



City of Tyler Historical Subject Marker Application Form



This form constitutes a public request to the City of Tyler to consider approval of an Official City of Tyler Historical Subject Marker. The City of Tyler Historical Preservation Board will review the request and make the final determination of eligibility and therefore may approve the Subject Marker designation. Filing of the application is for the purpose of providing basic information to be used in the evaluation process. This form is to be used for subject marker requests only. Please see separate forms for either City of Tyler Landmark or Half-Mile of History Programs.

Subject Marker Definition

Subject markers are educational in nature and reveal aspects of local history important to a community or region. These markers honor topics such as church congregations, schools, communities, businesses, events and individuals. Subject markers are placed at sites that have historical associations with the topics, but no legal restriction is placed on the use of the property or site, although the Historical Preservation Board must be notified if the marker is ever to be relocated. **The Historical Preservation Board will only consider topics which do not have an existing State or National Subject Marker.**

Application Requirements

Any individual or group may apply to the City of Tyler to request a City of Tyler Historical Subject Marker for what it deems a worthy topic. Only complete marker applications that contain all the required elements can be accepted or processed by the Historical Preservation Board.

The required elements are:

- Application Form
- Narrative History
- Supporting documentation, including photographs

Photographs are required. Do not send original photos. All submitted materials will become property of the City of Tyler and its Historical Preservation Board.

- Narrative histories must include separate sections on:
 - a. **Background** which represents a broader set of facts that explain why the event, site or structure should be considered historic and the enduring contributions to the area.
 - b. **Overview** of the key facts in chronological order with clearly documented historic connections to the area.

Historical Subject Marker

Criteria

- 1. **Age:** Most topics marked with subject markers must date back at least 50 years, although historic events may be marked after 30 years, and historic individuals may be marked, or may be mentioned in a historical marker text, after they have been deceased 10 years. The Historical Preservation Board may waive age requirements for topics of overwhelming local, state or national importance, although exceptions are rarely granted and the burden of proof for all claims and documentation is the responsibility of the narrative author.

Subject age or event date:

Alfred Gilliam – 1st Director for Tyler Civic Theatre
Born in 1920 and passed away 1988

- 2. **Historical significance:** A topic is considered to have historical significance if it had influence, effect or impact on the course of history or cultural development; age alone does not determine significance. It is expected that most historical markers will deal with local history and a local level of significance; however state and national importance can be considered.

Provide summary of historical significance:

Longest continues operating theatre-in-the-Round. Al Gilliam was a singer and dancer with Camp Fannin from 1943 to 1945. Rose Festival Choreographer, Apache Belles
Choreographer and head cheerleader coach for Tyler High School.

(attach additional sheets if necessary)

Proposed Marker Topic (Official title will be determined by the Historical Preservation Board):

Alfred Gilliam

Street Address of Marker Site: 400 Rose Park Drive

Will the marker be placed at the actual site of the topic being marked? Yes No

If the answer is no, provide the distance and directions to the actual location from the marker (i.e. 100 yards east).

Marker Placement:

Include a map that indicates where the subject marker is to be placed with a precise verbal description of marker placement (e.g. northwest corner of 3rd and Elm, or FM 1411, 2.6 miles east of McWhorter Creek):

Historical Subject Marker

TYPE AND SIZE OF SUBJECT MARKER

As part of its review process, the Historical Preservation Board will determine the appropriate size of the marker and provide options, if any, for the approved topic based on its own review criteria, including, but not exclusive of, historical significance, replication of information in other markers, and the amount of available documented information provided in the application narrative.

*For markers without posts, the applicant must receive special approval from the Historic Preservation Board. Such approval shall be based upon the following:

- Submittal of a detailed plan for where the marker will be mounted, including the surface to which it will be placed (masonry, metal, wood); and
- A statement of why a marker with a post is not feasible or preferred.

Nominator's Information

Name of person making nomination: Tyler Civic Theatre – John Anderson

Address: 400 Rose Park Drive

City: Tyler

State: TX Zip: 75702

Daytime telephone: TCT-592-0561 or John -330-1000

Email: jaanderson41@sbcglobal.net

Please submit application to:

Mail to:

OR

Hand Deliver to:

City of Tyler
Planning and Zoning
Department
Attention: Subject Marker
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710

City of Tyler
Planning and Zoning
Department
Attention: Subject Marker
Tyler Development Center
423 W. Ferguson
Tyler, Texas

Case Number: _____

Date Received: _____

Historic Preservation Board Date: _____

Signed By: _____

City Council Date: _____

Alfred "Al" Gilliam

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

Jason Jennings
Historical Preservation Board Chairman

SUBJECT MARKER PROGRAM

Ellen Musselman
Historical Preservation Board Member

SUBJECT MARKER

Lucinda Kittrell
Historic Tyler President

UNVEILING

John Anderson
Immediate Past President of TCTC

Joyce Paro
Past President of TCTC
Friend of Al Gilliam

CLOSING REMARKS

John Anderson
Immediate Past President of TCTC

REFRESHMENTS

Tyler Civic Theatre Center Lobby

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Tyler Civic Theatre Center (TCTC)

Alfred "Al" Gilliam



In 1943, as a civilian, Alfred Gilliam was actively involved with the Camp Fannin U. S. Army Infantry Replacement Training Center's Special Services Department where he performed as a singer, dancer and stage director for several productions. One production, "Texas Yanks," premiered at Camp Fannin and was later performed in Gladewater, Longview, Greenville, Mount Pleasant, Marshall and Palestine as part of the effort to sell war bonds.

Gilliam enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1945. At the end of the war, he was transferred to the separation center at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. After his discharge in 1946, he performed plays at the San Antonio Little Theatre.

In 1949, he returned to Tyler and directed the Circle Theatre at Tyler Junior College; staging productions with audiences seated on all four sides. The shows proved so popular that a group of Tyler citizens rallied to revive its own city theatre. In 1949 Tyler Civic Theatre was born and Gilliam was named its first resident director. Two years later the group opened the nation's first theater built specifically for in-the-round presentations. Currently, the theatre holds the record for being the longest continually operated Theatre-in-the-Round in the nation.





The Historical Subject Marker program commemorates diverse topics including the history and architecture of houses, commercial and public buildings, religious congregations, and events that changed the course of local history as well as individuals who have made lasting contributions to our city, community organizations, businesses, military sites, and much more.



To learn more about the Historic Subject Marker Program and Historic Preservation visit our website at www.tylerhistoricalpreservation.com!



PRESENTS THE
Alfred "Al" Gilliam
 HISTORICAL
 SUBJECT MARKER
 UNVEILING

May 7, 2014
10:00 A.M.