



Ben Hohenstatt | The Herald Independent

Ed Gates loads the granite slab into the waiting arm of a tractor.



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The granite grave marker denoting the final resting place of Col. Jesse Havis was donated by Fairfield County Historical Society.

## Mistake

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Cemetery, and the location of Havis' actual grave became unclear.

Ed Gates, museum volunteer, was the principal researcher responsible for locating Havis' grave.

"It took Ed months and months to find this site," Johnson said. "Ed did 99 percent of the work."

Gates said he was contacted by John Andrews, one of Havis' ancestors, and had a rough idea of where to begin looking

for the grave site.

"We had some pretty good direction to start with," Gates said. "We had some direction of paces from the road."

Havis home was also marked on an 1820 map of the area.

"This was his home site," Lyles said. "He's on the 1820 map, so we know this is right."

With an idea of the general location of the grave, Gates began his thorough search, which was ultimately fruitful.

"We knew we were looking for brick," Gates

said. "When I found brick, I knew I had found it."

Gates poured a cement foundation, and Monday, a grave marker was placed.

In addition to Havis' military service, Lyles said Havis had a notable local influence, as he helped create First Methodist Church in Winnsboro.

"As far as our records show he was a big part of the First Methodist Church in Winnsboro," Lyles said.