at the Baptist Church in Mansfield. He resigned the Mansfield pastorate in 1941 and in 1945 began holding fulltime preaching services at Webb. 1

Throughout his pastorate, Dr. Price led the church in giving to outside causes. During his first year the church gave only \$27.43 to all outside causes. By 1944, the church's outside giving was more the thirteen times the amount given that first year. In 1941, the church also began giving \$50.00 per year to African Missionary, Christy Pool as well as other unnamed mission projects. ²

The community of Webb was still a small farming town with little numerical growth. The dispersed population and unimproved roads made it difficult to effect any large scale increaase in the membership. Through his influence and persistent effort, Dr. Price succeeded in getting the road graveled from the highway to

¹Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1945.

²Jean Hester, history.

the church.³ This greatly increased the ability for members to attend church services on rainy days.

Although no new structures were added to the building, much effort was given to beautifying the grounds. Various classes were assigned different sides of the building to landscape. Pecan and fruit trees were planted for shade through the efforts of members led by Mr. Frye and Mr. Pool.⁴

The membership maintained the building and continually worked to make it more suitable for worship. In 1943 a butane heating system was installed, and the need for regular church action to replenish the carbide supply was eliminated when electric lights were installed. Continual upgrading was done to the interior of the church such as new pews, paint, and art paper which gave the windows a stained glass effect. 5

³Jean Hester, history.

⁴ ibid.

⁵J. M. Price, notes.

1946 to 1955

Dr. Price was very active during the last few years at Webb and the church was blessed. He had led the church to a membership of over 200 and developed a Sunday School which averaged 100 in attendance his last year. Dr. Price gave much credit to those who worked closely with him those years; Ira Holland and George Willis, Sunday School superintendants; Leatrice Lloyd, Training Union director; and Miss Lizzie Duval, Sunday School secretary and church treasurer for over twenty years. 1

Webb Baptist Church grew steadily and soon additional educational space was needed. A two-story educational building, consisting of eight rooms and a baptistry was added in 1947 at a cost of \$5,901.00. When completed, the debt-free structure was dedicated by State Missions Secretary, J. Howard Williams.²

The next step in Dr. Price's vision was for a "pastorium" which would allow for the pastor to live on the field. His last official act was to lead the church in building a parsonage in 1949 at a cost of \$3,609.93. Dr. S.F. Davis, of the Home Mission Board, preached the dedication service of the debt-free building in September of 1949. Tarrant County moderator and pastor of

¹J. M. Price, notes.

²Jean Hester, history.

Evans Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, was also present and delivered the charge to nine new deacons who were ordained the same afternoon as the dedication.³

Dr. J.M. Price retired from the pastorate in September of 1949. His many years of sacrificial service helped to build a strong work that has continued for many years. He is credited with keeping the church alive through those first rebuilding years of the depression. His skills and the principles that he taught his students at the seminary were demonstrated in the development of Webb Baptist Church during his twenty-one years of leadership.

Riley W. Eubank, a student at SWBTS, was called as pastor in October of 1949 and served until August 31, 1953. The church numbered approximately one hundred and seventy residents and averaged 112 attending Sunday School. Under pastor Eubank's leadership a full time choir director was called and the church began giving 10% of the income to the Cooperative Program. 5

A garage and breezeway was added to the pastor's home as well as a new pulpit and choir chairs. Realizing the potential of the church, Reverend Eubank's started a building fund for additional educational space.

³The Visitor, September 30, 1949, vol. 22, no. 30.

⁴Miss Lizzie Duval, interview.

⁵Jean Hester, history.

⁶Unknown, history.

A few months after the resignation of R.E. Eubanks, another SWBTS student, James Hester was called as pastor. He served from November of 1953 until February 5, 1956. Under his leadership the church maintained its stable attendance and membership strength. The giving of the church reached an all time high of \$14,613.00 in 1955.

Pastor Hester followed the efforts of Brother Eubanks and led the church in construction of new educational space. In August of 1954, construction of new facilities consisting of two assembly areas, five classrooms, a kitchen, and two restrooms was started. The completed addition was dedicated on November 7, 1954 by Dr. J. M. Price. Within six months the debt on the new building was retired.

James Hester was remembered and well liked by the membership of Webb Baptist Church. Following his graduation he served in other pastorates, with the Foreign Mission Board, denominational positions and is presently the pastor of Arlington Christian Center, Arlington, Texas.⁸

⁷Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1955.

