



# BANKHEAD NATIONAL HIGHWAY

# WELCOME

Mount Vernon  
August 8, 2013

**HARDY · HECK · MOORE INC**  
Historic Preservation Planning & Management



**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
*real places selling real stories*

## What is the Project?

- Joint Effort
  - Texas Historical Commission
  - Texas Department of Transportation
- Grant from Federal Highways Administration
- Commemorate Historic Highways
- Heritage Tourism



Source: National Archives and Records Administration

## What is the Project?

- Goals
  - Develop Historic Context
  - Document Historic Buildings and Structures Along Bankhead Highway
  - Make Information Available to Public
  - Promote Tourism



Source: TxDOT Photo Library

## What is the Project?

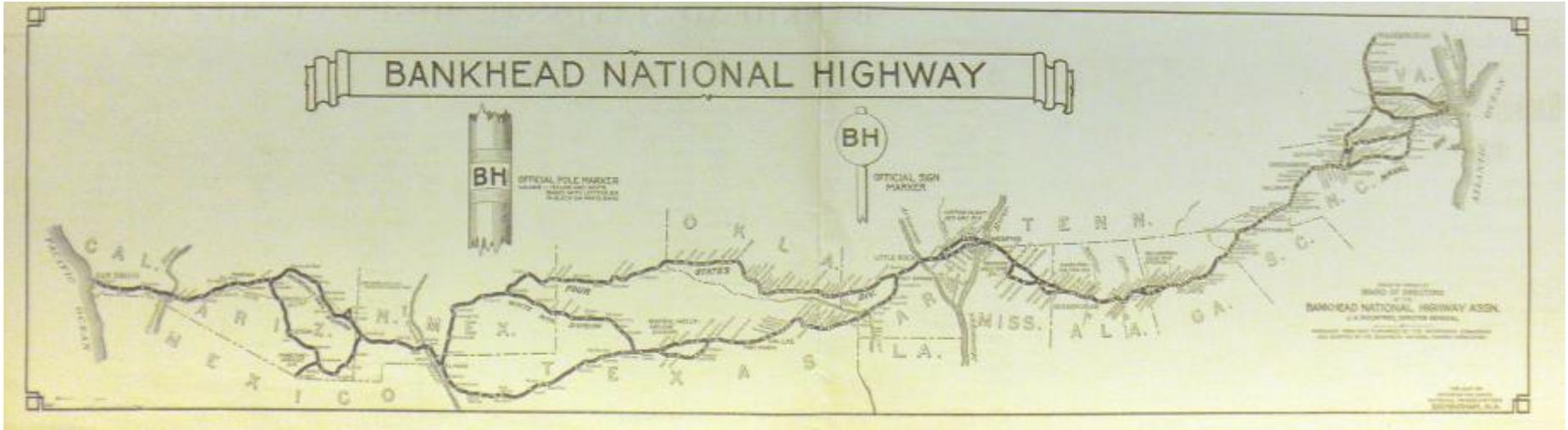
- Survey all alignments of Bankhead Highway
  - State Highway 1
  - US 80 and US 67
- Please help us identify historic resources along highway



Source: TxDOT Photo Library

## BANKHEAD NATIONAL HIGHWAY

# What is the Bankhead Highway?



Source: Birmingham Public Library

- Transcontinental Highway from Washington DC to San Diego CA by way of Alabama
- Idea dates to 1916 by John Asa Rountree and Senator John H. Bankhead

# BANKHEAD NATIONAL HIGHWAY

## What is the Bankhead Highway?



- Lincoln Highway from New York NY to San Francisco CA
- Other Highway Associations formed in 1910s



## Who is Bankhead?

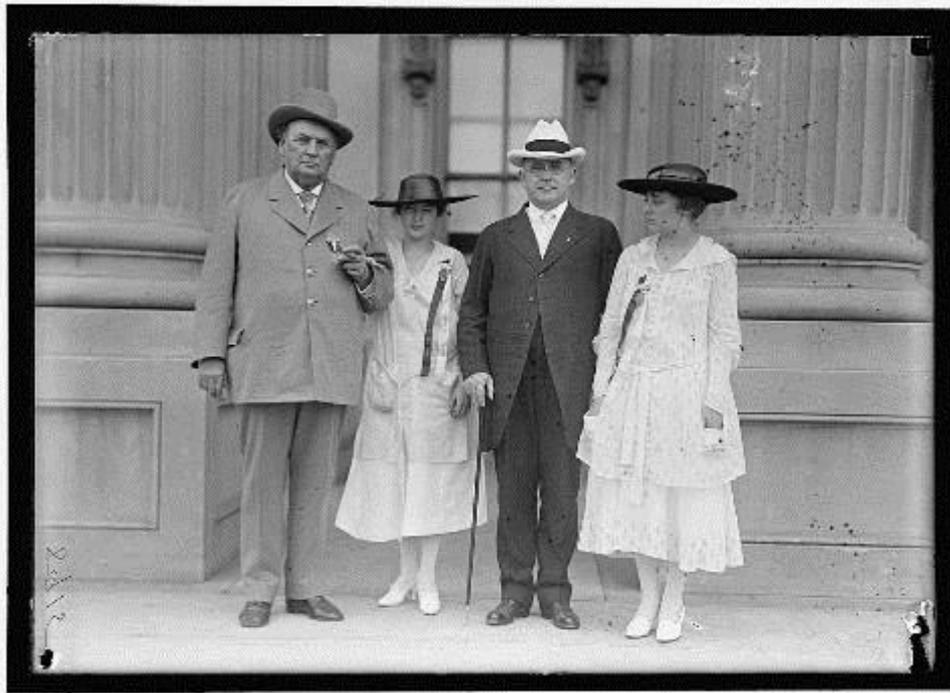
- Senator John Hollis Bankhead (1842-1920)
  - U.S. Senator 1907-1920
  - Promoted Good Roads
  - Sponsored Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1916



