

THE

# MEDALLION

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



WINTER/SPRING 2025

## SETTING SITES

THC'S PROPERTIES

VIEW MAJOR

EXPANSIONS





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Our Mission

To protect and preserve the state's historic and prehistoric resources for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations.

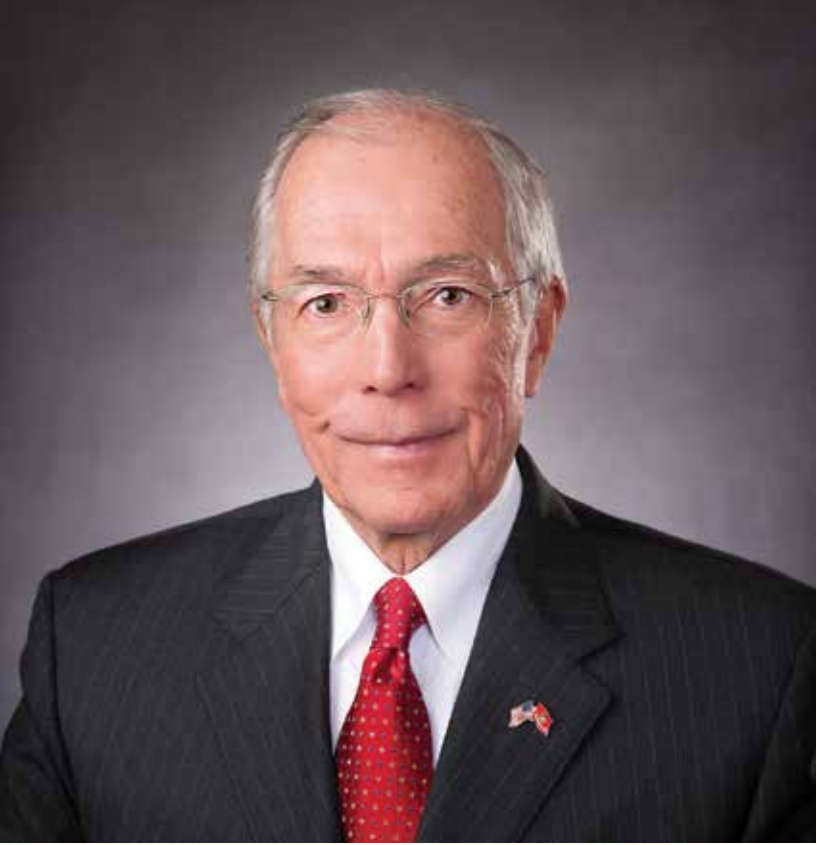
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ABOVE: The ANICO Building in Galveston participated in the THC's Historic Preservation Tax Credits Program. ON THE COVER: Fort Martin Scott State Historic Site in Fredericksburg.



# JOHN L. NAU, III THC CHAIRMAN

## LEADERSHIP LETTER

The history of Texas inspires and educates the world and unifies the Lone Star State. The staff of the Texas Historical Commission (THC) works diligently to preserve Texas' fascinating history under the direction of our 15 commissioners appointed by Gov. Greg Abbott.

Many Texans depend on the preservation of this history—from the communities who host iconic historical attractions like the San Jacinto Monument, the National Museum of the Pacific War, and the homes of Texas heroes to the thousands of Texans who conduct the daily business of their lives in one of the THC's 75 restored county courthouses, found in big cities like Houston and idyllic Hill Country spots like San Saba.

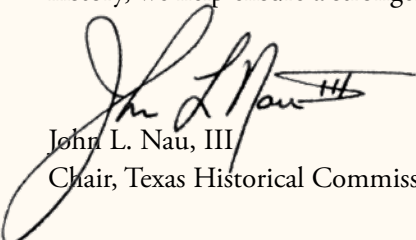
Our state's investments in the THC protect our precious historic places, adding billions of dollars to the state's annual economy. The programs the THC delivers to Texas taxpayers to educate, entertain, and expand local economic activity generate significant impact across the entire state. In fiscal year 2023, close to 1 million people visited the THC's state historic sites. The THC also certified 53 state tax credit projects, with qualified rehabilitation expenses totaling \$222 million. The THC is projected to certify 74 state tax credit projects in fiscal year 2024, with qualified rehabilitation expenses of \$410 million.

