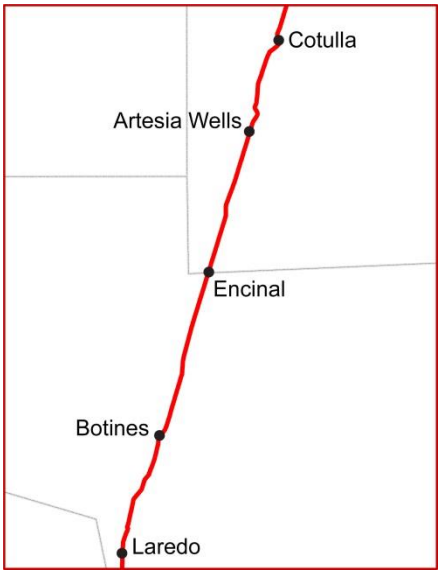

THE MERIDIAN HIGHWAY ACROSS TEXAS
Share Your Stories

LAREDO PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING
February 17, 2015, 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Villa Antigua Border Heritage Museum
810 Zaragoza Street
Laredo, TX 78040
956-727-0977

Documenting the Meridian Highway

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is undertaking a two-year study to document the history of the Meridian Highway. The THC has awarded a contract to complete the study to Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. (HHM), an Austin-based historic preservation planning and management firm. The project will result in a written history of the Texas section of the Meridian Highway and a survey of the Texas Meridian route, including associated historic resources: auto repair garages, gas stations, diners, tourist camps, auto courts, motels, road markers, paving, traffic signs, and bridges. This effort is funded by the Texas Legislature and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) through the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Meridian Highway History

The Meridian Highway has historically been the major north-south named highway in Texas since the early 1910s. It stretched from Canada to Mexico through the nation's midsection. Its beginnings can be traced back to 1911 when the International Meridian Highway Association was organized to promote the highway's development. Its path crossed approximately 800 miles of Texas, passing through Burkburnett, Wichita Falls, Fort Worth, Cleburne, Waco, Taylor, Georgetown, Austin, New Braunfels, San Antonio, Cotulla, Laredo, Bryan, Hempstead, Houston and Galveston, among other communities, and roughly followed I-35 W with a major lateral from Waco to Galveston following SH 6/US 290.

Visit the THC website at www.thc.state.tx.us for more information about the project or contact Leslie Wolfenden at 512.463.3386 or leslie.wolfenden@thc.state.tx.us.

Help Tell the Story of the Meridian in Texas

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to attend public meetings to share information and visual items related to the Meridian Highway for use in the project. THC and HHM staff will introduce the project at the meetings and involve community members through discussion, question-and-answer sessions, and displays of maps and historical Meridian images. Please bring your historical photos, postcards, maps, and other Meridian-related items to the public meetings. With your consent, HHM staff will scan or photograph materials so they may be included in the project if appropriate. We hope to see you there!

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

www.thc.state.tx.us

Public Meetings Schedule

5:30–7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

- February 3–Decatur at noon
- February 4–Fort Worth
- February 5–Waco
- February 9–Georgetown
- February 11–Bryan
- February 12–San Antonio
- February 16–Cotulla
- February 17–Laredo
- February 18–Houston
- February 19–Galveston