Source: Library of Congress

## Who is Bankhead?

Yes, he is related to Tallulah Bankhead



Source: Library of Congress



Source: Library of Congress

## What is the route?

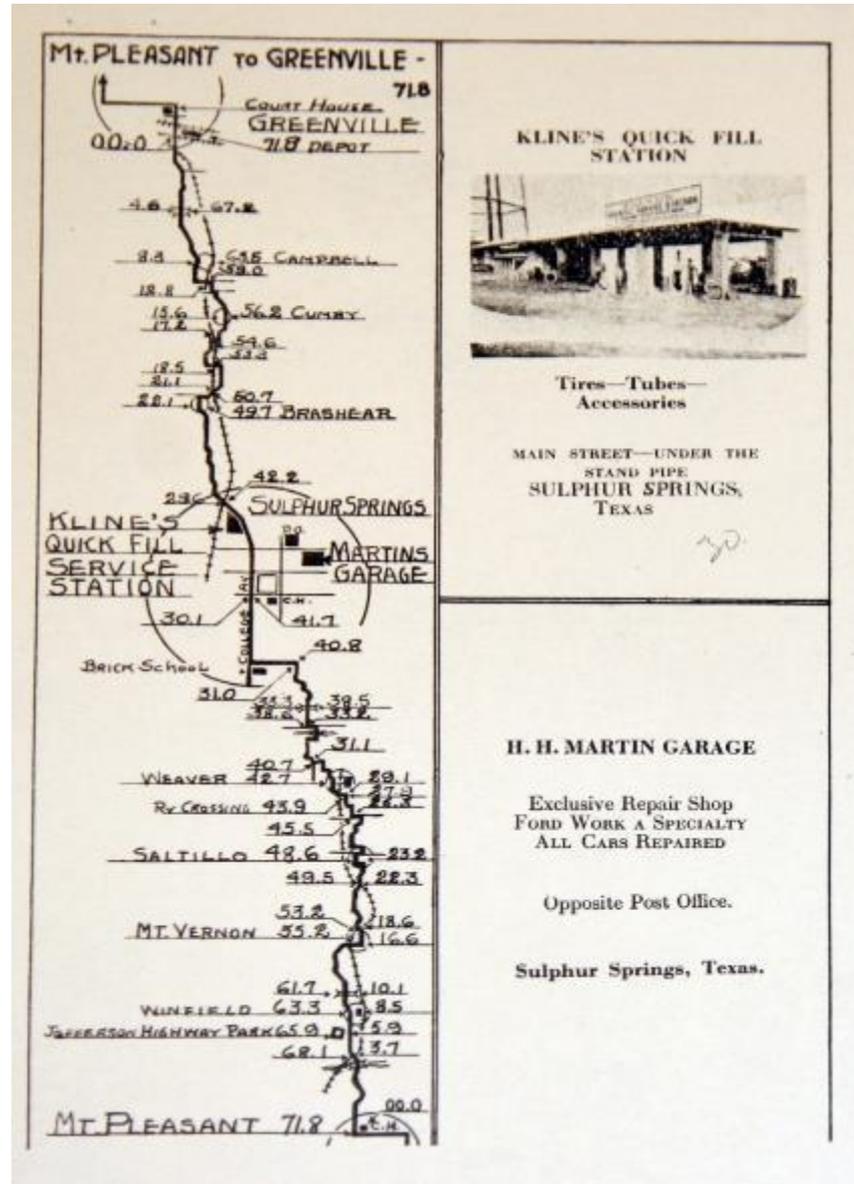
- Path finders



Source: Birmingham Public Library

# BANKHEAD NATIONAL HIGHWAY

- Map

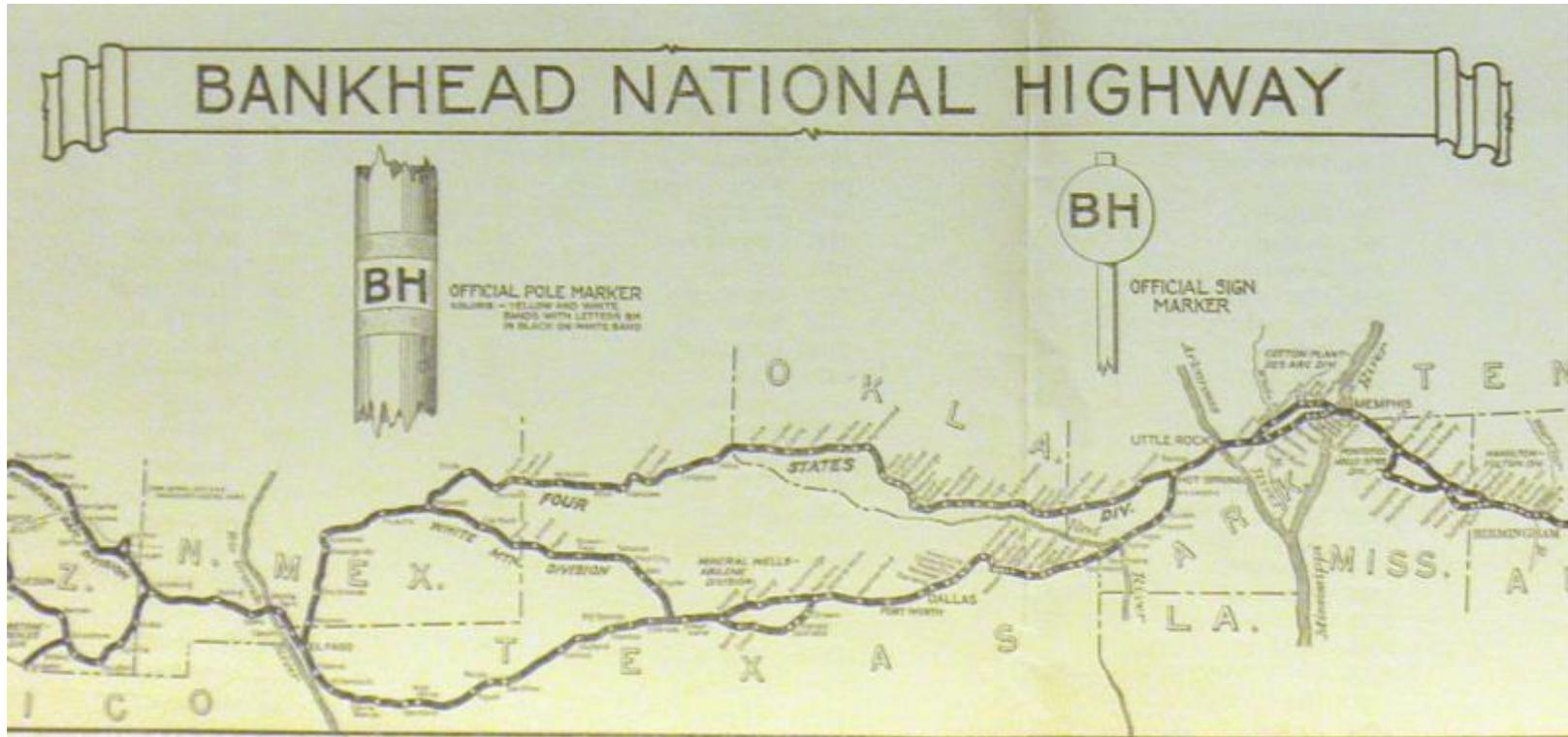


Source: Bygone Byways

# BANKHEAD NATIONAL HIGHWAY

## What is the route?

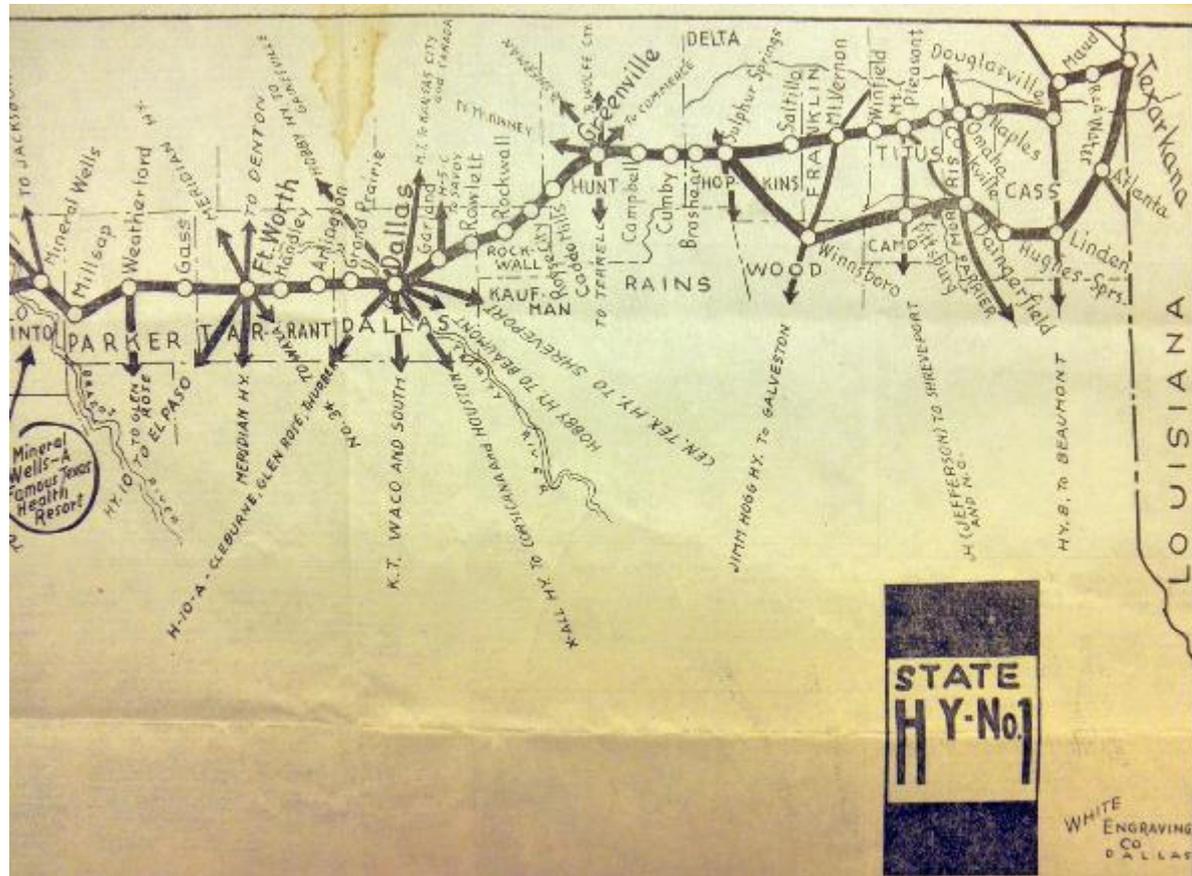
- Map



Source: Birmingham Public Library

# What is the route?

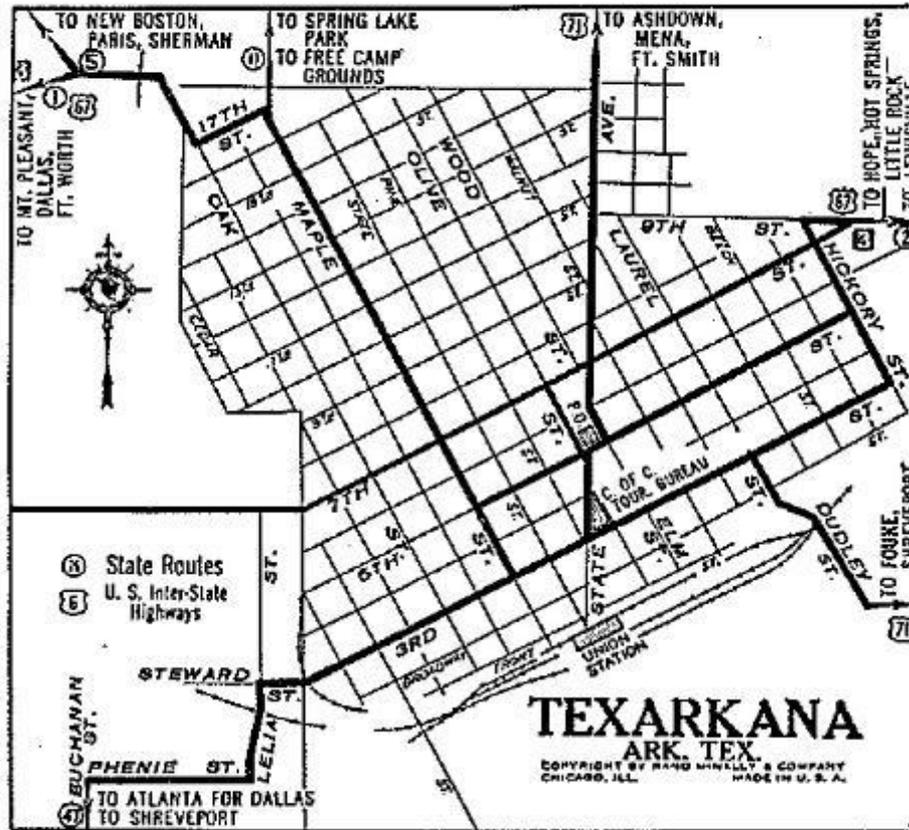
- Map



Source: Birmingham Public Library

# What is the route?

- Map



*Avoid the use of "trick" oils in your Ford Motor (Model "T"). Increased carbon deposits often do more harm than chattering. To be on the safe side, use Flivolene.*

Source: Birmingham Public Library

## What is the route?

- Build the Highway



Source: National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD

## What is the route?

- Build the Highway



Source: TxDOT Photo Library

# What is the route?

- Build the Highway

May, 1924 CONCRETE HIGHWAY MAGAZINE 115

## Shall it be Gravel or Single Track Concrete?

By J. W. REESE  
County Judge, Rockwall, Texas



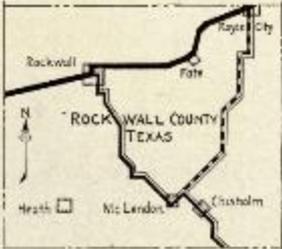
It is a "Booster" for concrete roads.

THOUGH available funds for road construction in Rockwall County were not sufficient for building standard width pavements, the taxpayers of Texas' smallest county would be satisfied with nothing less than concrete. The solution was found in the construction of single track concrete pavement which provided sufficient mileage to place every farmer in the county within an average distance of one mile from a hard-surfaced highway.

When road improvement was first contemplated, it was expected that only 13½ miles from Royce City through Rockwall would be paved. On this stretch—an 18-foot concrete pavement—Government and Federal Aid amounted to \$348,000 and the county's share was county bond issue voted in 1919 originally

\$350,000. The balance of the \$800,000 was to be used in graveling the other important roads in the county. The change from gravel to single track concrete pavement for these roads was made after careful deliberation based on estimated costs.