As we celebrate and share our achievements with the 89th Legislature (meeting now in Austin), I'm proud to highlight these accomplishments since the previous session along with news about our expanded network of 41 state historic sites. Our agency recently celebrated two historic sites: the reopening and restoration of the Mason County Courthouse and grand opening of the new Caddo Mounds Visitor Center. These vital places are restored and can once again support their communities.

The ongoing revitalization efforts at Washington-on-the-Brazos are close to completion in preparation for a grand opening in November. It is our hope that visitors from throughout Texas, the nation, and the world will plan to attend.

The THC is dedicated to preserving and maintaining publicly and privately owned historic places across the state and our work is amplified by a resourceful network of passionate community partners. Our community partners utilize the robust preservation tools we offer—such as Texas and Federal Historic Tax Credits, the Texas Main Street economic development effort, and local programming and outreach through our state historic sites. Our greatest allies are in the Texas Capitol. Texas' elected leaders understand the cultural, educational, and economic value of historic preservation in the Lone Star State. We appreciate their leadership and ongoing support of THC programs and initiatives.

The real places and real stories of our history educate, inspire, and connect all Texans. By preserving and learning from Texas history, we help ensure a stronger and more prosperous Texas for generations to come.



John L. Nau, III  
Chair, Texas Historical Commission

Caddo Mounds  
State Historic Site



Presidio La Bahía  
State Historic Site



# SETTING SITES

## THC'S HISTORIC PROPERTIES SEE MAJOR EXPANSIONS AND UPGRADES

By Andy Rhodes  
Managing Editor, *The Medallion*

A map of the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) state historic sites from nearly a decade ago shows a modestly populated image with clusters of properties mainly in eastern and central Texas. Fast forward to this year, and that number has nearly doubled with distribution evenly spread throughout the entire state.

Now numbering 41, the THC's historic sites are increasingly representing Texas' distinct and colorful heritage—historically, culturally, and geographically. Turn back the clock even further to 2006, and the agency operated merely two sites: the Sam Rayburn House in Bonham and the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg.

With the legislative session now underway in Austin, it's an appropriate time to reflect on the Historic Sites program's accomplishments, how the agency is expanding its portfolio, and how it is planning for future investments. The following entries detail recent openings and expansions, along with stabilization and upgrade projects.

Washington-on-the-Brazos  
State Historic Site



### SITE CELEBRATIONS

Since the Texas Legislature last met in early 2023, the THC's Historic Sites program coordinated and hosted several events to introduce (or re-introduce) Texans to properties that were transferred to the agency from another entity or received major upgrades.

#### **Caddo Mounds**

A powerful tornado severely damaged Caddo Mounds in 2019, and the site fully reopened to the public in May 2024. A public welcoming event celebrated the site's new \$2.5 million visitor center, featuring new exhibits on ancestral Caddo culture, a rebuilt traditional grass house, and enhanced tornado preparedness measures. The visitor center also features interpretive artifacts and an expanded retail area; in addition, travelers can explore the site on an engaging 0.7-mile self-guided interpretive trail.

#### **Bush Family Home**

Officially welcomed to the THC's network of Historic Sites in May 2023, the 1940 Bush Family Home in Midland is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the residence of an exceptional political family who shaped state and national politics in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. A public reopening event drew a large crowd to celebrate the home's esteemed former residents, including future President George H.W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush and their sons, Texas Governor and U.S. President George W. Bush and Jeb Bush, Florida governor.

#### **Presidio La Bahía**

Another well-attended welcoming event took place in September 2023 at Presidio La Bahía in Goliad. The Presidio contains artifacts from the revolution era and features a lodging area known as The Quarters open to the public for overnight stays. Established in 1749, this Spanish fort played crucial roles in Texas' development, including the Mexican War of

Fanthorp Inn  
State Historic Site



Port Isabel Lighthouse  
State Historic Site



Independence and the Goliad Massacre during Texas' fight for independence. It also prompted the rallying cry "Remember Goliad!" at the decisive Battle of San Jacinto in April 1836.

