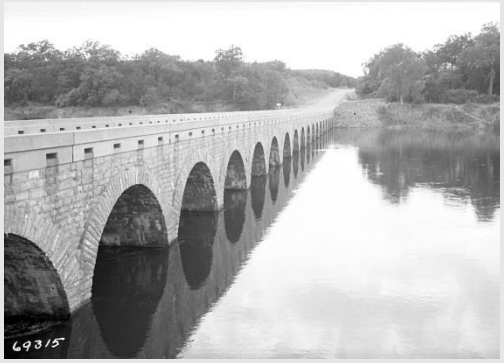


LET US BE YOUR GUIDE

Exploring TxDOT's Historical Resources

WHO IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DIVISION?

- TxDOT historians and archeologists
- Run a variety of programs:
  - Beyond the Road Campaign
  - Archeology and History
  - Texas Historic Bridges
  - Storm Water Programs
  - Ozone Action Days
  - Mitigation Banks
  - Drive Clean Texas

TYPES OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Digital
  - Websites
  - Maps
  - Photographs
  - Historic contexts
  - Road plans
- Paper Files
  - Bridges
  - Roadside parks
  - Depression-era roads and bridges
  - Works Progress Administration Records

TYPES OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE

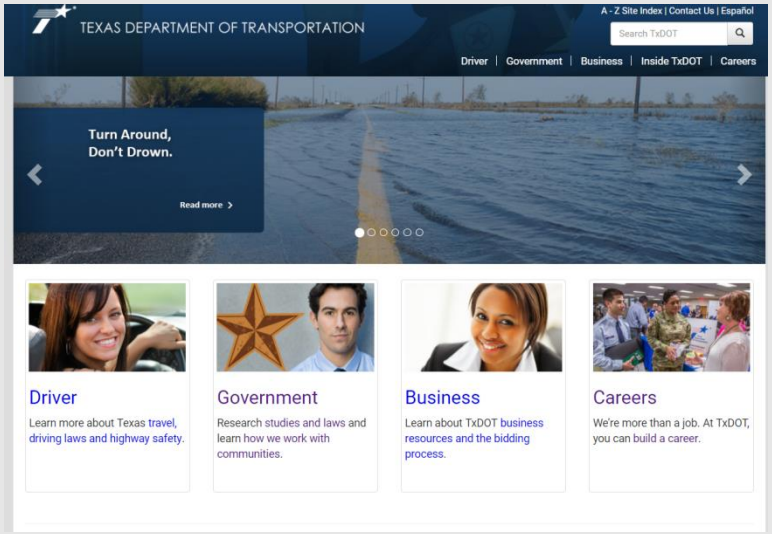
- Historic Road Infrastructure of Texas Multiple Property Nominations
- Story Maps
- Historic American Engineering Record Documentation
- Photo Library
- *Texas Highways* Magazine Archives
- Archeology Library

...and more!

DIGITAL RESOURCES - Websites

1. TxDOT home page: www.txdot.gov

2. Environmental Affairs Division: https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/environmental.html



Other Resources:

Texas Historical Commission
http://www.thc.texas.gov/

Library of Congress
https://www.loc.gov/

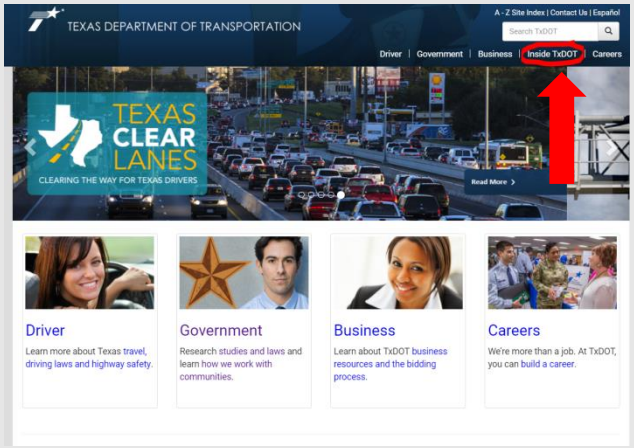
Texas State Library and Archives
https://www.tsl.texas.gov/