As there is no gravel deposit in the county, all of this material must be imported over a haul of from 40 to 50 miles. Under these conditions a gravel surface 16 feet wide would cost \$11,000 per mile, exclusive of bridges and grading. The maintenance of a gravel road would add five or six hundred dollars yearly expense per mile while expensive scarifying and reshaping would be necessary every eight or ten years. Texas laws permit a county to issue bonds for only 25 per cent of its



Legend

- 18 ft. Concrete Pavement Completed.
- - - 6 ft. Concrete Pavement Completed.
- · · 8 ft. Concrete Pavement Proposed.

Source: Internet Archive

## Why was the highway needed?

- Military Transportation



Source: Birmingham Public Library

## Why was the highway needed?

- Military Transportation



Source: Birmingham Public Library

## Why was the highway needed?

- Commerce and Trade



Source: The Portal to Texas History

# Why was the highway needed?

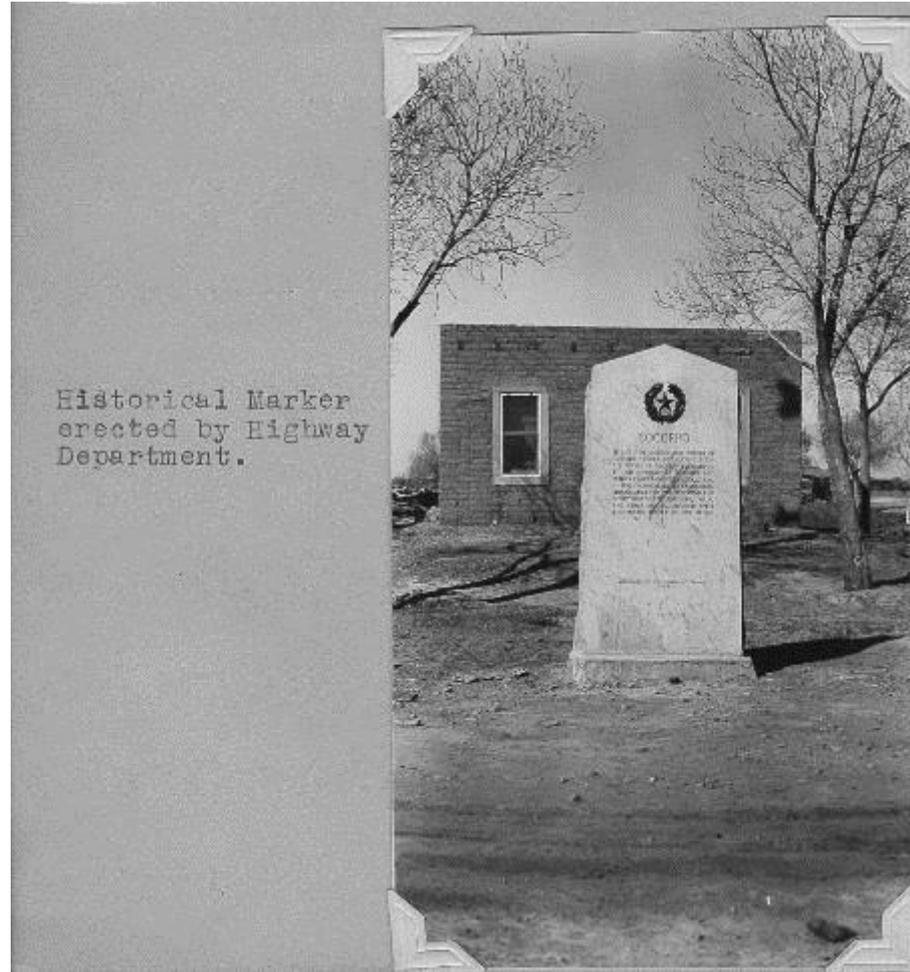
- Tourism



Source: Birmingham Public Library

## Why was the highway needed?

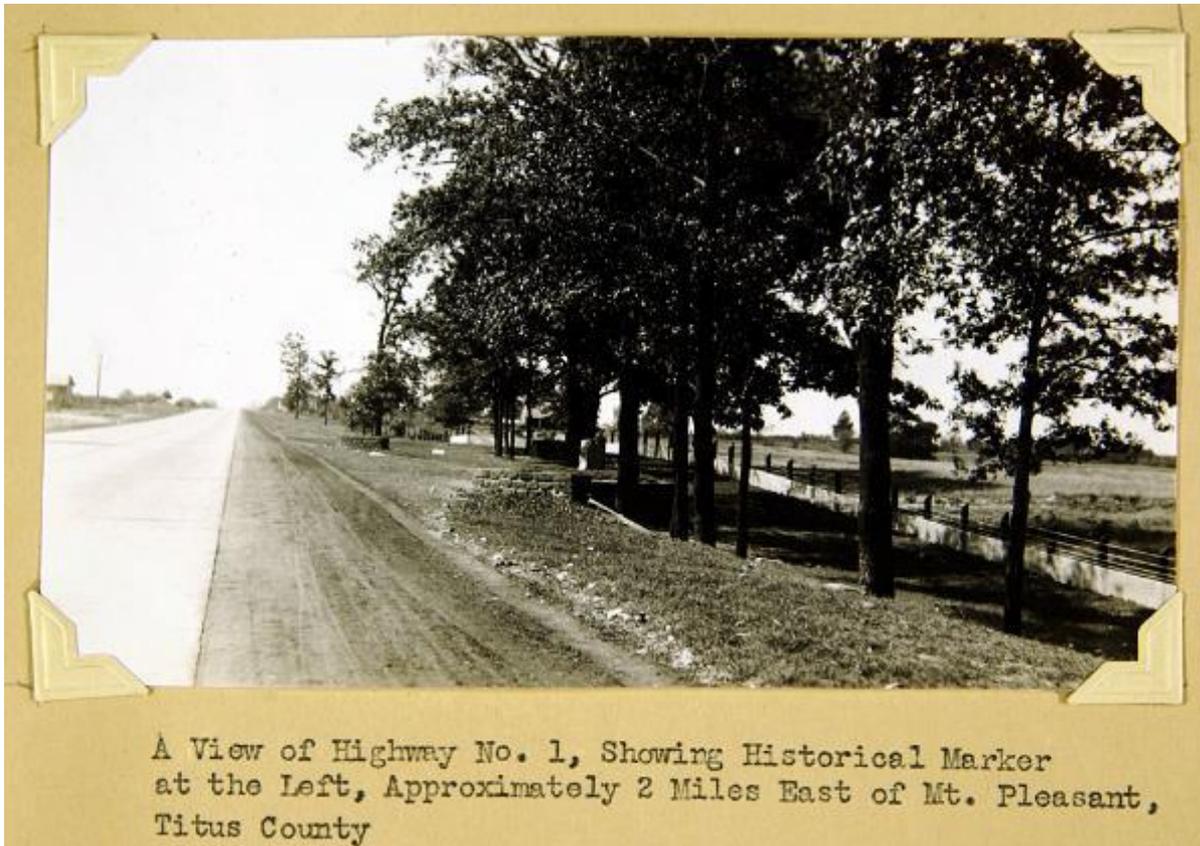
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Source: TxDOT Photo Library

## Why Was The Highway Needed?

- Tourism



Source: TxDOT Photo Library

## Why was the highway needed?

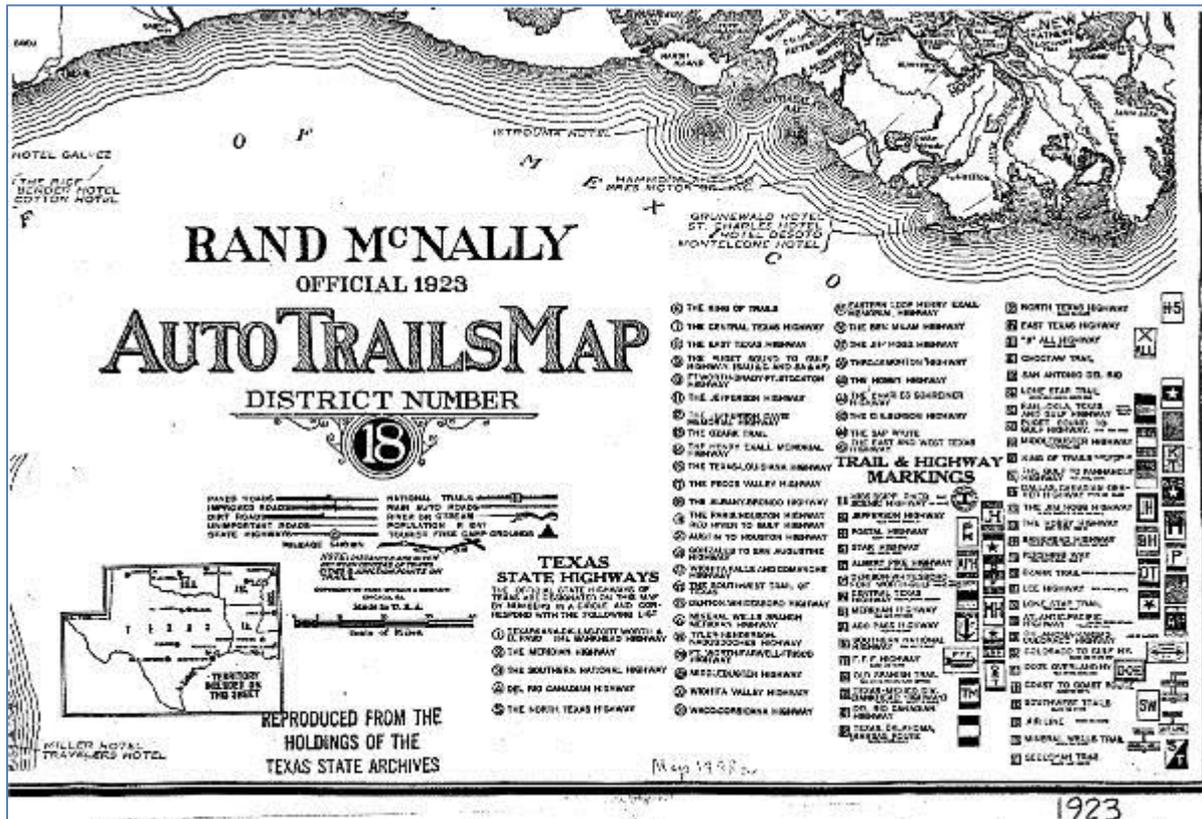
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Source: TxDOT Photo Library