**Fanthorp Inn**

In summer of 2024, Fanthorp Inn wrapped up an exterior preservation project to address window, roof, and siding deterioration. Original doors were refinished, and the exterior siding and gutters were reinstalled. Exterior colors were matched to the earliest pigments listed in the paint analysis and replicated the colors that guests like Francis Lubbock and Sam Houston would have seen when they visited in the 1850s. Two rooms at the inn were cleared and furnished, allowing visitors to see all seven hotel rooms for the first time. The site officially reopened in November 2024.

**SITES NEWS IN BRIEF**

Several of the THC's historic sites received major upgrades during the past two years, including new features to enhance visitors' experiences and stabilization projects to responsibly maintain structures for the benefit of future Texans.

Fort Lancaster and Battlefield  
State Historic Site



**NEW AND IMPROVED**

**Port Isabel Lighthouse**

After 117 years without a light, the Port Isabel Lighthouse received a 3rd Order Fresnel Lens for its lantern room. In December 2022, the THC partnered with the City of Port Isabel to host a community gathering to celebrate this addition, which brought the lighthouse back to the glory days it had not seen since 1905. The lens-fitting now offers visitors insight into the lighthouse's history, maritime safety advancements, and service to the Texas Gulf Coast.

**National Museum of the Pacific War**

The National Museum of the Pacific War continues to attract thousands of visitors annually, and ongoing renovations and exhibit updates in the Bush Gallery over the past two years help enhance visitors' experiences. An interactive theater provides a new attraction to bring World War II to life, and a Main Street entry portal draws visitors into the outer courtyard of the Bush Gallery.

**Washington-on-the-Brazos**

In autumn of 2023, the site "where Texas became Texas" undertook the first of many phased construction projects that will completely transform the iconic property. Considered to be among the largest projects in Washington-on-the-Brazos' history, the initial upgrades include a refreshed entrance to the site, new visitor center exhibits and store, complete overhaul of the Star of the Republic Museum, and reimagining of the town of Washington. The project is scheduled for completion, with a dedicated reopening in late 2025.

**Fort Lancaster and Battlefield**

In summer of 2024, the THC officially renamed Sheffield's Fort Lancaster to Fort Lancaster and Battlefield State Historic Site. The property was the site of the only documented attack on a U.S. Army fort in Texas by Native Americans (1867). The battle involved the 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment and Kickapoo warriors.

*(Continued on page 14)*

# IN WITH THE OLD

## THC'S NEWEST HISTORIC SITES EXPAND AGENCY'S STORIES, LOCATIONS

By Andy Rhodes, *The Medallion* Managing Editor



Iwo Jima Museum and Monument  
State Historic Site

IN HONOR AND MEMORY  
OF THE MEN OF THE  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WHO HAVE GIVEN  
THEIR LIVES TO THEIR COUNTRY  
SINCE 10 NOVEMBER 1775



Fort Martin Scott  
State Historic Site

Fort Martin Scott  
State Historic Site

From the Panhandle area to the Valley, new Texas Historical Commission (THC) state historic sites are beckoning travelers to discover expanded aspects of the Lone Star State’s heritage. Since the previous Texas legislative session in 2023, the THC has welcomed four new historic sites—Fort Martin Scott, the Iwo Jima Museum and Monument, Slaton Harvey House, and Stephen F. Austin Memorial.

### FORT MARTIN SCOTT

Located in Fredericksburg, Fort Martin Scott is considered the first U.S. Army outpost on the Texas frontier. It contains one restored original garrison building and three reproductions. The fort was crucial in protecting settlers and travelers en route to West Texas, and it was the site of the unratified Fort Martin Scott Treaty of 1850 with Comanche, Lipan Apache, Caddo, Quapaw, and various Wichita bands.

