



HISTORIC SITES DIVISION

The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Historic Sites Division is responsible for operating the agency's 20 historic properties throughout the state. These sites tell the real stories of Texas history in authentic settings. Staff provide expertise in the following areas:

- Architecture
- Archeology
- Collection Management
- Interpretation
- Marketing



THC State Historic Sites

Acton • Acton, Hood County
www.visitactontx.com

Located in Acton Cemetery, the site memorializes the final resting place of Elizabeth Patton Crockett, second wife of Davy Crockett, with a grand monument.

Caddo Mounds • Alto, Cherokee County
www.visitcaddomounds.com

A village and ceremonial site of Caddo Indians who lived in the region for 500 years beginning circa A.D. 800. The site includes earthen ceremonial and burial mounds, a new visitors center, and an interpretive trail.

Casa Navarro • San Antonio, Bexar County
www.visitcasanavarro.com

The site showcases the original 1850s home of Tejano leader José Antonio Navarro, with exhibits about his role as a political leader and advocate for Texas independence.

Confederate Reunion Grounds • Mexia, Limestone County
www.visitconfederatereuniongrounds.com

The site, featuring an 1893 dance pavilion, a Civil War-era cannon, and the scenic Navasota River, commemorates where Civil War veterans gathered from 1889 to 1946 to remember their experiences.

Magoffin Home State Historic Site (top); Fort Griffin State Historic Site's new visitors centers (right).

Eisenhower Birthplace • Denison, Grayson County
www.visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com

Located in the heart of Denison, the site preserves the first home of 34th U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower and illuminates the working class life of the Eisenhower family.

Fort Griffin • Albany, Shackelford County
www.visitfortgriffin.com

One of a line of defensive forts built by the U.S. Army from 1867 to 1881, the site includes remnants of historic structures, a visitors center with exhibits, and campgrounds. Fort Griffin is also headquarters for the official Texas Longhorn Herd.

Fort Lancaster • Sheffield, Crockett County
www.visitfortlancaster.com

Spanning 82 acres in remote West Texas, the U.S. Army established this fort in 1855 to guard the San Antonio-El Paso Road. The site features fort ruins, a visitors center with exhibits, and walking trails.

Fort McKavett • Fort McKavett, Menard County

www.visitfortmckavett.com

The 1852 U.S. Army fort housed various infantry and cavalry units, including four regiments of Buffalo Soldiers. Today, it boasts 19 surviving historic structures, exhibits, walking trails, and interpretive tours.

Fulton Mansion • Rockport, Aransas County

www.visitfultonmansion.com

Located in Rockport on the Aransas Bay, the elegant 1877 historic home is one of the state's best surviving examples of a grand Victorian villa.

Landmark Inn • Castroville, Medina County

www.visitlandmarkinn.com

The 1850s inn provides quaint and comfortable historic lodging on the Medina River in the Alsatian community of Castroville, as well as interpretive walking tours and special events.

Levi Jordan Plantation • Brazoria, Brazoria County

www.visitlevijordanplantation.com

Scheduled to open to the public in 2016. The site includes an antebellum plantation house and significant archeological remains, including slave quarters and evidence of African American lifeways and culture.

Magoffin Home • El Paso, El Paso County

www.visitmagoffinhome.com

A prime example of Territorial-style architecture, the site explores a multi-cultural border family's experience with American expansion, West Texas settlement, Civil War turmoil, and U.S.-Mexico relations.

National Museum of the Pacific War •

Fredericksburg, Gillespie County

www.pacificwarmuseum.org

The site is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II. It offers extensive indoor and outdoor exhibits and programs.

Sabine Pass Battleground • Sabine Pass, Jefferson County

www.visitsabinepassbattleground.com

The 58-acre site Staff provide expertise in the following areas attempting a coastal invasion of the state during the Civil War. Features include a bronze statue of Lt. Dick Dowling, an interpretive pavilion, and scale model of the historic Fort Sabine.

Sam Bell Maxey House • Paris, Lamar County

www.visitsambellmaxeyhouse.com

Built in the High Victorian style, the grand structure was the home of Confederate Gen. and U.S. Sen. Sam Bell Maxey. It houses family furnishings, clothing, and documents, chronicling generations of Maxey family history.

Sam Rayburn House Museum • Bonham, Fannin County

www.visitsamrayburnhouse.com

The site is the home of Sam Rayburn, long-serving Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and one of the most powerful and respected politicians of the 20th century.

San Felipe de Austin • San Felipe, Austin County

www.visitsanfelipedeastin.com

It was here that Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas," brought the first 300 families to colonize Texas under a contract with the Mexican Government. From 1824 to 1836 this town was the social, economic, and political capital of the Anglo-American colonies in Texas.

Starr Family Home • Marshall, Harrison County

www.visitstarrfamilyhome.com

This site reflects the 150-year history of the noted Starr family in Texas. The 1871 home, Maplecroft, was built by Frank, son of James Harper Starr, first president of the Board of Land Commissioners and later secretary of the treasury for the Republic of Texas.

Varner-Hogg Plantation • West Columbia, Brazoria County

www.visitvarnerhoggplantation.com

Settled in 1824, by one of Texas' first colonizers, the site was originally used as a rum distillery and cotton plantation. Acquired in the late 19th century by Texas Gov. James Hogg, it was later developed as a showplace of Texas history with a collection of period furniture and outdoor interpretation of plantation features.

How to Reach Us

Staff members are available to answer questions and provide assistance. Please contact us at:

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