

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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