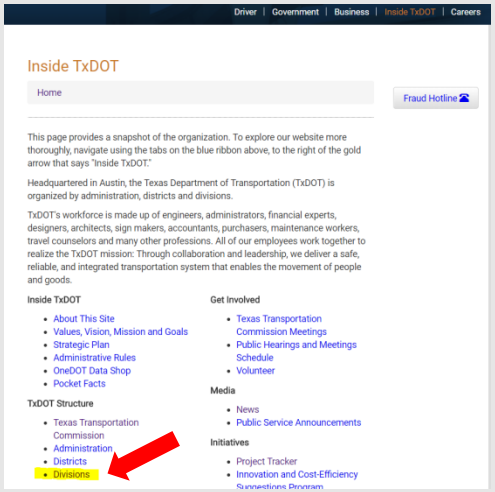
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

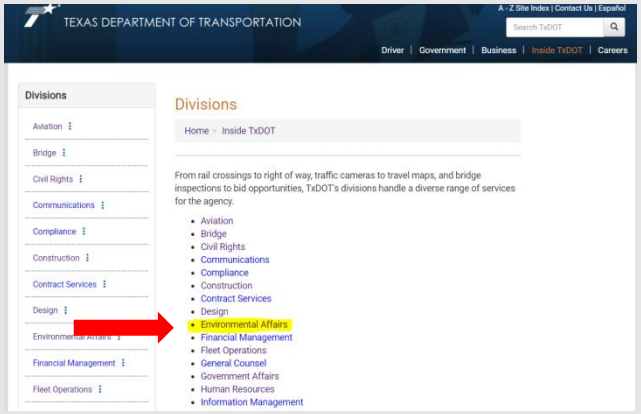
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

DIGITAL RESOURCES - Websites







DIGITAL RESOURCES – Maps, THO and GLO

1. Texas General Land Office:

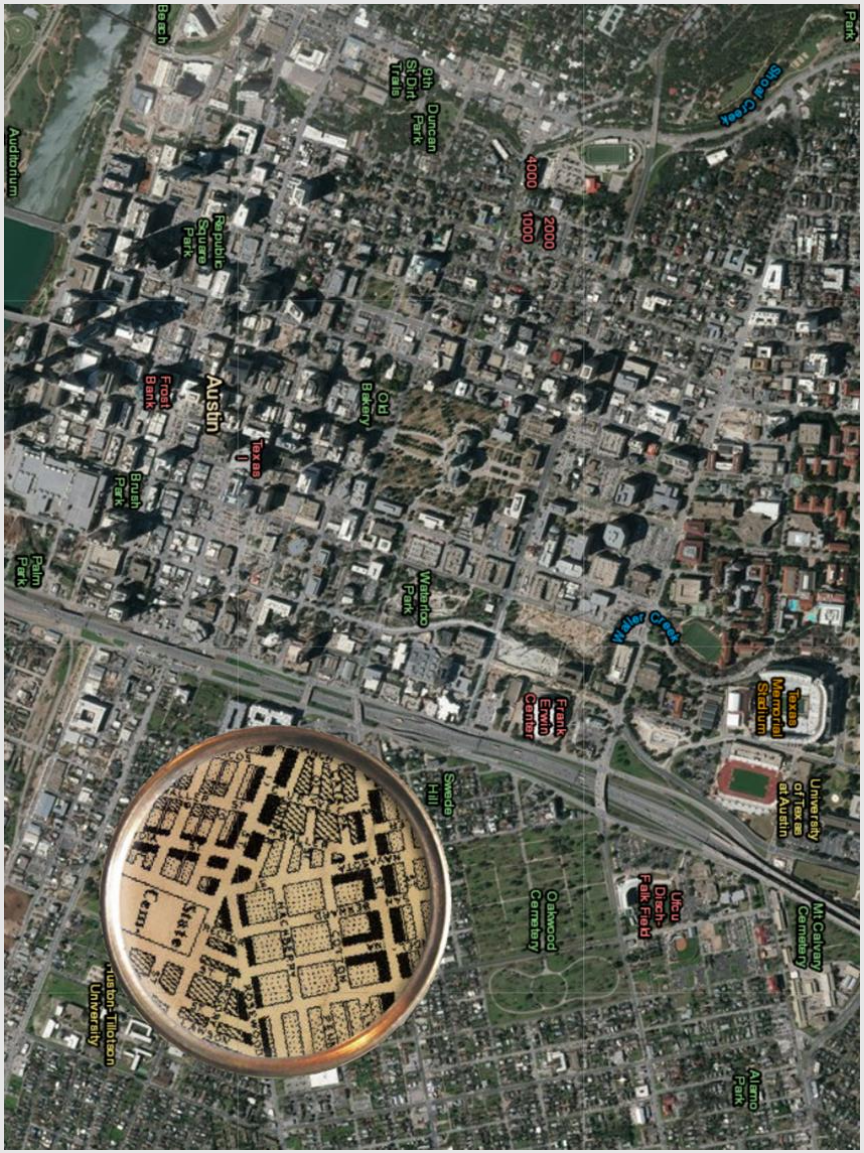
http://www.glo.texas.gov/land/land-management/gis/index.html