⁸Unknown, history.

⁹James Hester, Baptist Biography Data Form, 1985.

1956 to 1965

On April 1, 1956, J. M. McDonald was called as the next pastor of the church. He served until January of 1959 before resigning. Attendance was still strong and the church continued to grow. Brother McDonald was described as a skilled carpenter as well as an effective pastor. He is credited with doing much of the work in building the foyer on the front part of the sanctuary. 1

During Reverend McDonald's pastorate, C. S. Aycock served as music director, Sunday School superintendant, and Training Union director. This multitalented individual was called by the church as pastor after McDonald's leaving. C. S. Aycock served the church from February 15, 1959 until September 1, 1960.² The next pastor to serve at Webb was James Glisson. He was called on October 2, 1960 and helped the church to maintain stable growth until his resignation on November 25, 1962.³

The church was without a pastor for four months until Eugene Hoover was called on April 7, 1963. Under Brother Hoover's leadership the church again made significant steps in growth and expansion of church facilities. The church reached its highest

¹Mrs. Liz Sloan, Interview on October 10, 1985.

²Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1960.

³Tarrant Baptist Association records.

membership in its history at 309; however, only 195 of those were resident members. Sunday School attendance averaged 106 per week. Reverend Eugene Hoover also helped the church to increase educational space for the third time by having an old army barracks brought to the church and then refurbishing it to meet the church's need for classrooms.

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Reverand Hoover is credited with being the first pastor to really see the potential for growth in Webb and how that would impact the church in the future. While Webb was still a small farming community and experiencing very little growth, the city of Arlington was continuing to grow and he realized that people would someday begin to move to the area. For thirty-five years Eugene Hoover has pastored various churches. He is presently pastor of Memorial Baptist in Temple, Texas and states that he loves being a pastor.

⁴Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1965.

⁵Miss Lizzy Duval and Mrs. Liz Sloan, interviews.

⁶Mrs. Joyce Winkle, Interview on November 12, 1985.

⁷Eugene Hoover, Baptist Biography Data form, 1985.

1966 to 1975

After sixty years of growth and ministry the church began to make some plans concerning its future which would help to decide the direction it was to take. Charles Fox was called as pastor on September 4, 1966 and he served the church until February 2, 1972. Pastor Fox served as pastor longer than any other pastor in the church, with the noteable exception of J. M. Price. A student at SWBTS, Charles Fox helped the church to maintain a stable, vibrant ministry. 1

The next pastor to serve Webb Baptist Church was Sammy Jones. He was called in July of 1972 and remained until April 19, 1974. Although his ministry was short he helped lead the members to a decision which was critical to the future of the church. During his time the church decided to purchase five acres of land from June brown for the purpose of eventually erecting a new building. The site is on the main road into Webb and approximately one-quarter of a mile north of the existing facility. ²

Another milestone was reached in the church's history during the pastorate of Jim Adlridge. Reverend Aldridge was called on September 1, 1974. Within less than two years, on June 9, 1976

¹Charles Fox, Baptist Biography Data form, 1985.

²Mrs. Liz Sloan, interview.

the church voted to have Brother Aldridge begin serving the church on a full time basis.³ As the church's first full time pastor he led them to an all time high resident membership of 221 and giving of \$17,789 in 1975.⁴

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 $^{^3\}mathrm{Minutes}$ of Webb Baptist Church business meeting, June 9, 1976.

⁴Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1975.

1976 to 1985

The last decade saw a number of changes at Webb Baptist
Church. Some changes were a repeat of those seen earlier such as significant fluctuation in membership and attendance or the short term service of several pastors. Other changes were a reflection of those dedicated believers who seemed to realize that God had a purpose for their faithfulness and service these many years.

Following Pastor Aldridge's resignation the church called Wayne Flory as pastor. The parsonage was repaired for his use and he took to the field on March 6, 1977¹ and remained until April 1, 1981.² Membership remained steady but attendance fell off some from previous years. A much more significant factor was the dramatic increase in the giving to the church and its resulting financial stability.³

One of the major decisions made during Pastor Flory's ministry concerned the previously purchased five acre tract of land. Following the fluctuation in attendance and possibly due to the frequency with which pastor's had been leaving, some members proposed that the potential building site be sold and the money placed into the church treasury. The original

¹Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, February 7, 1977.

²Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, April 1, 1981.

³Minutes of Tarrant Baptist Association, 1980.

recommendation was tabled but was soon brought up again. On November 19, 1978 the church voted to reject the offer to sell the five acres and retain possession of the property for a future building site. The church voted to pay off the balance of the loan in November of 1980.4

Although the pastorate of James C. Cloud was short,
September 23, 1981 to October 2, 1983, some very significant
decisions were made. The church continued to emphasise
stewardship and the financial stability continued to increase.
The Lord also provided for the needs of the church in more
unusual ways such as the Mr. Gee fund. A local merchant who was
not a member of the church, Mr. Gee would stop by periodically
and present the church with cash gifts of several hundred dollars
to be used as they needed. On many occasions the Mr. Gee fund
was used to help establish or maintain a particular ministry. 5

Pastor Cloud proposed to the church that it change its name to the First Baptist Church of Webb, but the motion was tabled. The church eventually decided they would register the name to secure it for possible use in the future; however, they were not ready for such a change at that time. In an effort to respond to the decreasing attendance the church purchased signs to place

⁴Mrs. Joyce Winkle, interview and Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, November 19, 1978 and November 16, 1980.

⁵Mrs. Liz Sloan and Lesley Sloan, interview, October 10, 1985.

⁶Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, October 14, 1981.

on the main road to announce to the growing community their presence.

The last several years have been the most exciting times for the church because a tremendous potential for growth can be seen. The City of Arlington has continued to grow and has now incorporated most of the community of Webb. Along with the expansion of Arlington is the increase of many new homes in the immediate area. Within five miles of the church are hundreds upon hundreds of homes, newly built or under construction. The growth is steadily approaching Webb like a Jaugernaut.

Following the resignation of Reverend James Cloud the church was without leadership until Rev. Jim Edwards began serving as interim pastor in January of 1984. Pastor Edwards' ministry has been a period of major growth which has helped to cement the direction of the church. The church issued Brother Edwards a call to full time service on June 24, 1984 and he accepted on July 1, 1984.

During the last several years the church has grown in a number of major areas. They have achieved financial stability, increased the pastorial ministries staff by adding paid part time positions of Assistant Pastor and Minister of Youth to the existing position of Music director. New ministries such as the puppet ministry and Clowns for Christ ministry have involved youth and adults in evangelistic outreach. Of major

⁷Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, July 1, 1985.

⁸Bill "Doc" Eddleman, Interview on November 15, 1985.

significance is an increase in attendance to an average of more than one hundred per week since pastor Edwards came on the field.

On June 12, 1985, Webb Baptist Church took action which will open a new and significant chapter in its history. Acting on a recommendation from the newly formed Long-Range Planning Committee, the church voted to adopt a plan that would officially designate the five-acre site as the location of a new church building and drop an option on some property adjacent to the existing building. A building committee was nominated and approval was given to place a sign on the new property proclaiming it the future site of the First Baptist Church of Webb. 9

On August 14, 1985 the church began planning a "Together We Build Program" and at the writing of this paper they were actively involved in that program. Because of the vision of many members through the years the church already has a significant start on its building fund. Many members are strongly committed to seeing the completion of new facilities which will allow the church to minister to those people who will soon be at their door step.

Pastor Edwards sees this first stage of building as just the beginning of the church's ministry. The first phase of construction will include a temporary auditorium and educational space for 450 people. Phase Two will consist of purchasing more property adjacent to the existing site and erecting a permanent auditorium seating 1000 persons and additional educational space.

⁹Minutes of Webb Baptist Church, June 12, 1985.

Considering that a single developer has purchased the land on three sides of the church property for single family units, and that the Webb area is expected to reach a population of nearly 16,000 during the next ten years; it is likely the church will grow to the capacity set only by the visions of its members. 10

It is exciting to see the opportunity that the Lord has placed before the people of Webb Baptist Church. It is even more gratifying to see dedicated Christians responding to God's call by making the sacrifices to prepare to meet the challenge before them. Throughout the nearly eighty year existence of Webb Baptist Church, a core of faithful hardworking Christians have maintained a ministry through difficult and at times discouraging situations. It is easy to see the Lord at work. Now when thousands of people will be flooding the area, He has a church which has been faithfully waiting and preparing to minister to the multitudes.

