

THE LIGGETT-UNDERWOOD HOME Site Medallion No. 31 401 College Street

After many years of planning, construction of the George F. Liggett home was started in 1930 and completed in 1931. Careful consideration was give to every detail in constructing the \$20,000 showplace. Mr. Liggett selected Mr. J.F. Busby, a local man, to be the contractor. Specifications included pier holes to be 10-12 feet deep or to the bedrock, double shiplap walls, the best East Texas lumber, select4d bricks to be brought by rail from Ferris, and all millwork including doors, door frames, windows, and frames, and the staircase were to be custom-made from the woodworking shop at Southwest Jr. College at Keene. Carpenters were paid \$3.00 a day to build the house. Mr. George P. Stubbs contracted the plumbing and electric work.

Mr. and Mrs. Liggett lived here until his death in 1937. The NW section of Grand Prairie was served by water piped from a deep well. During World War II, due to limited housing facilities and to supplement her income, Mrs. Liggett turned her home into a boarding house for school teachers and defense plant workers. Mrs. Liggett died in 1961, however, members of the Liggett family continued to live here until 1970.

From 1970-1982 Dr. John F. Mease leased the red brick house for his home and medical practice.

In 1982, the Liggett children sold the house to Kent and Cathy Underwood. Kent is the great great nephew of George Liggett. This is the second family home the Underwoods have restored in Grand Prairie. Both are important historical landmarks, and will receive official designations.