- Based on historical maps, research, and data
- GIS and GPS systems
- Interactive maps and map layering

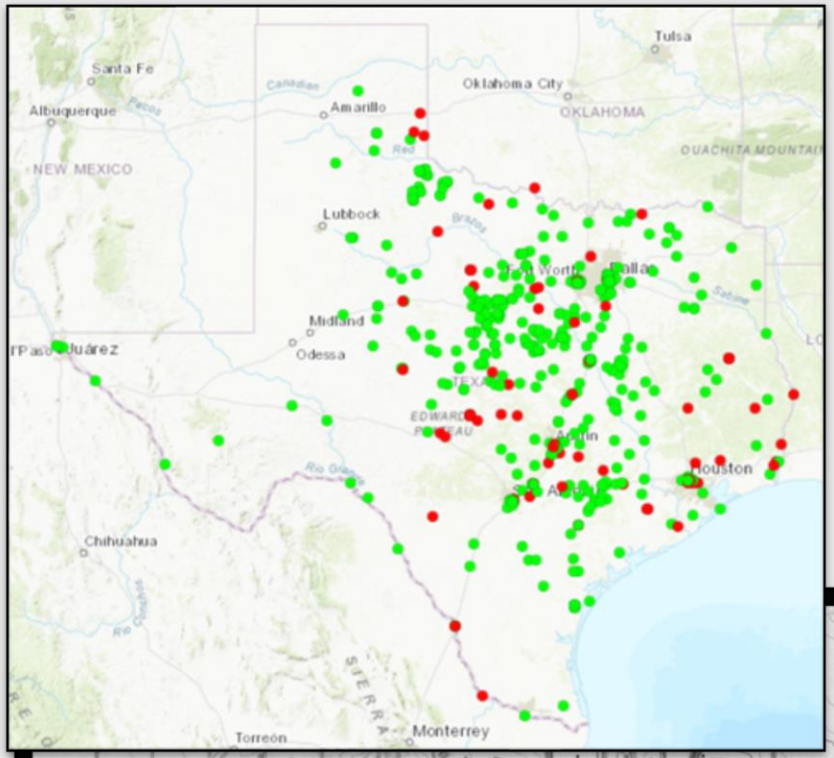
2. Texas Historic Overlay

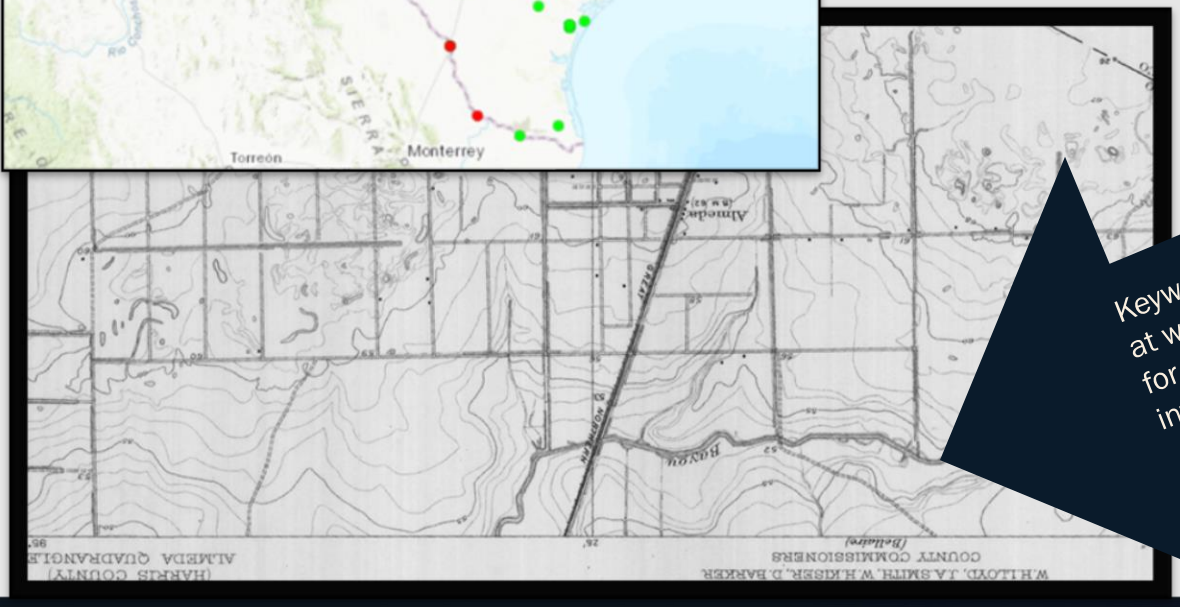
https://tnris.org/data-catalog/entry/txdot-texas-historic-overlay/

- GIS-based resource
- Guide to archeological and cultural sites
- Created to provide information for transportation project planning



DIGITAL RESOURCES – Maps, Historic Bridges





What?
Interactive map of eligible and listed NRHP bridges.

Why?
Created to reference data of historically significant, or already examined, bridges in Texas.