The pre-Civil War military outpost was established in 1848, marking the first of Texas’ earliest frontier Army forts. Initially active until 1853 under the U.S. Army’s jurisdiction, Fort Martin Scott later served as a camp for Texas

Rangers, both before and after military use. During the Civil War, it briefly fell under Confederate control. Subsequently, the fort was abandoned and later repurposed as a farm by the Braeutigam family. In 1949, the City of Fredericksburg acquired the property, preserving its historical significance.

Visitors can take a self-guided journey through the fort’s past by walking through several buildings onsite and exploring a new nature trail. The trail begins at the north side of the fort and meanders alongside Baron’s Creek for approximately half a mile. It provides glimpses of local wildlife and vibrant wildflowers, culminating at a bird blind.

The site is almost entirely outdoors and requires extensive walking on paved, gravel, and natural dirt surfaces. Visitor parking is available on site.

### IWO JIMA MUSEUM AND MONUMENT

The Iwo Jima Monument in Harlingen stands as a tribute to the heroic actions of six Marines in February 1945, who raised an American flag atop Mount

Suribachi during World War II’s Battle of Iwo Jima. Crafted by sculptor Dr. Felix W. de Weldon in the 1940s, the larger-than-life figures recreate the iconic flag-raising moment captured by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

The monument was painstakingly crafted by de Weldon as an original, full-sized working model. The Marines immortalized in the sculpture are Sgt. Michael Strank, Cpl. Harlon Block, Pfc. Harold Keller, Pfc. Ira Hayes, Pfc. Harold Schultz, and Pfc. Franklin R. Sousley. The monument’s base, crafted from black Brazilian granite, is adorned with the names of Marines who sacrificed their lives since the Corps’ inception in 1775.

Plans are currently underway for a new museum at the monument site; meanwhile, visitors can visit the existing museum. The new museum is expected to expand on the current site to attract history enthusiasts, veterans, and tourists. Operation of the museum will be coordinated with the Marine Military Academy.



## SLATON HARVEY HOUSE

Established in 1912, the Slaton Harvey House southeast of Lubbock was originally one of several restaurants constructed along the Santa Fe Railway route. It served diners until the 1940s, and represents the significant impact of railroads, female employees, and business innovation in the settlement of early 20th-century Texas.

The Harvey House was a national chain of restaurants near cities on the railway that began in 1876. At the time, English restaurateur Fred Harvey observed what he deemed to be deplorable dining opportunities while traveling on American railroads.

The railway worked with Harvey to build his restaurants and allow him

space on their trains to bring fresh food to his kitchens. The establishment provided important employment opportunities for women outside their hometowns, allowing them to earn a good wage at a time when jobs were scarce.

After the Harvey House closed in 1943, the railroad company turned the building into a passenger and freight depot and business offices. It was boarded up in the 1980s and later restored with the help of the Slaton Railroad Heritage Association. As one of only six Harvey House locations remaining in Texas, the THC's newest historic site tells the story of how this unique cultural institution has come full circle to once again serve travelers

with five lodging rooms and a hot made-to-order breakfast.

## STEPHEN F. AUSTIN MEMORIAL

A historical marker and expanse of lawn in West Columbia indicate the former home site of George B. McKinstry. At this site, Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas," died on December 27, 1836.

Austin was gravely ill in late 1836. According to reports, the stresses of winter weather and the recent Texas Revolution and its aftermath contributed to him succumbing to pneumonia at the age of 43. A Texas centennial marker was placed on the site in 1936.

Local resident Billy Price reportedly purchased the property in 1994 to



**Slaton Harvey House  
State Historic Site**

honor Austin's legacy after visiting many Texas historical markers throughout the state. After clearing the site, he fenced the area and installed steps and a flagpole. Since then, the Texas flag has flown over the site, and locals have organized a flag-raising ceremony each November 3 in honor of Austin's birthday.

Note for travelers: the site has no interpretation (other than the marker) and no services for visitors. For those interested in viewing Austin's final resting place, visit the State Cemetery in Austin.

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To learn more about these four new sites and the THC's other properties, visit [texashistoricsites.com](http://texashistoricsites.com).