# Why was the highway needed?

- Tourism



Source: Texas State Library and Archives

# Why was the highway needed?

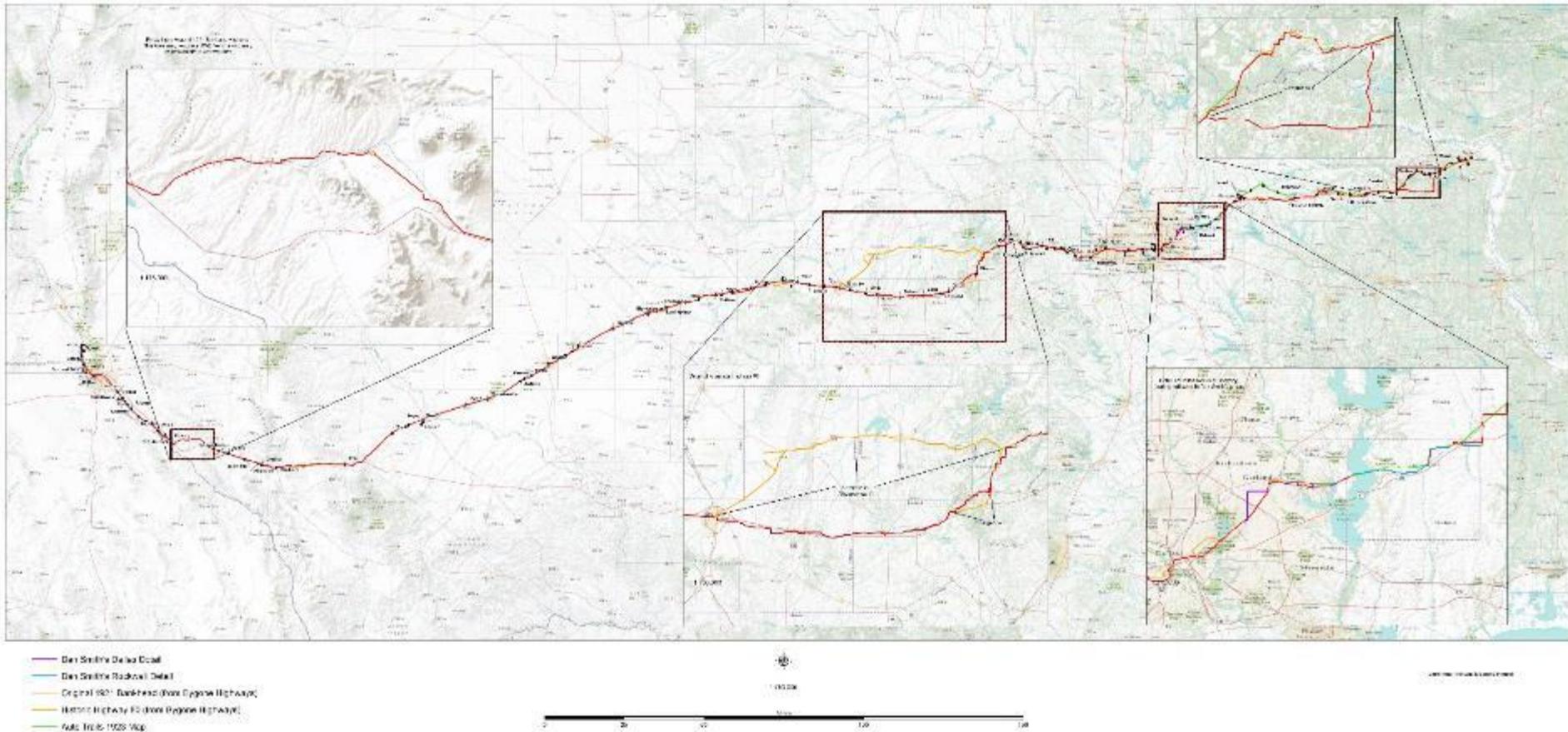
- Tourism



Source: Dan Smith

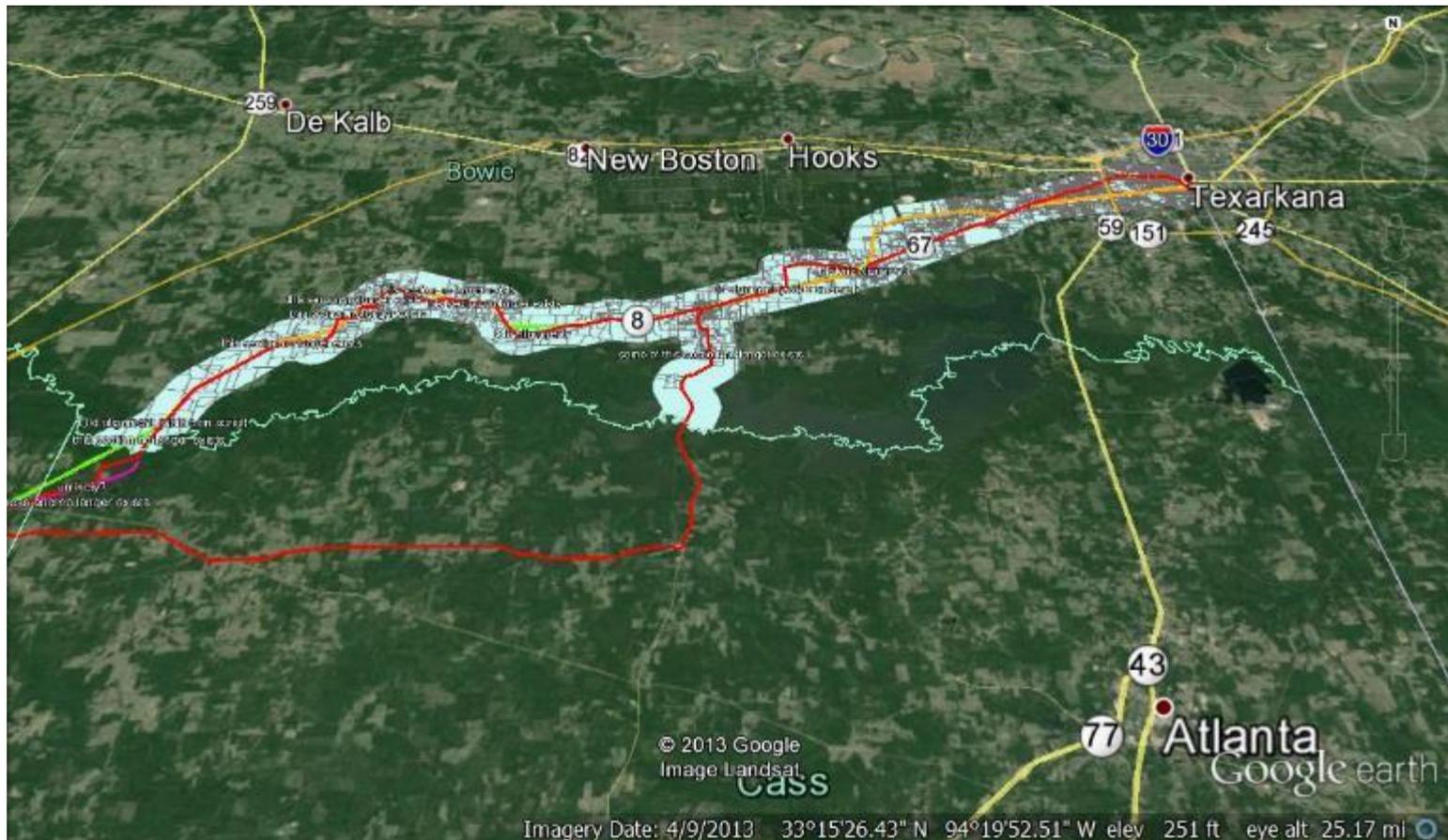
# What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



