

# TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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## RESTORING TEXAS CENTENNIAL MARKERS

### GRANITE:

#### **Dirt and/or lichen growth on the surface**

Individuals should follow the instructions on page 14 of the THC publication [Preserving Historic Cemeteries](http://www.thc.texas.gov/public/upload/publications/preserving-historic-cemeteries.pdf) (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/public/upload/publications/preserving-historic-cemeteries.pdf>).

#### **Grease on the surface**

Consult a conservator.

#### **Paint/marker on the surface**

Consult a conservator. Keep in mind that the longer the paint or marker remains on the surface, the more difficult it will be to remove.

#### **Metallic stains from weed trimmers and bronze medallion**

Consult a conservator.

#### **Water stains on marker from sprinkler, where minerals exist in the water**

Water stains can be removed using poulticing agents with varying results, but the individual must have experience in mixing and applying the poultice. Consult a conservator for guidance. Turn sprinkler heads away from the marker.

#### **Corner and chips missing from marker**

In some instances, these missing pieces can be reattached by a conservator, using Jahn M160. However, the loss must be cut back at least 1/2" in depth so that the infill does not fall out over time.

#### **Marker broken into two or more parts**

Because of the size and weight (166 lbs. per cubic foot), work with a local monument company with the proper equipment and use epoxy designed for this particular purpose.

#### **Leaning marker**

Because of the size and weight of the monument, work with a local monument company with the proper equipment to straighten the marker.

#### **Removing an extra aluminum medallion from the marker (DRT, United Methodist Clergy, etc.)**

Removal depends on the type of adhesive originally used to attach the medallion, so consult a conservator on removal.

#### **Shotgun damage (holes or pockmarks)**

A conservator may be able to glue a mixture of granite dust and epoxy into the holes but must drill 1/2" holes at each location to attach the filler.

## RESTORING TEXAS CENTENNIAL MARKERS (continued)

### BRONZE:

#### **Corrosion on Surface**

Consult a conservator

#### **Damaged or missing parts**

The Southwell Company in San Antonio can provide a new star and wreath. Please contact the THC [Marker Program Coordinator](mailto:bob.brinkman@thc.texas.gov) (bob.brinkman@thc.texas.gov) to place an order.

#### **Failed attempt to pry off marker**

The bronze piece should be completely removed so that it can be reset. If damaged, then the piece should be replaced before resetting.

#### **Bronze parts are dull in appearance**

Bronze pieces can be cleaned and protected with paste wax by following the instructions found on page 38 of the THC publication [The Texas Ten: Preserving the States Historic Outdoor Sculptures](https://www.thc.texas.gov/publications/texas-ten-preserving-states-historic-outdoor-sculpture) (https://www.thc.texas.gov/publications/texas-ten-preserving-states-historic-outdoor-sculpture). The stone should be protected with blue painter's tape while waxing the bronze, but the tape should be removed immediately upon completion. The tape will prevent the wax causing a halo effect on the granite surrounding the bronze.

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