Where?
[Texas Historic Bridges]

Keyword "Maps" at www.txdot.gov for more information!

DIGITAL RESOURCES - Photo Library

- Free to the public
- We transfer images digitally
- Request images by email or phone
- Photos are not available online, so make an appointment to visit the lab: https://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html?id=media-photo-email

DIGITAL RESOURCES – Historic Contexts

What?

A historic context gives you a general overview about a topic during a specific time period in a particular place.

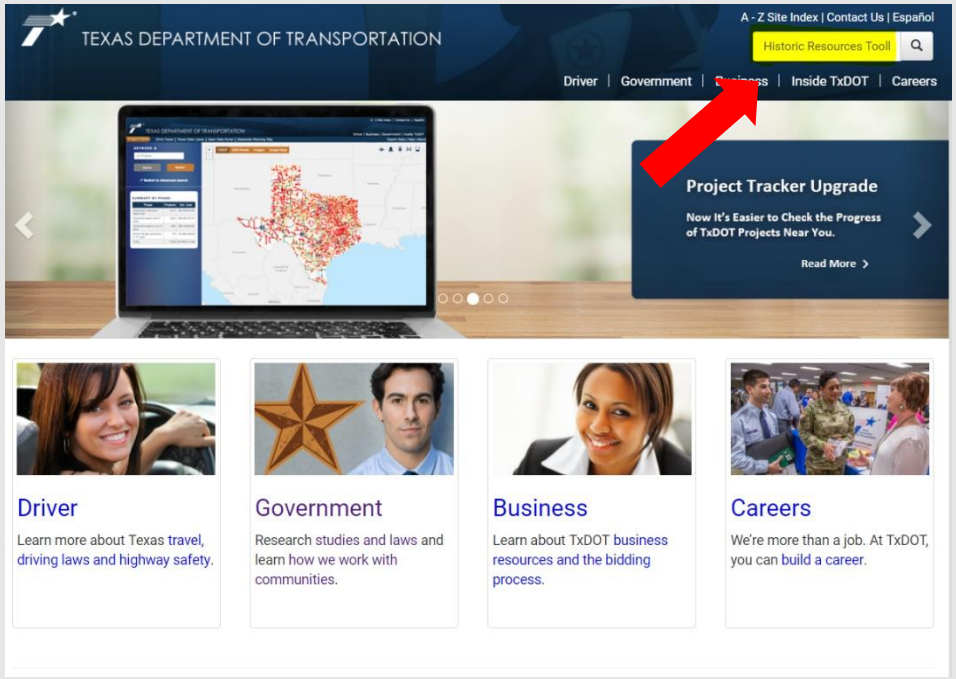
Who?