# What are we doing?

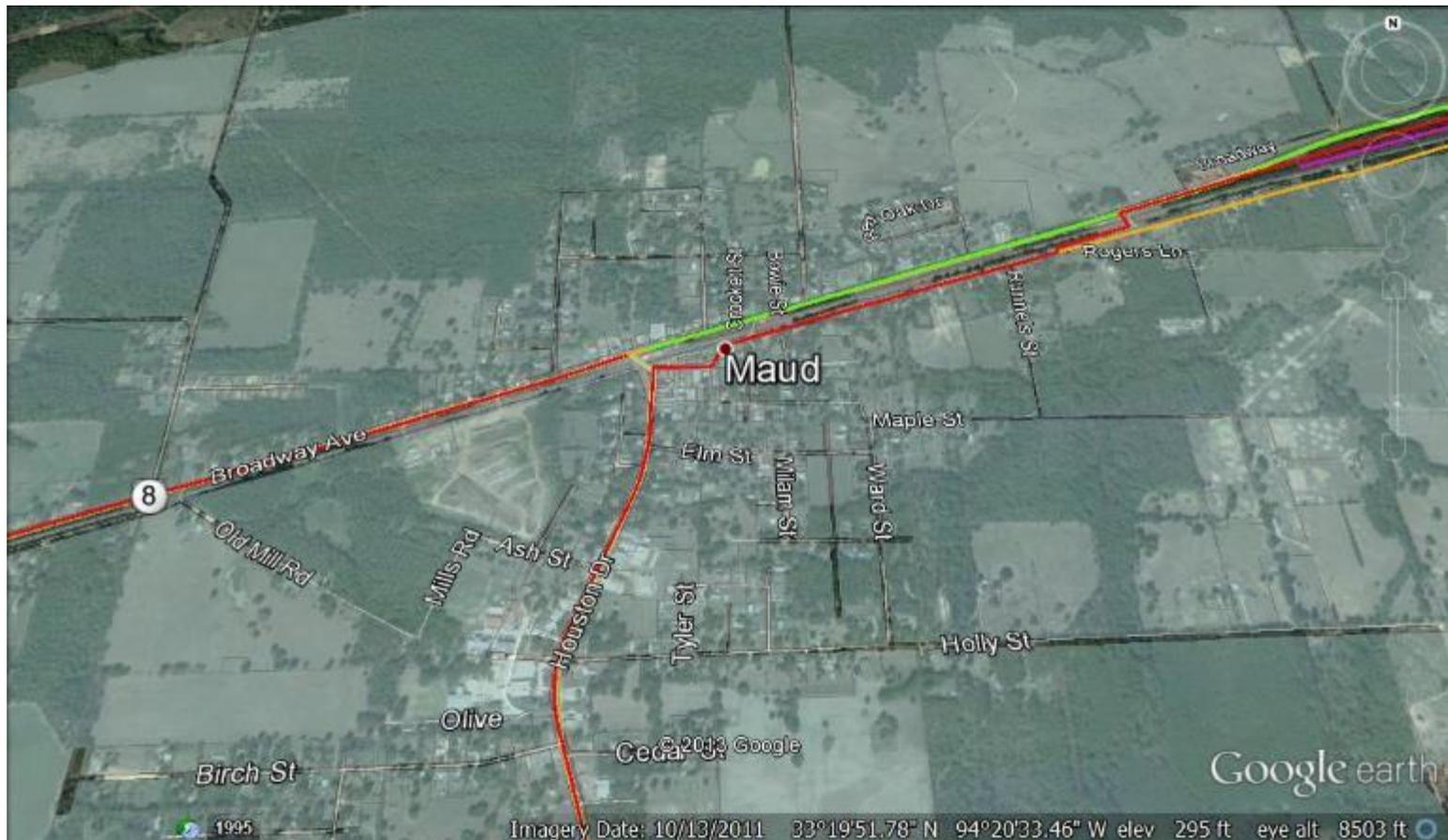
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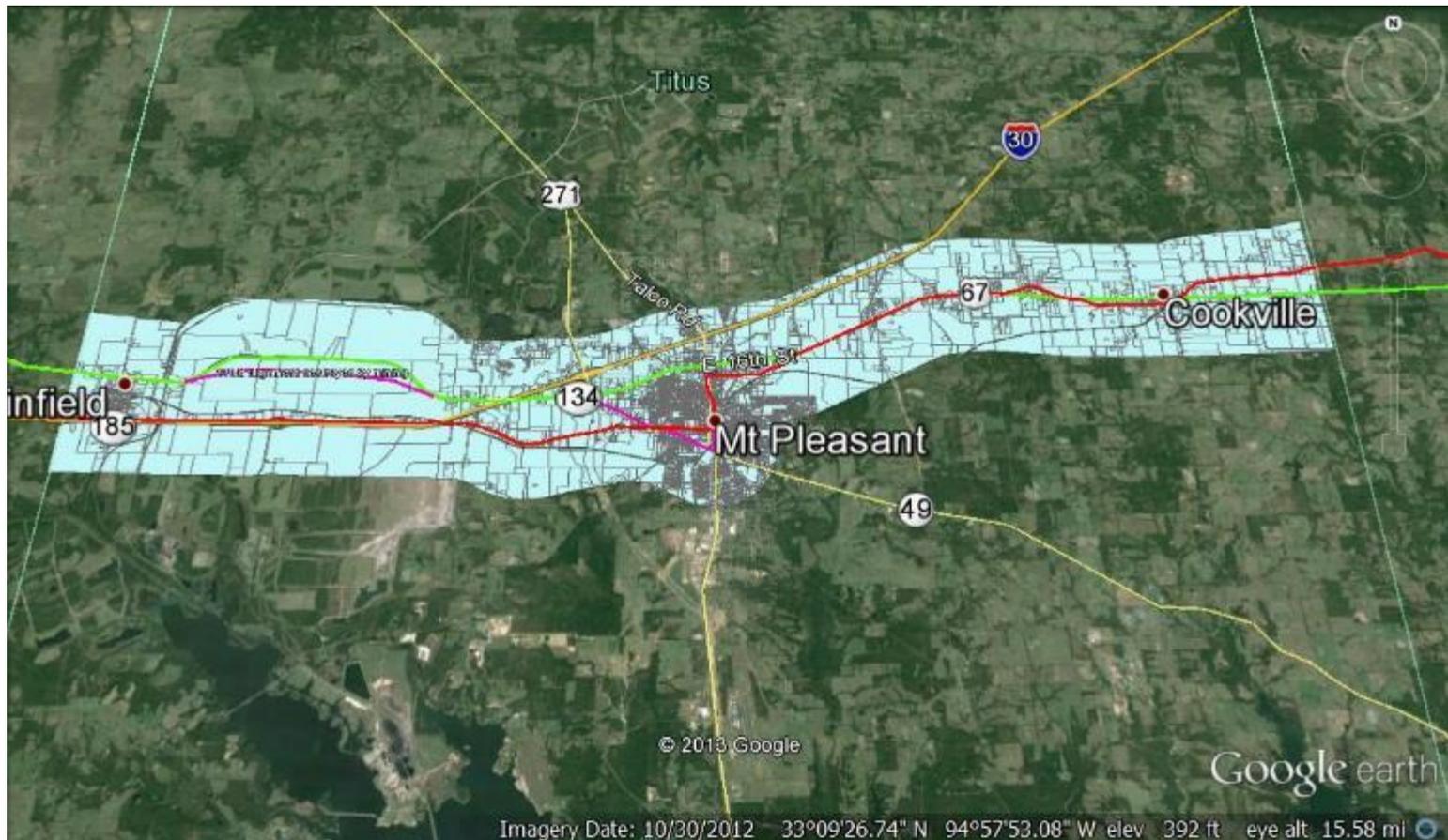
## What are we doing?

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## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Field Teams in Area during weeks of August 19 and 26

# What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources

**HARDY • HECK • MOORE INC** LORRENDON BENTON • LORREYN JONES

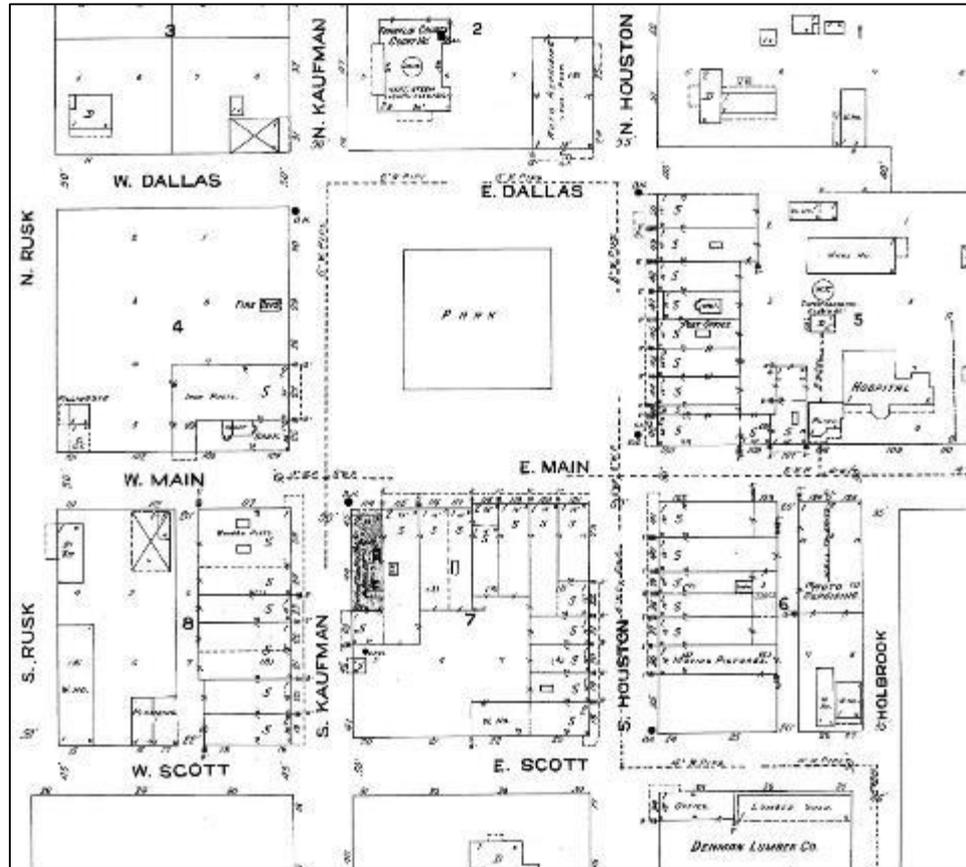
**Back to Survey List**

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 4908 10 50170 L24 4 10 50 Tarrant Co, TX 75080 80.3079842414581 57.2090000000000	4908 10 50170 L24 4 10 50 Tarrant Co, TX 75080 80.3079842414581 57.2090000000000	Building	4908 10 50170 L24 4 10 50 Tarrant Co, TX 75080 80.3079842414581 57.2090000000000
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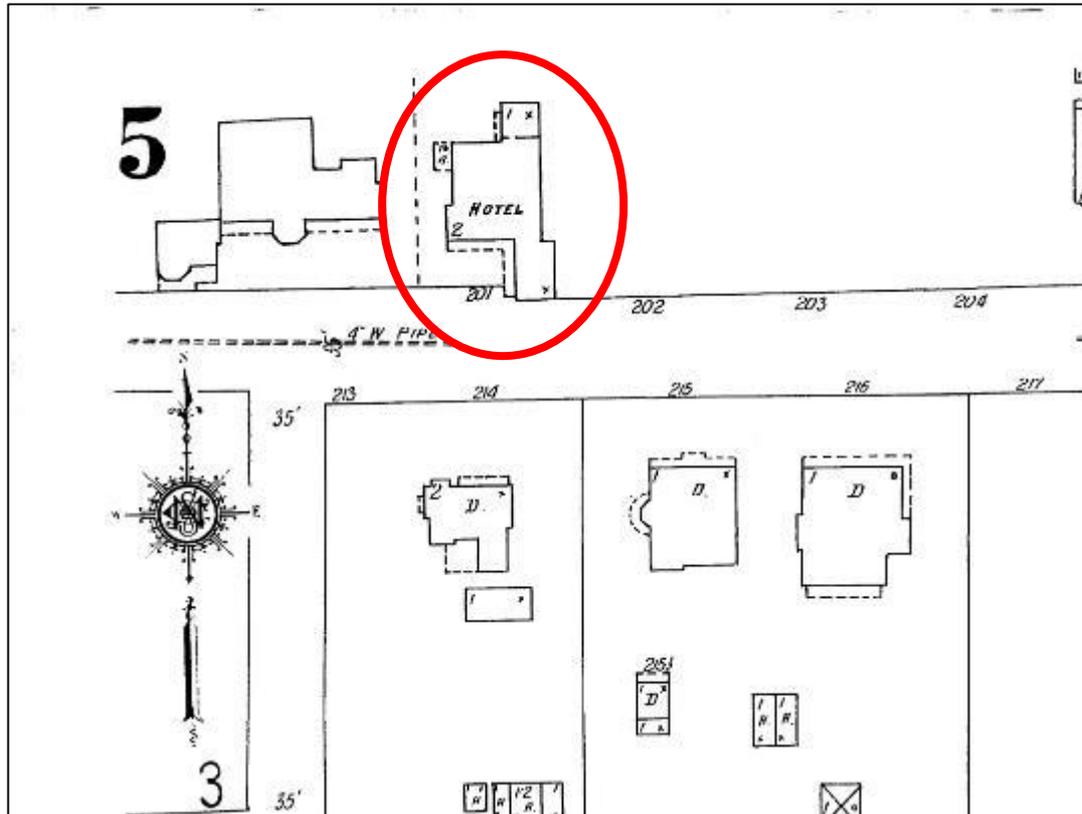
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Mount Vernon, 1923, Sanborn Map Co., Digital copy at Center for American History, UT Austin