**Stephen F. Austin Memorial  
State Historic Site**



# 160 YEARS OF FREEDOM

TEXAS EVENT BECAME NATIONAL HOLIDAY, WORLDWIDE FREEDOM CELEBRATION

By Samuel Collins III  
Levi Jordan Plantation Advisory Committee Co-Chair

June 19, 2025, will mark the 160th anniversary of Juneteenth, a momentous commemoration that celebrates the evolution of our country to a more perfect union. It is now a holiday celebrated across the world. How did this Texas holiday become an international event?

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston on June 19, 1865, and issued General Order No. 3 from Union Headquarters in the Osterman Building on 22nd Street and Strand. A Texas Historical Commission (THC) Juneteenth subject marker was placed there in 2014. From that location, the message of freedom spread throughout Galveston and Texas.

The formerly enslaved and their descendants chose June 19, 1865, as their Emancipation Day even though the official end of slavery in the U.S. did not occur until the ratification of the 13th Amendment on December 6, 1865. Less than two weeks after June 19, 1865, formerly enslaved people began celebrating on Galveston Island. The Freedmen's Fancy Ball was held July 1, 1865. The Emancipation Day celebration eventually became known as Juneteenth, a portmanteau of June and nineteenth.

Celebrations have been held across Texas since 1865. The small town of Mexia has hosted some of the largest Juneteenth celebrations in the state. Houston residents eventually established Emancipation Park in 1872 to host Juneteenth celebrations.

Fay Williams, a Galveston-born attorney now in her 90s, remembers attending Juneteenth celebrations in Brazoria as a small child. Her paternal grandfather Julian Smith told her it

was not a piece of paper that freed the enslaved in Texas, but the men with the guns—the Union soldiers her ancestors had seen.

Many of those Union soldiers were United States Colored Troops. John Henry Faulk interviewed the formerly enslaved Harriet Smith in 1941. She was a young teenage girl in 1865 and recalled sitting on a white picket fence watching Colored Troops march by on their way to San Antonio. These eyewitness accounts combined with historical documents and records allow us to expand the narrative of the Juneteenth story.

In 1879, State Rep. Robert J. Evans from Navasota filed legislation to get Emancipation Day recognized as a state holiday, but it failed to pass. A century later, Juneteenth was made a state holiday in 1979 thanks to the work of the late State Rep. Al Edwards from Houston.

The late Dr. Ronald Myers worked for more than two decades with the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation to make Juneteenth a national holiday before his death in 2018. After Dr. Myers' death, native Texan and "Grandmother of Juneteenth" Mrs. Opal Lee from Fort Worth became the face of the national movement.

Lee was able to carry the baton across the finish line and on June 17, 2021, Juneteenth became the 11th federal holiday in the United States. Lee is now working to establish a National Juneteenth Museum in Fort Worth. There are also efforts to establish an International Juneteenth Museum in Galveston, the birthplace of Juneteenth.

For Juneteenth 2024, Samuel Acquah, a resident of Accra, Ghana, celebrated the holiday in Ghana. He was wearing a Galveston Juneteenth t-shirt presented to him in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil,



during an international conference in April 2023. The conference was hosted in part by Rice University professors.

People across the world can read about Juneteenth and watch videos about the holiday, but to really experience Juneteenth, they will need to visit the great state of Texas. Museums and historical markers—especially in the Galveston area—are important resources for this historical journey. Heritage tourism is big business in Texas, and we have an opportunity for residents and tourists to visit the state’s real places that tell the real stories about Juneteenth and freedom.

To learn more about the THC’s Juneteenth marker, visit [thc.texas.gov/blog/juneteenth-journey](http://thc.texas.gov/blog/juneteenth-journey).

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OPPOSITE: Juneteenth mural in downtown Galveston. ABOVE: THC historical marker in Galveston; Sam Collins with Opal Lee wearing the Presidential Medal of Freedom she received in 2024.

### ABOUT SAMUEL COLLINS III

As a seventh-generation Texan, my family roots run deep—going back to 1837. One of my fourth great-grandfathers, Joseph Thompson, was brought to Texas as an enslaved child at the age of 2 in 1837. His future wife, Martha, was born in Texas in 1842, according to the 1870 U.S. Census. Some later census records show her year of birth as 1840.