Educators, Teachers, Museum Specialists, Interested Researchers, You!

Topics?

- Gas Stations
- Industrial Properties
- Irrigation in Lower Rio Grande Valley
- Historic Motels, 1950-1970
- South Texas Ranching
- Texas Aviation
- Roadside Parks
- Texas Adobe
- Historic Agricultural Processing Facilities
- Central Texas Agriculture
- Agricultural Landscape Development Along US 277

DIGITAL RESOURCES – Historic Contexts



1. Visit our website: www.txdot.gov
2. In the upper right hand corner, search "Historic Resources Toolkit"
3. Select the first option

DIGITAL RESOURCES – Historic Road Infrastructure

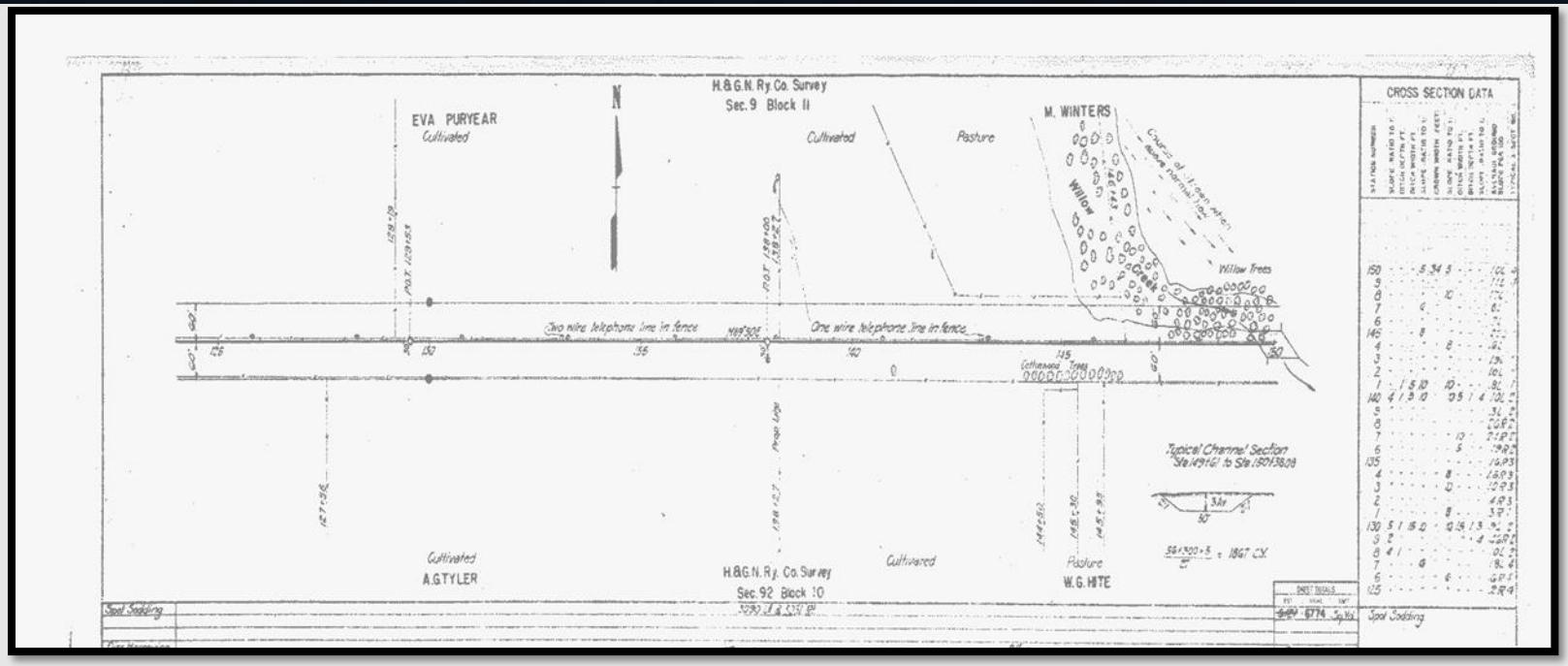
DIGITAL RESOURCES – Road Plans

What?

