

Meritage Homes CORP
 Form 4
 January 31, 2007

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
OPPEL RAYMOND

(Last) (First) (Middle)

17851 NORTH 85TH STREET,
 SUITE 300

(Street)

SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Meritage Homes CORP [MTH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
01/29/2007

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| MTH COMMON STOCK ⁽¹⁾ | 01/29/2007 | | A | 12,000 | A \$ 0 12,000 | D | |

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.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| MTH COMMON STOCK ⁽²⁾ | \$ 42.82 | 01/29/2007 | | A | 2,000 | 01/29/2008 01/28/2014 | MTH COMMON STOCK | 2,000 |
| MTH COMMON STOCK ⁽²⁾ | \$ 42.82 | 01/29/2007 | | A | 2,000 | 01/29/2009 01/28/2014 | MTH COMMON STOCK | 2,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| OPPEL RAYMOND 17851 NORTH 85TH STREET, SUITE 300 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Raymond
Oppel
Date: 01/31/2007

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(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).
- (1) Balance represents the grant of restricted stock. The restricted stock vests in equal increments over the three-year period beginning on the anniversary of the date of the grant.
- (2) Represents a single option grant.

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.