



**THE SHADY GROVE CEMETERY
GRAND PRAIRIE SIGNIFICANT LANDMARK
Site Medallion No. 5
Corner of Shady Grove Road and Hardy Road**

The first acre of land was deeded to the Trustees of the Shady Grove School House, their heirs and assigns, forever for the purpose and use of a grave yard and a school house which is to be also used as a church. This acre was a gift from L.H. Caster and his wife, Ruth Jane Lusk. The deed was filed January 13, 1877 in Dallas County.

In August 1884 when Lewis Dowd (Caster's son-in-law) deeded .0162 acres of land to the County Judge to be used for a public free school, the school claimed no interest in the first tract of land. About October 5, 1888, L.E. Dowd conveyed about two acres by deed from the John Spoon Survey to "white citizens of the community surrounding the land by whatsoever name it may be known, for the purpose of a burial ground forever."

Those in the community and others came together on Memorial Day and cleaned up the cemetery. They built their coffins filled with cotton batts and lined them with white domestic. One of the carpenters drove the four miles in a wagon with a team of horses to Grand Prairie to purchase material for these coffins.

Additional land was donated in 1968 by Gifco Properties (.8795 acres), 1970 by Roy and Asa Seale and Irene Seale Raddatz (.7898 acres). The Shady Grove Cemetery Association came into being and executed a deed conveying all properties to Gifco Properties in an abortive plan to expand the said cemetery.

On September 7, 1971 Gifco conveyed all of the said properties fenced in as a cemetery property, containing 3.77 acres of land, located in the John Spoon Survey in Dallas County, Texas back to Shady Grove Cemetery Association. The tract deed back contained all of the land not in public roads in the referenced deeds.

On July 1, 1977 a petition was made to the Attorney General of Texas to bring into legal existence the Shady Grove Cemetery Association and to appoint Trustees and make provisions for Successor Trustees. Petition was granted by Judge Snowden M. Leftwich, Jr., by K-192 Judicial District of Dallas County.

There are about 450 marked graves, many more unmarked and unknown. Veterans of four wars are interred here: Civil War, World War I, World War II and the Korean War. The oldest marker is that of Rhoda Stone (born August 28, 1878; died November 30, 1878).

The cemetery is still in use, new sections will not be opened until all the old ones are used up.

State Marker dedicated May 19, 1979

Significant Landmark of Grand Prairie dedicated May 16, 1981

Recap of marker application condensed by Ruthe Jackson