Maps showing:

- Landscaping
- Names of adjacent owners
- Building outlines and uses
- Width of road
- Materials of road
- Historic maps

DIGITAL RESOURCES – Road Plans



Plan Sets:

- Function like Sanborns
- Provide larger, general maps of the area
- Drainage details
- Realignments and bypass jobs
- Land use
- Ownership

Where?

Contact at TxDOT historian!

PAPER FILES – Archeology

What?

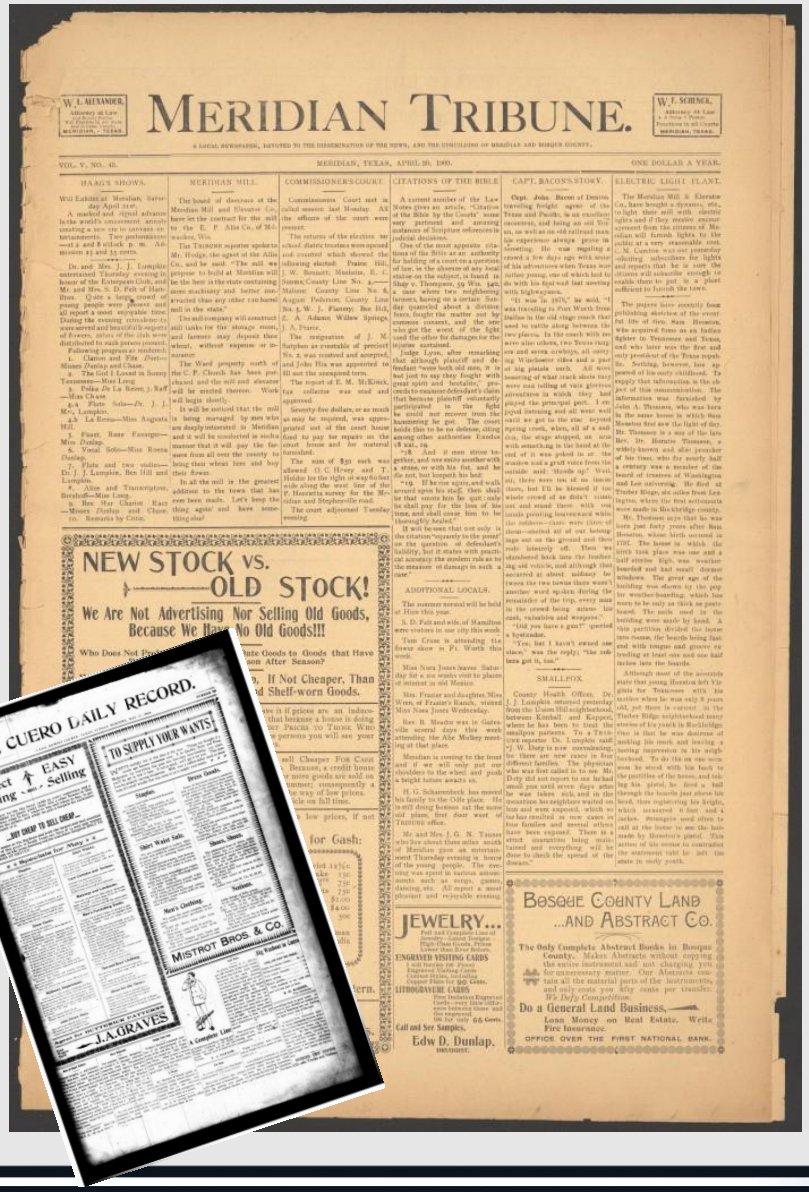
Archeology project files

- Includes cemeteries, project sites, and impact evaluations
- Archeology Magazines
- Provides information about archeological excavations and findings

Where?

TxDOT Archives – contact a TxDOT historian or archeologist for more information!