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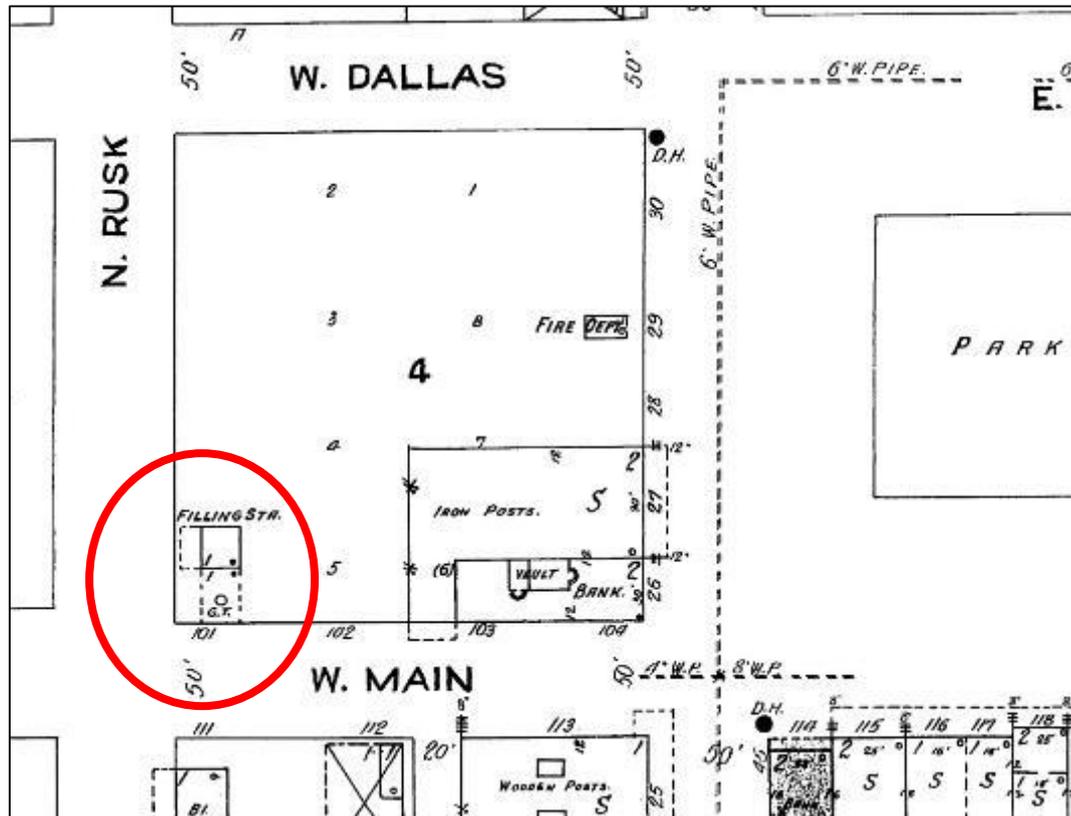
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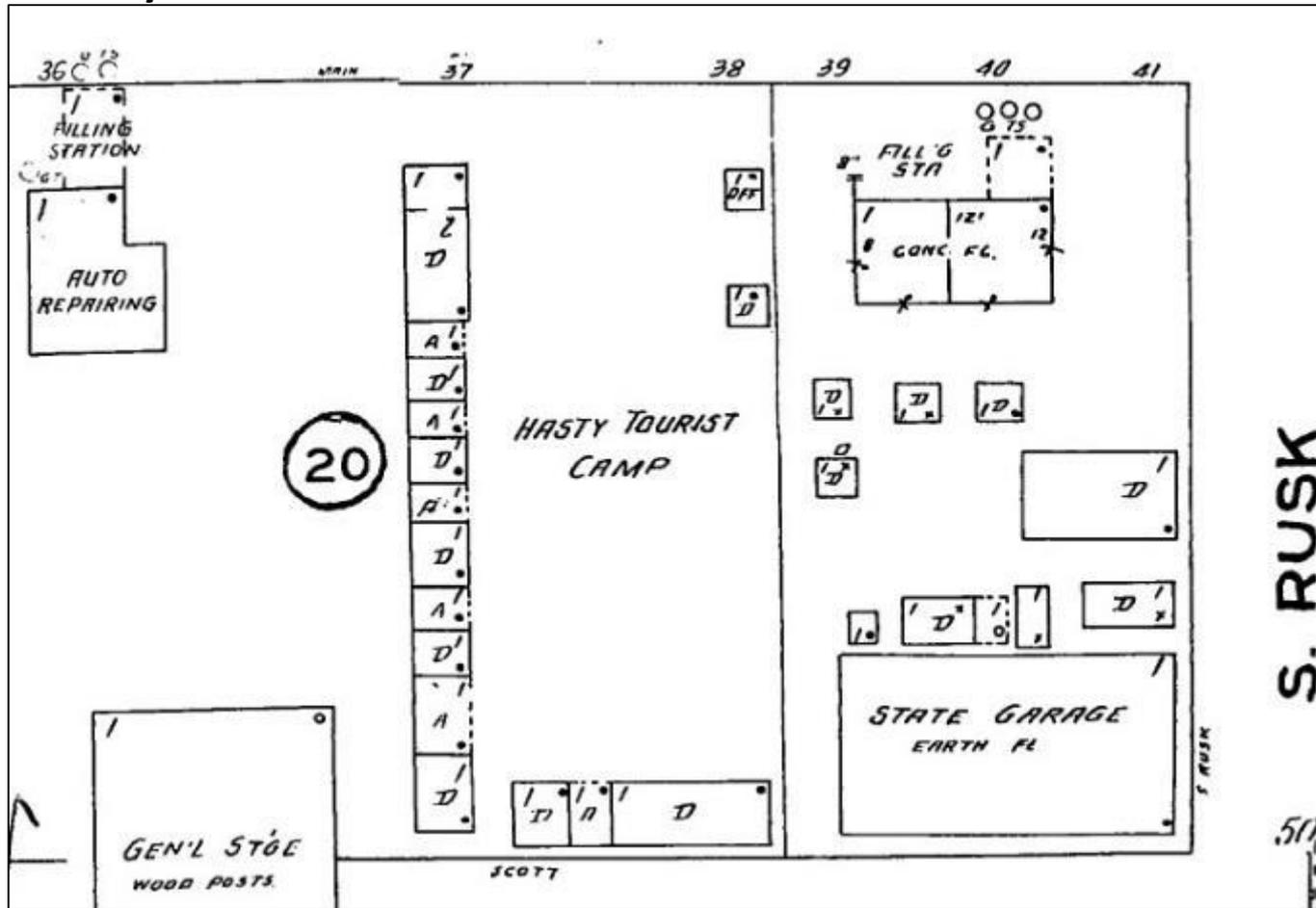
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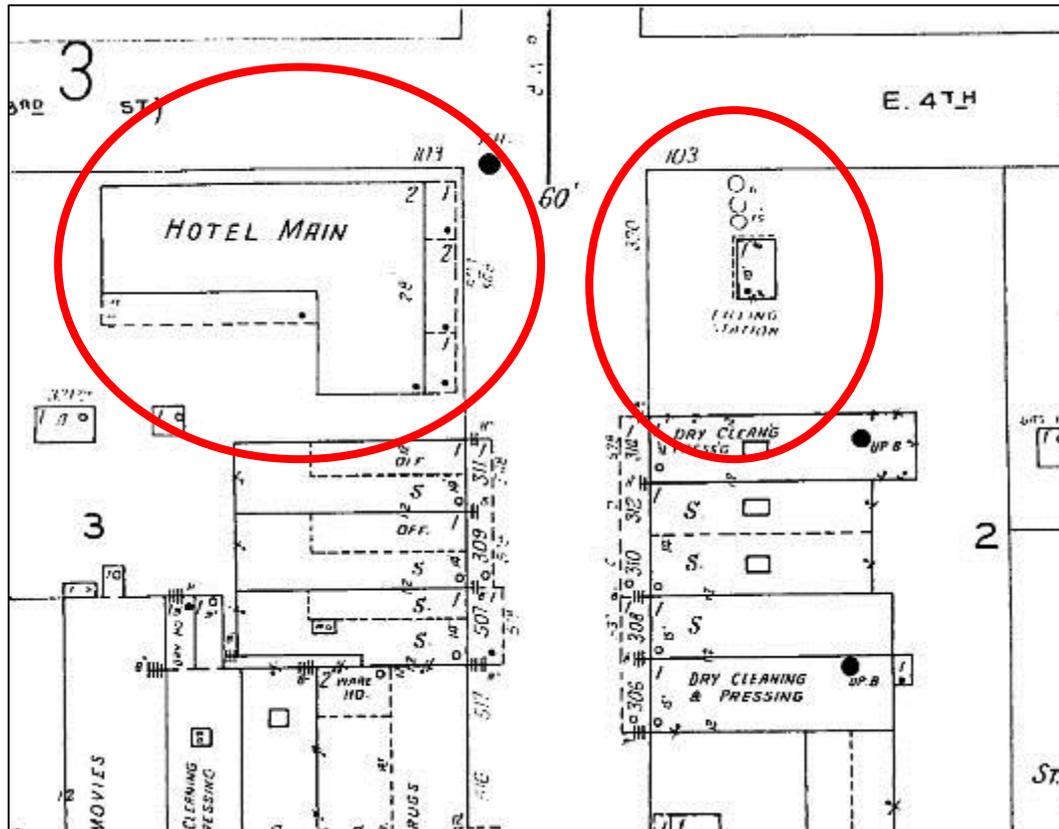
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Mount Vernon, 1944, Sanborn Map Co., Digital copy at Center for American History, UT Austin

