

(Print or Type Responses)

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* HADDOCK GERALD W | Statement (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Meritage Homes CORP [MTH] | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 210 W. 6TH STREET, SUITE 1206 | | | Issuer | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X_Director Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) | | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | |
| (Street) FORT WORTH, TX 76102-4833 | | | X Director Officer (give title | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)X_Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | Beneficially Owned For (Instr. 4) (D) (I) | | Form: Direct (D) or Indirect | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number. Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | |
| (Instr. 4) | , | | d Amount of Underlying Derivative | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | |
| | Date Expirate Date | Title Amo | ount or Number of | | (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | |
| HADDOCK GERALD W | | | | | |
| 210 W. 6TH STREET, SUITE 1206 | X | | | | |
| FORT WORTH, TX 76102-4833 | | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Gerald W. Haddock | 01/11/2005 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

No securities are beneficially owned

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.