Both of Martha’s parents were born on the continent of Africa. Census records do not identify the country in Africa they were born in. These are some of the first individuals to live in the Republic of Texas after Texas won independence from Mexico in 1836. The Thompson family was living in Brazoria in 1865 when Union Soldiers arrived to deliver the message of freedom.

# EXTRA CREDIT

## TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM REACHES ALL CORNERS OF TEXAS

By THC Staff

Historic tax credit projects impact every corner of Texas, from cosmopolitan areas to tiny towns. Now that the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit (THPTC) program has been in existence for a decade, its impact is making big waves throughout the Lone Star State.

January 1, 2025, marked the 10-year anniversary of the THPTC spurring private investment in rehabilitating historic buildings across Texas. During this time, the THC received nearly 1,100 applications to determine eligibility. Of these, 496 buildings have been successfully completed and certified, representing total investments of \$5.3 billion in 67 cities.

Projects across the state range from the large-scale POST (Houston) and Wedgwood Tower (Dallas) rehabilitations, to the smaller-scale Tyler Union Station (Tyler) and Martindale Motor Company (Martindale) transformations.

POST is a sight to behold. The newly opened cultural center is located in the former Barbara Jordan Post Office Building, a colossal midcentury modern structure in downtown

Houston that once served as the city's main mail sorting and distribution center.

Visitors to POST marvel at the inventive use of open space, connected by architecturally innovative stairways—from spiral to x-shaped to layered—while plotting the next location to explore. Options include an expansive food court offering cuisine representing Houston's vast international population (including West African, Viet-Cajun, and Latin American); a forward-looking interactive museum at New Media Art; or the stunning Skylawn 5.5-acre rooftop park, featuring gardens and seating areas with breathtaking views of the Houston skyline.

Collaboration between the THC's tax credit staff and the POST project team ensured the authentic industrial features are still on display throughout the building. Highlights include the original supervisor tunnels (where managers observed operations on the sorting floor), exposed concrete structural elements, and historic painted signage.

About 150 miles away in rural Martindale, music lovers from Central Texas fill Duett's Texas Club, a cozy restaurant, bar, and live music venue housed in what was once a service station and car dealership.

The largest anchor building in Martindale's modest Main Street district—the 1923 Martindale Motor Company—had fallen into ruin by 2018 and was condemned. At the 11th hour, several entrepreneurs stepped in to purchase and save the property. The walls were stabilized, the foundation and extensive brickwork was repaired, and mortar was repointed. In addition, a metal canopy across the front was reconstructed to match its original appearance.

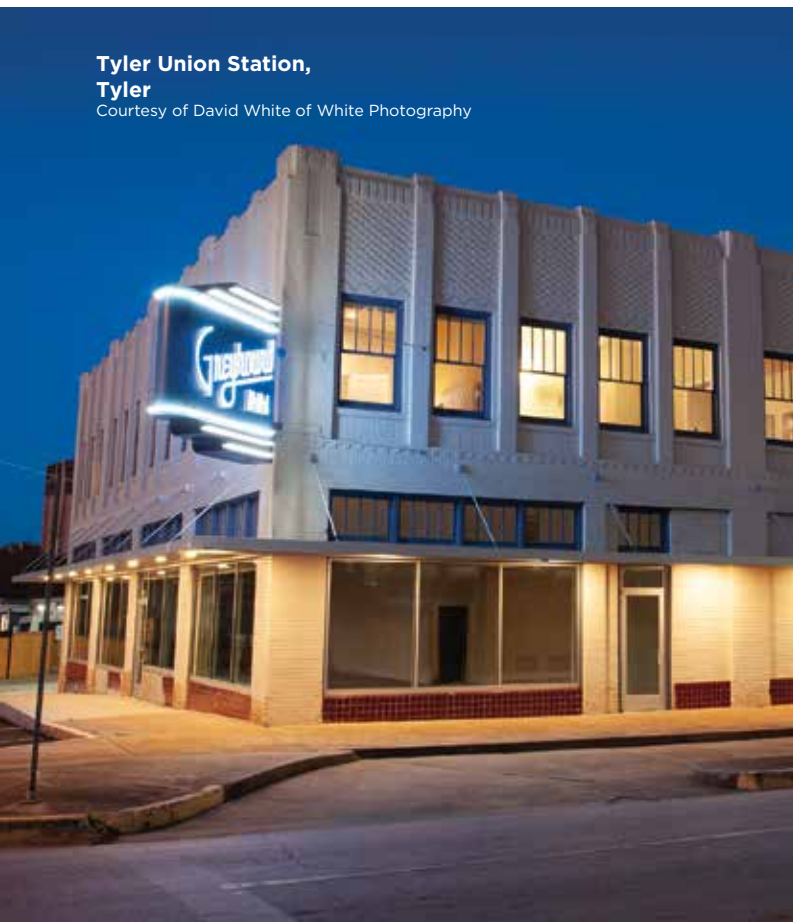
The building now houses Duett's, a bar and restaurant that turns into a vibrant music venue that draws a full house most weekends and large crowds on the back patio with sweeping views of the San Marcos River. The second floor contains five luxury apartments that are in high demand.