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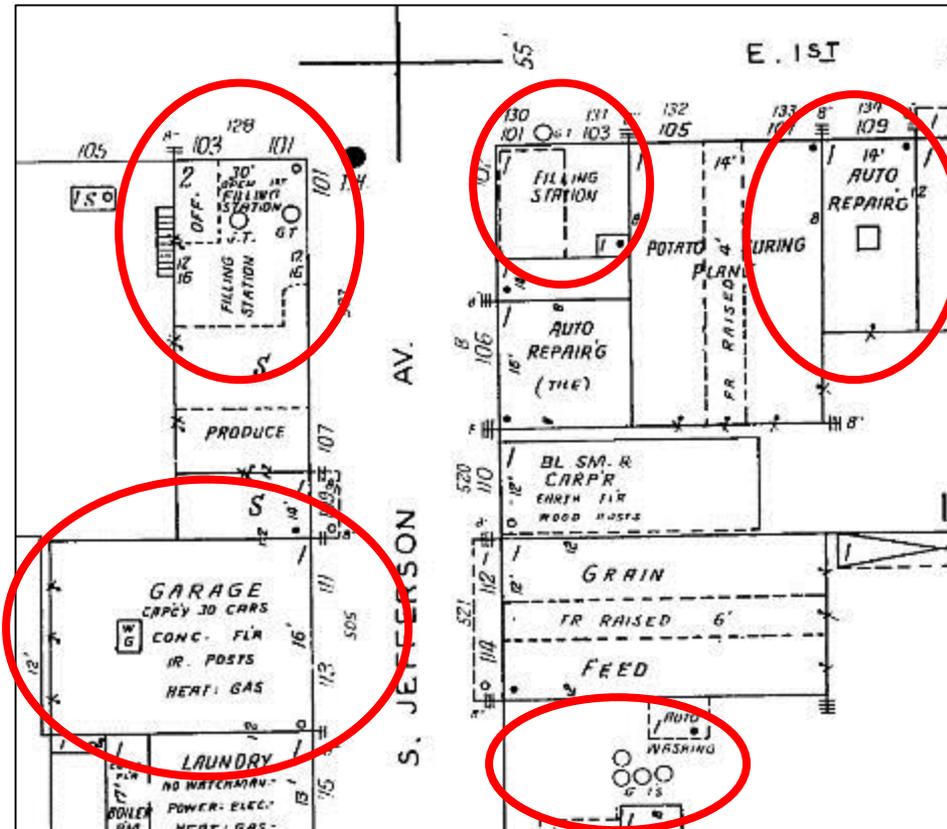
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Mount Pleasant, 1933, Sanborn Map Co., Digital copy at Center for American History, UT Austin

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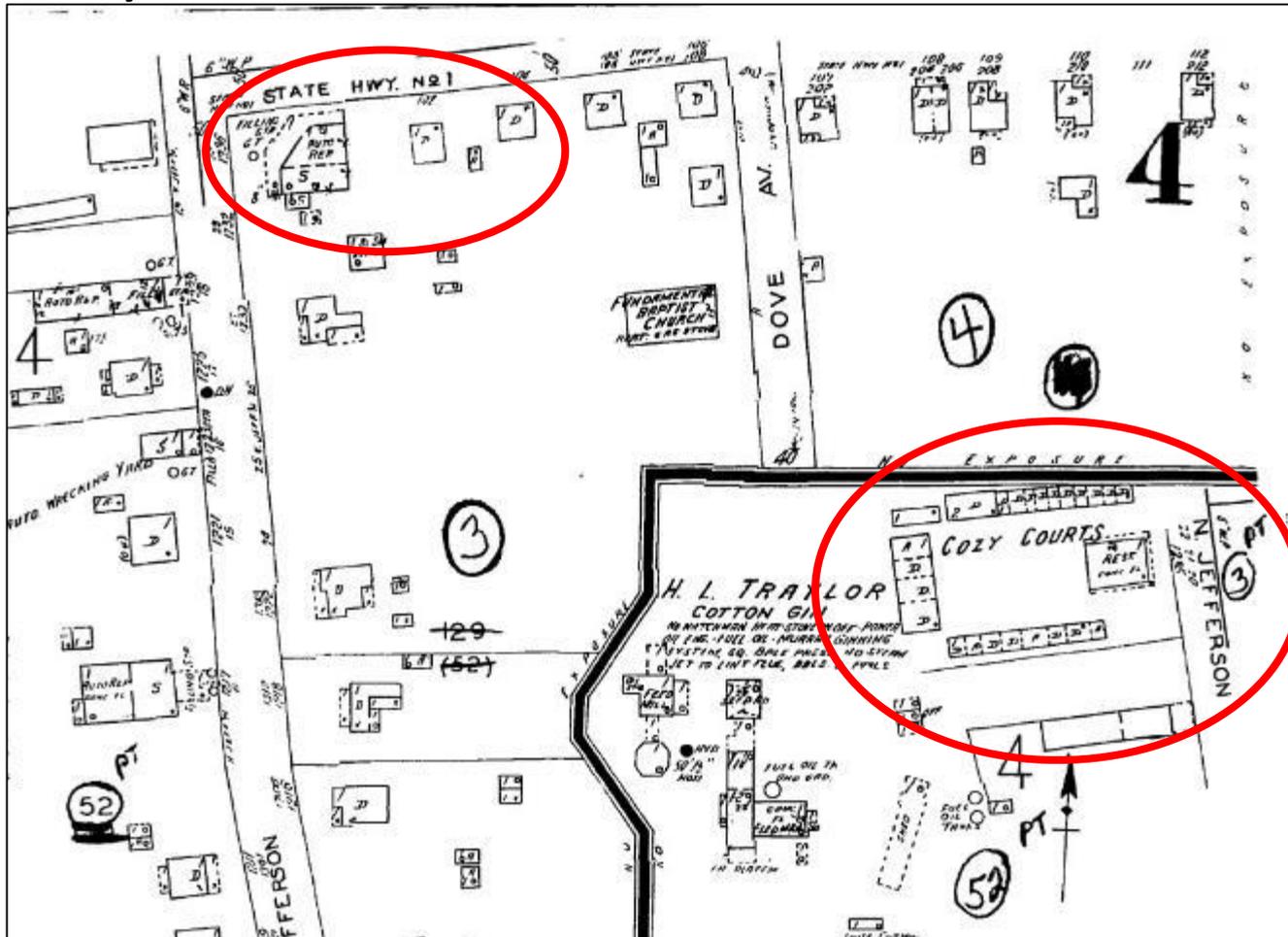
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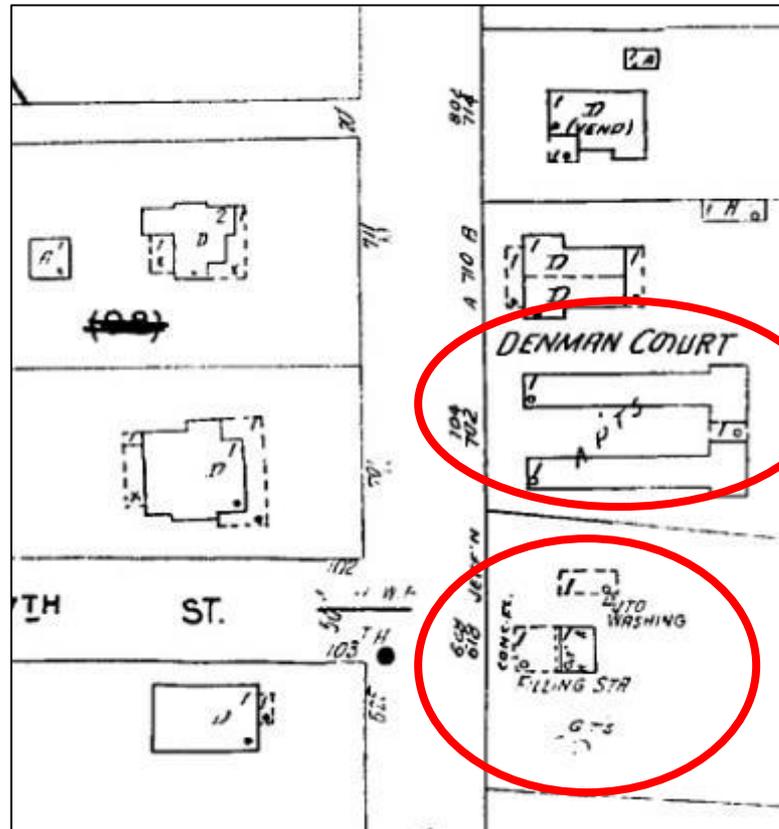
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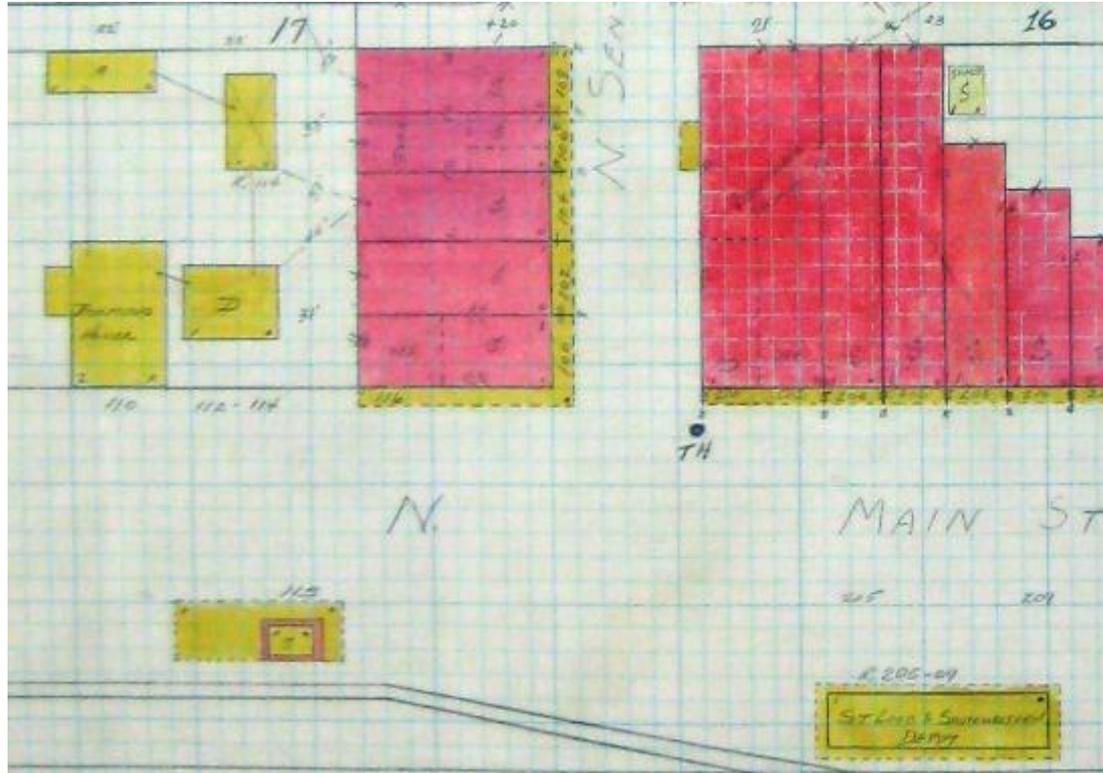
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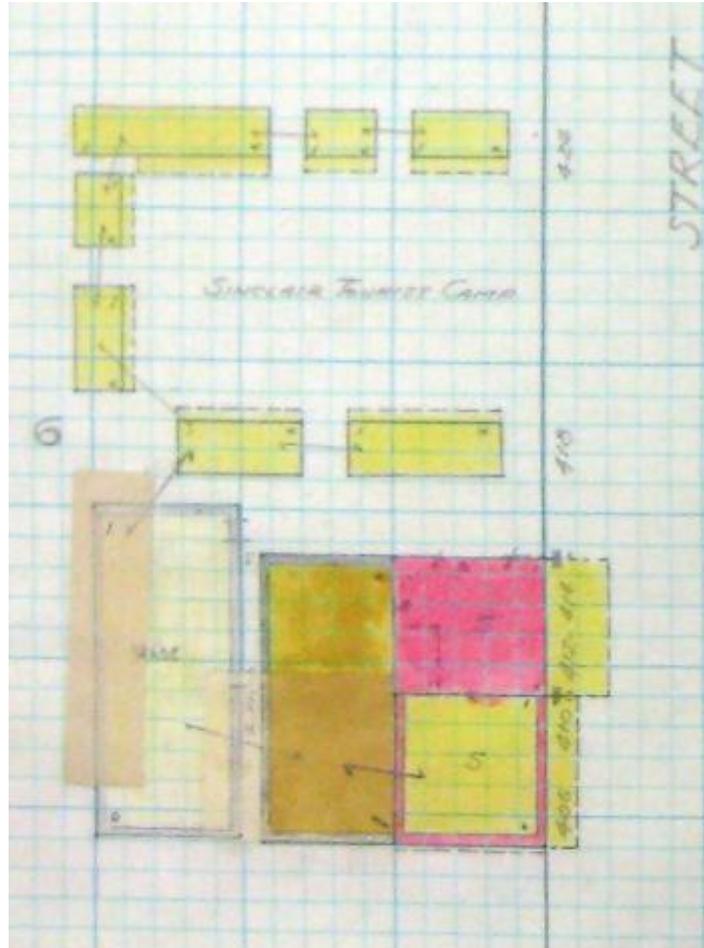
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Omaha, 1943, Texas State Board of Insurance, Texas State Library and Archives