 $^{^{10}}$ James Edwards, Interview on November 11, 1985.

ATC (

Prepared State Bar of Texas for use by lawyers only. Viewed 1-1-76. Revised to include grantee's address (art. 6626, RCS) 1-1-82.

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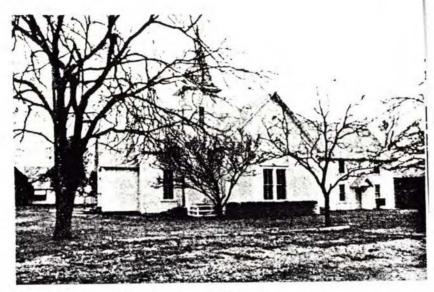
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TARRANT COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

77

77. Zuefeldt Street, Webb NR Webb Baptist Church

1907

The community of Webb dates back to the 1880's, when lots were laid out next to a cotton gin and general merchandise store. The town had its own post office, school and businesses, but no church. The Webb Baptist Church was organized on September 9, 1906. Land was purchased and the building completed by the following summer. It appears today much as it did then, with cruciform plan and slender belfry, on a large parcel at the center of Webb. Additions and new buildings, at a scale that complement the original building, extend to the south and west. For its central role in the history of Webb and for its architectural quality, Webb Baptist Church appears to be eligible for the National Register.

The lader of the Welt Bathet Church met Friday of al noon march 27th, 48 and, often diecultionland earnest tall to mre. Whightorganized "The andies stidt mission Societ. Lowe sice president and Ita my Orum secretary.

It was secial that each member should pay ten cente for month duck to be used in any way the societ thinks heat I Nimeteen members were enrolled at follows. Muss serace Hicks Mrs. May Juke c. C. Dural " C. L. Cornelius " Sat. miller " May L. Willis " Bessie Duvas " martha Propert " Dove Allison : Ruth Kirty " dettie Holland Ada Heatley Annie I sancis minerva Hicks 3. L. Hopkins 1 B. ct. Duke Lily Lowe Zymmus 19 miss Ida may Ervin.

The hadis old + Mission Society met it.

melt Baptist Church Afril 26 th, The secretary
heing absent a secretary protein was ofpanted
for the evening by the president.

The readmonths tweefth chapter of Romans,
a short talk by the president and plager ended
The devational exercises.

Dues were then paid and members his sosicited. From new members were added to the
hit making went three in roll the society
was then dismissed to meet again may 17th.

The radies did & mission Sheet mete nett water Church ma 17th. On account of threatened rain The fordam was ney short ofter rolleal, prajer and reading of the mindutes the sixth explicit of Opperialie was read by the breident. The baciet then proceeded to business and gated that all money there for subscribed and collected should go for the purpose of purchas. ing chairs forthealtar. The amount reing 7.60. I hee new members were wecomed making Twent six in rolland the exercises ended with prayer. / Sufferitions for chaire. me Rosier 50 paid Hicks 50 paid Project 50 paid Lowe 50 haid Lummus 55 faid " Holland . 25 paid "Cornelius 25 faid " Hopkins .5) " Francis 15 faid Kirly 25 paid Heatley 50 haid Hash 10 faid Himes .60 paid Some Time later. · Ready .05 pard " Smith . 50 paid miss Erom 25 haid Dues paid 189 Fotal Brother Lowe & Brother Heatler Surchased the Three chairs which cost eight dollars. Express Thirty cents. Brother Heally advanced Two dollars on thairs and paid extress. So it is the well of the society that we pay brother Heatley the Two Thirty and leave remainder, if any, of treasury.

The Lades Aid & Mussion docier metat with Baptist churcha une thisteenth. After sole call the pesident read the fifteenth enalter of dohn and the society famed in have. Brother deckson addressed the sacret as its purpos and seak of work and his tal. was enjoyed by ac Sister Lattie Walton Then made an interes ing Talk about The foreign missionaries and Their work. This back was ner mucholdiece ated. After singing, The society wated To meeting on Hednesday ofter noon before The second s. endul. miss Gertie Duval was welcomed. The societand elected collector. As our president mrs. Lummus has yone a on a visit vice president, mrs. Lowe, will co. duct This moetino. All debte have been faid and there is no \$1.80 m Treasury. 2.05 dues \$ 2.30 # 9.65 1.80 additional subscriptions dues. unpaid for secretaris fook.