Although these projects are notably different, the Texans and tourists who enjoy these places share something in common: they're experiencing the vibrant new life of buildings that once stood vacant but are now transformed through the assistance of historic tax credits.

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To learn more about the THPTC, visit [thc.texas.gov/taxcredits](http://thc.texas.gov/taxcredits).

**Tyler Union Station,  
Tyler**  
Courtesy of David White of White Photography



**POST/Barbara Jordan Post Office Building, Z Atrium**

**Houston**

Photo by Leonid Furmansky  
Courtesy of Lovett Commercial



**Wedgwood Tower/Skyline at Kessler Park, Dallas**

Photo by Jay Firsching

Courtesy of HRTC Services, LLC and Architexas



**Martindale Motor Company**

Courtesy of Ryan and Katie Grametbaur, Duett's Texas Club



*(Continued from page 5)*

## **HISTORIC HOME PROJECTS**

### **Landmark Inn dam repair and building improvements**

In August, preservation work was completed on the circa 1854 Medina River dam. The scope included masonry cleaning and repointing along with internal structural reinforcement. In early 2024, the site completed installation of historically correct shutters at the 1949 Vance Hotel, funded by the Friends of Landmark Inn.

### **Magoffin Home stabilization project**

The Magoffin Home finalized plans for the construction phase of the adobe and stucco stabilization project to address structural deficiencies. The project preserves an important cultural institution representing a multicultural family on the U.S.–Mexico border near the Rio Grande. Structural repairs are being designed, and repair work has been scheduled for the visitor center.

### **Varner-Hogg Plantation stabilization**

Varner-Hogg Plantation completed its foundation stabilization project, focusing on historic brick walls and drainage. Improvements include enhanced visitor accessibility with new sloping sidewalks and a fully accessible entrance on the building's south side.

### **Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch Visitor Center site entry improvements**

The Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch acquired additional property totaling 31.17 acres to protect the original cultural landscape and critical archeological resources. Acquisitions included an existing store that is now the visitor center and expanded museum store. The Friends of the THC facilitated transactions, with negotiations ongoing for purchase agreements.

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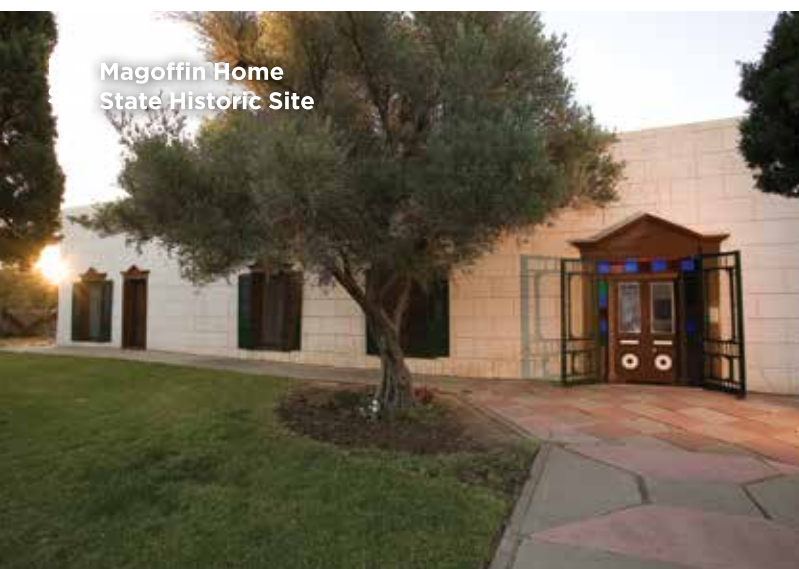
To learn more, visit [texashistoricsites.com](http://texashistoricsites.com)