PAPER FILES – Historic Bridges, Roadside Parks, Depression-Era



What?

- History project files
- National Register of Historic Places evaluations
- Texas Historic Overlay project files
- Documented mitigation efforts
- Historic bridge research and construction files
  - Includes some images and original blueprints

Where?

Contact a TxDOT historian for a digital copy of our records!

Why?

These records show:

- Lead Architects
- Past and Current bridge and road conditions
- Pictures
- Historic context on the area
- Resulting construction projects
- Efforts to reduce the impact of TxDOT projects

PAPER FILES – Works Progress Administration Records

Who?

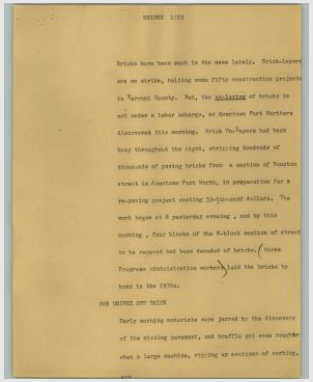
The WPA was created as a New Deal program in 1935. It employed many people to work on public works projects – like constructing buildings, roads, parks, and bridges.

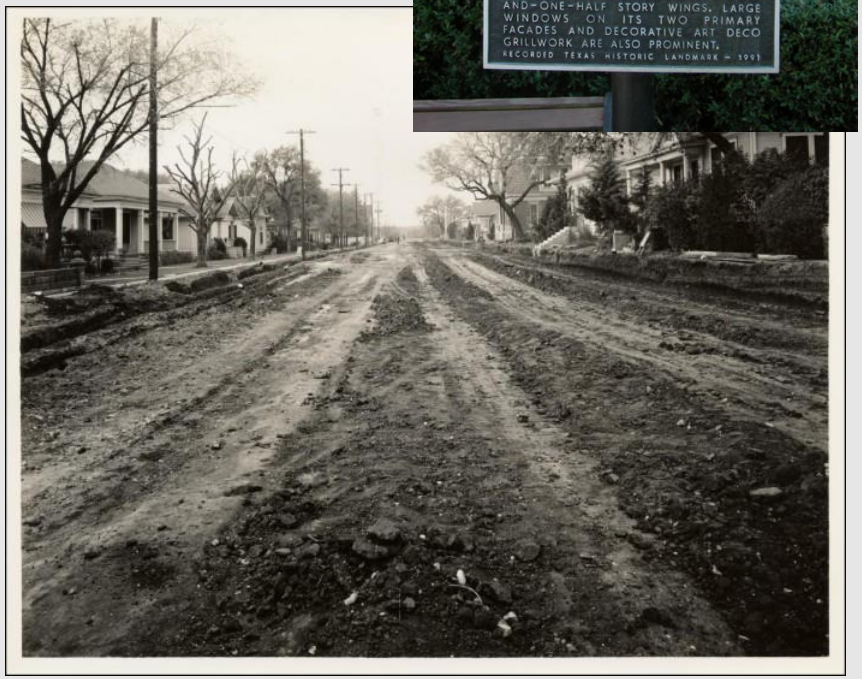
What?

Paper records include information about bridges, roads, and parks built by the WPA

Where?

Contact a TxDOT historian for a digital copy





OTHER RESOURCES – Kids and Publications

Educational

Title	Format
Make More Words Puzzle One	
Make More Words Puzzle Two	
Parts of a Bicycle	
Quick Look TX	
Texas State Symbols	
Traffic Signs	
Ways to Get Around	

