



First Church of Christ Scientist Hallettsville, Texas

By Brenda Lincke Fisseler



The laying of the brick began on the Christian Science Church on May 17, 1917 with Messrs. Koenig of Moulton, Steve Haikenwaelder of Witting and A.V.C. Moore of Hallettsville in charge of the project.

The property that the new church would stand on was purchased on April 9, 1917 by Henry C. Obelgoner, David R. Breeden, and Charles Eisler, Trustees of the First Church of Christ Scientist from Mrs. L.E. Moore for \$600.00. The deed stipulated that the property was to be used for church purposes only and a convenient church edifice shall be built upon said land.

Mary Baker Eddy, an American author, teacher and religious leader, founded the Church of Christ, Scientist. She devoted her life to the practice of healing through prayer, resulting in a system she named Christian Science and described in her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. <https://www.hse.ie/services/interculturalguide>.

The building was completed in July of 1917 with a cost of \$3,500.00 and would be used as soon as furnished.

The building was used as is until November of 1934 when it was remodeled and enlarged with the work being done by contractor John Moore and his crew.

“Great minds are related to the brief span of time during which they live as great buildings are to a little square in which they stand...”

Please share this newsletter with any one who might be interested!

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On October 4, 1960, a meeting was held by the members to decide the fate of the church.

The property and building was sold by Ophelia Sokol, Myrtle Diaz, and Ferd. Sokol, Trustees of the First Church of Christ Scientist to Harry G.

Hamilton and wife for \$1,000.00 on August 7, 1961.

Later that month, Hamilton Jewelry moved from their location in the Braunig Building to the old Christian Science building.

In 1970, the jewelry store was relocated to the Ben Franklin Store building by Mrs. Harry (Melba Rae Sokol) Hamilton.

After the removal of the jewelry store, a new industry opened in the building on December 12, 1970. The new owners, Bill Wallace of Texas City, Weldon W. Davis and John Skidmore of the Kilgore area, hoped to stimulate the animal fur industry in the area by opening a animal fur company.

After being in business for over a year, Melba Rae Hamilton sold the property to Weldon W. Davis and W. F. Wallace. In October of 1974, Davis sold his interest in the company to Wallace and the D&W Fur Company was voluntarily dissolved.

The building remained in the extended Wallace family until February 2025 when Wm. F. Wallace, trustee, sold the property and building to Texas Elite Therapy Team.

Texas Elite sold the property to Capitol Certified Development in March of 2025.

Note: At the time of this newsletter, it is rumored that Lavaca County is interested in purchasing this property.

Lavaca County Deeds

Vol. 76 p.560; Vol.201 p.259; Vol. 210 p.257; Vol.267 p.91; Vol.285 p.350; ORB Vol.162 p.736; ORB Vol.1032 p.707; ORB Vol.1032 p.710; ORB Vol.1034 p.157; ORB Vol.1035 p.103.

Newspapers

Moulton Eagle May 18, 1917 & July 6, 1917; Tribune Nov. 9, 1934; New Era Herald August 25, 1961; Lavaca County New Era—The Tribune March 20, 1970

[https://www.hse.ie>services>interculturalguide](https://www.hse.ie/services/interculturalguide)

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