members of Ladies chid & mission society.

miss Stacie Hicks 10-10 Mrs. May Duke. 10-10-10-10-10 ... E. L. Cornelius 10-10-10-10-10 " S. of. Miller 10-10 " May L. Willis 10-10-0-10-10 " Busic Dural 10-10-10-10-10-10 " martha croset 10 " Dovie Alison 10 " Ruth List 10-10-10-10-10 " dethe Hosland 10-10-10-10-10-10 " olda reather 10-10-10-10-10 " Aprile Francis 10-10-10-10-10 " minesoa + ieks 10-10-10-10 3. L. Hopkins 10-10-10-10-10 " B. ct. Duke 10-10-10-10-10-1 " Like Lowe 10 1º of G. Duval 10-10-10-10 Lummus 10-10-10-10-10 " Reed 10-10 1) bollins 10-10-10-10-10 Ready 10-10-10 miss Bda 6 svin 10-10-10-10-10 mrs. Hmes. 10-10-10-10 " Smith 10-10 " mand Lummus 10-10 miss Sertie Duval 10-10-10-10 mrs Queselat-10-10-10 mrs Nafrd - 10-10-10 miss mille outman -10-10

The Lade chief the serion Society metal the bollow, be here of line & high beat the see fresident conduct ed the wohend exercise which consisted of some ing and song.

The society then had a discussion as to what should a done with the song in the army and it was decided that it should go to kelp bear the inferse of refairns the hight. The seint some then adjourned to meet again sext month of week paid in at meeting to be it is a subject to the society then adjourned to meet again sext month of week paid in at meeting to be donor in the own, the sound in the own, so the assurer.

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Ques dofter meeting 2.20 das for state missions 10.35

The Lader oled & musion Society metal webs is affect Church the second Sun motor and conducted a short meeting. the recretor being absent miss derticion acted as secretary tro tem. the dues faid mat meeting amounted to 2.25 and The society adjourned to meetagam miles. Caamy 6 som See Theat. The Ladies ofed & mission Society mie at welf to office !. Church dan 10 Th, 19.09 and conducteda business meeting. The president mir dummus being calledown requested mrd. Heatley to actor president Afterdiscussion The society then elected mie teather in co president So she willactar president until mire Lumine returns. The rock to decided to hold The amount in the read why and all feet haid in what there is enough money is , cashe the church The society Then closed the meeting and adjourned ? meetagain Het. 14 Th. of mount in treasury at meeting 2.25: Imount paid in total in hearing Ida may Ervin. The Ladier Aid & Mission Sacrety met at theff Bather Church the second byin in majand valed To retain the came officers except the bice periang Afte a short meeting and payment of duce the rocus adjourned to meet again the becond dun in fun. Amain in heavy at class of dan meeting to 150 " paid on light Remains summin Treasury Amount hard mat has mee total in bearing of dresing

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10-10-10-10-10-10-10

The Ladies aid & mission society met at Webb Bablist Church sat. Oct. 9:09 for the four pool of reorganizing and eleting office after a short talk by Bro. Hunt, the office Pres. Mrs. maggie Collins vice. Bres. my ille Putmall Sec. + Treas. misa Guillet Organist. The society valed to donate the amount Treasury 70.00 to Buchers. Orpants Home. The society adjourned to meet again in nov Myrtle D. Putman, Sec + 1.

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Balance in beas. 4,26

The Ladies aid + mission society meta Webb Bablist Eat march 12,10 after Role Call and payment of slices there was a motion and second to to a so cial meeting each month. motion Car making a meeting every Two weeks, 2nd? Sat eveninge. The Per then gave our leason 12th Capte of Romans. prayer by Mere Lumme of the aid adjourned to meet 4th S. march the 26th.

myrtle D. Palman sec + Treas, Balance in Treas, \$.80

The Ladies aid Society met at Hebb Bablist church. Thursday. June 23. after Roll call and payment of dues, The Society decided to not the money in In to get chairs to seat roderund. mrs Duke + Zuefeldt were apointed as comins To select Chairs of Carpet missis Tertie haville also a committee abointed de calle utman money to carpet the radium, 12th chapter of Romans was read and Come Toy hes. prayer by mrs Holland, Motion und see -to adjorn.

Balance in Tree

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