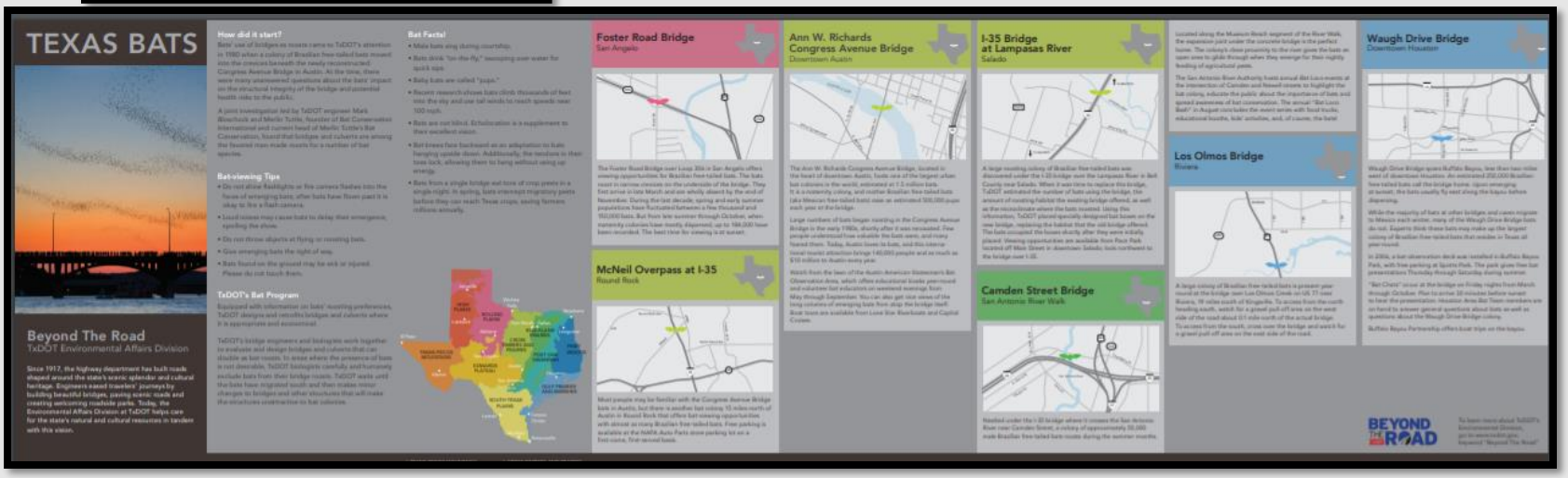
Environmental

Order copies of select publications from TxDOT's Environmental Affairs Division

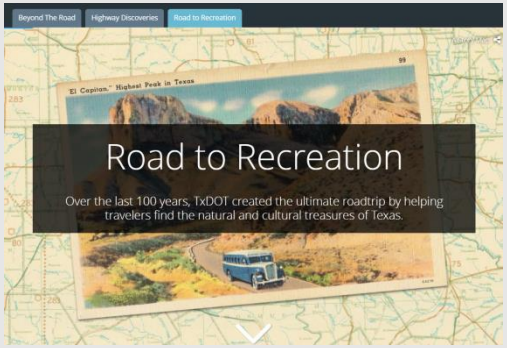
Title	Format
Texas Bats	
A Guide to Depression Era Roadside Parks in Texas	
Endangered Species and TxDOT	
Paleoindian Archeology Across the Lone Star State	
Rocks and Fossils of Texas	
Tex and Dot's Recycle Poster	
Tex and Dot's Air Quality Coloring and Activity Book	
Tex and Dot's Water Quality Coloring and Activity Book	

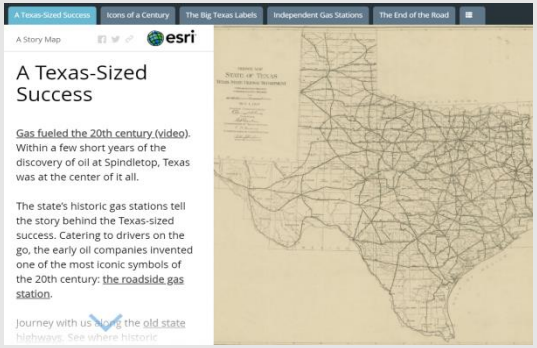
Keyword: "Kid's Publications"

We are always adding new publications, so remember to check back often!



OTHER RESOURCES – Story Maps





What?

Interactive tool with:

- Pictures
- Video links
- Maps
- Historic stories

Topics?

- Historic Gas Stations
- Historic Highways
- Roadside Discoveries
- Segregated Austin
- Mammoth Watch 2018

Where?

Keyword: “Beyond the Road”

Contact Us!

Send inquiries to:

Texas Department of Transportation
Environmental Affairs Division
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701

512.416.3001

or by email: https://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html?id=env-email