Landmark Inn  
State Historic Site



Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch  
State Historic Site



Magoffin Home  
State Historic Site

# NEWS BRIEFS

## LOCAL FAMILY DONATES LAND TO SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) has accepted a donation of approximately 15 acres of land near the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site in San Felipe from the family of George W. Hill, whose hometown was San Felipe.

Located west of Stephen F. Austin's Centennial statue, the acreage holds significant value to the historic site. It is believed to include the location of Peyton's Tavern, a popular inn that operated during the pre-Texas Revolution era.

"The Hill family's generous donation of a critical parcel of Texas history will help the THC preserve the history of San Felipe de Austin and broaden awareness of this unique place," said THC Chairman John L. Nau, III. "The entire Lone Star State appreciates this gift to future generations of Texans."

The donation will help the THC enhance its visitor experience at the historic site by expanding its interpretive mission and developing public archeology programming.

The George W. Hill family has supported preservation efforts at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site since the 1920s, spanning nearly a century and three generations. Passionate about historic preservation, Hill ultimately became the first executive director of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee—the predecessor agency to the Texas Historical Commission.

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To learn more about San Felipe de Austin, go to [visitsanfelipedeAustin.com](http://visitsanfelipedeAustin.com).



## HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM NOW RECEIVING APPLICATIONS

Applications for new THC historical markers will be accepted through May 15. The process begins at the county level—after applicants have reviewed the relevant information at [thc.texas.gov/markers](http://thc.texas.gov/markers), they should contact their county historical commission chair. A link with contact information for each county's CHC chair is available on the THC's website.

Please note that applying for a marker is highly competitive and that all required components must be included when submitting an application. For more information on how to apply, a marker toolbox, research guides, and resources about training and workshops are available on the THC's website. The entire process of application submission to marker dedication can take up to 18 months.

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To learn more, visit [thc.texas.gov/markers](http://thc.texas.gov/markers).

## IS YOUR FAVORITE BUSINESS A TEXAS TREASURE?

Since 2005, more than 500 Texas businesses have been honored for their historic significance via the THC's Texas Treasure Business Award (TTBA) program. From well-known establishments like H.E.B. and Bill Miller BBQ, to small town bakeries, florists, and general stores, these iconic businesses have stood the test of time.

The THC accepts TTBA nominations quarterly.

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To learn more about criteria and the nomination process, visit [thc.texas.gov](http://thc.texas.gov).

## WHERE ON EARTH...IN TEXAS

KNOW YOUR TEXAS HISTORY? Put your skills to the test by identifying the pictured site! The first three people who correctly identify the location will be named in the next issue of *The Medallion*. Please email your answer to [medallion@thc.texas.gov](mailto:medallion@thc.texas.gov) or send to: *The Medallion*, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711.



### NEED A CLUE?

This 1906 building in the Texas Pecos Trail Region is reportedly the oldest commercial structure in town.

### ANSWER TO PHOTO FROM THE LAST ISSUE:

The site pictured at left is the Wise County Courthouse in Decatur. The courthouse, dating to 1896, is currently undergoing restoration via the THC's Texas Historic

Courthouse Preservation Program. Congratulations go to the first readers who correctly identified the site: Will Andrews of Austin, Steve Crossman of Dallas, and Shannon Ratliff of Denton. Thanks to all who participated!