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Omaha, 1943, Texas State Board of Insurance, Texas State Library and Archives

## What are we doing?

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Albany, Texas

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Ranger, Texas

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Big Spring, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Abilene, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Big Spring, Texas

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Source: National Archives and Records Administration

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Abilene, Texas

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Source: National Archives and Records Administration

## What are we doing?

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Wharton, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Arlington, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Cisco, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Strawn, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Big Spring, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Arlington, Texas

## What are we doing?

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West, Texas

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Ringgold, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Rowlett, Texas

## What are we doing?

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## What are we doing?

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Vicinity of Texarkana, Texas

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Rotan, Texas

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Merkel, Texas

## What are we doing?

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Abilene, Texas

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Arlington, Texas

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Mount Vernon, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

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Mount Pleasant, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

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Mount Pleasant, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

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Royce City, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

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Texarkana, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

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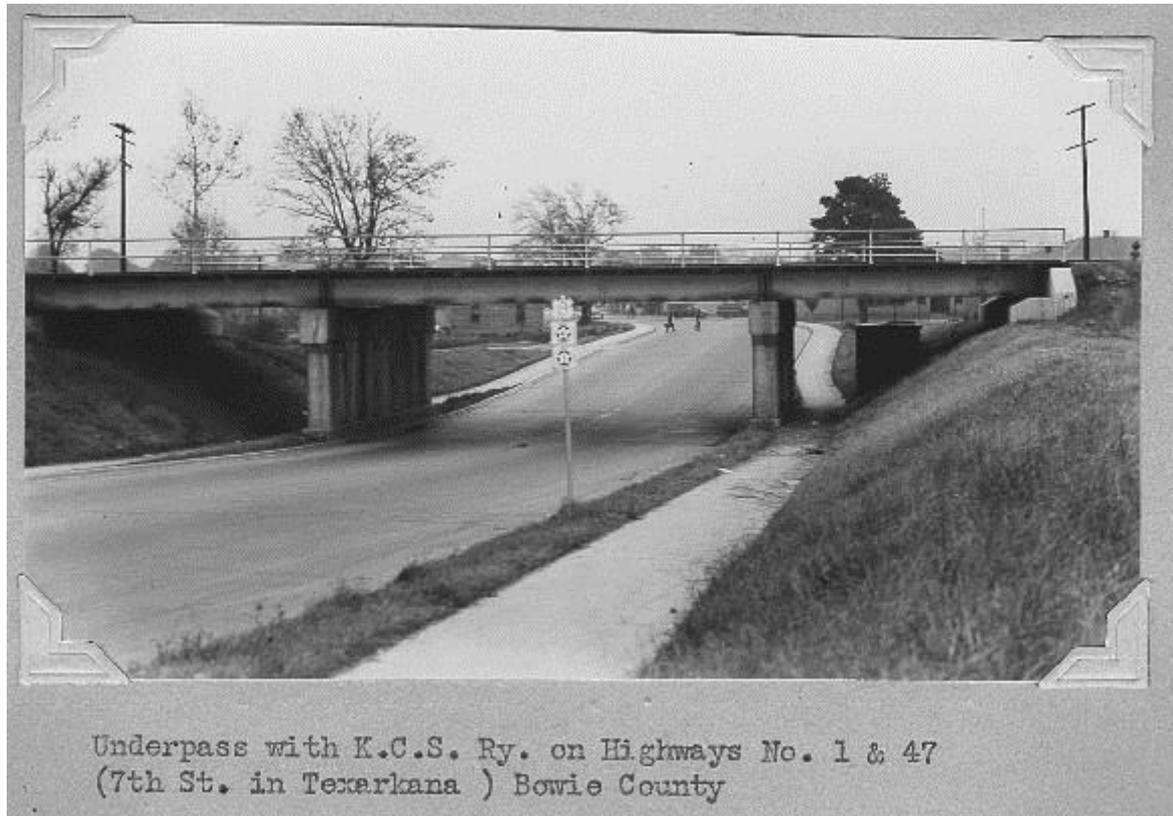
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Texarkana, 2013. Source: Google Maps

## What are we doing?

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Texarkana, circa 1940. Source: TxDOT Photo Library

## What are we doing?

- Survey and Document Historic Resources



Texarkana, 2013. Source: Google Maps

## How can I participate?

- Share historic maps, photos, postcards & other materials



Humble Map, 1928. Source: Birmingham Public Library



# How can I participate?

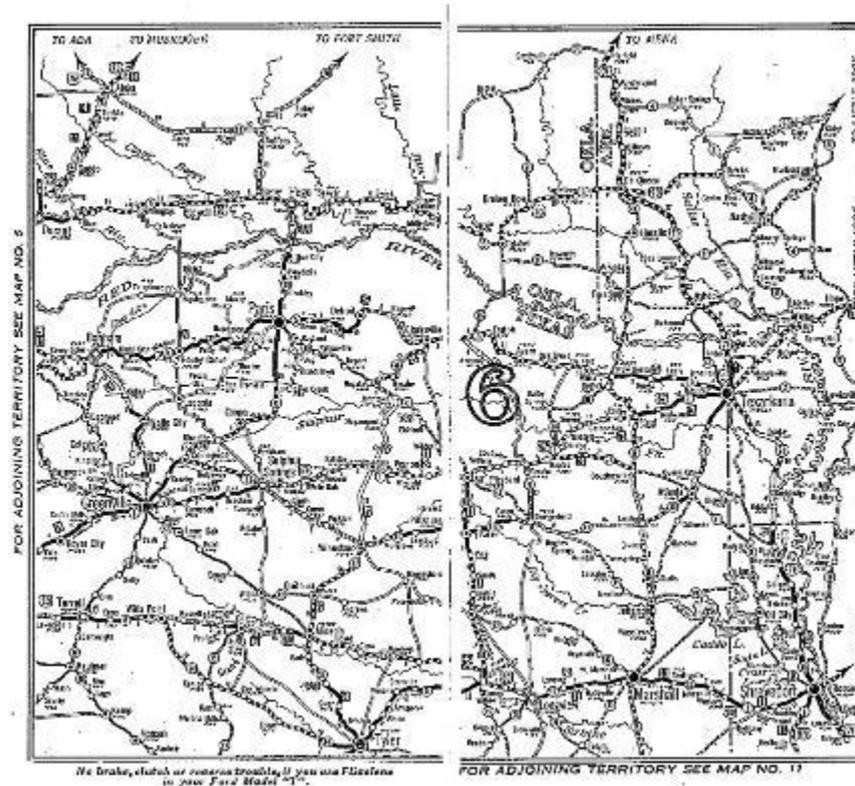
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Humble Map, 1928. Source: Birmingham Public Library

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Humble Map, 1928. Source: Birmingham Public Library

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Camp Hannon, Texarkana, date unknown. Source: Dan Smith

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Hannon's Tourist Camp, date unknown. Source: Dan Smith

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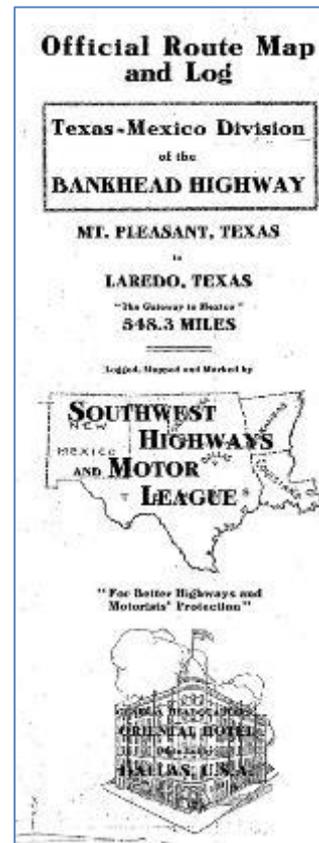


Photo courtesy The Texarkana Museums

Hannon's Tourist Camp, date unknown. Source: Dan Smith

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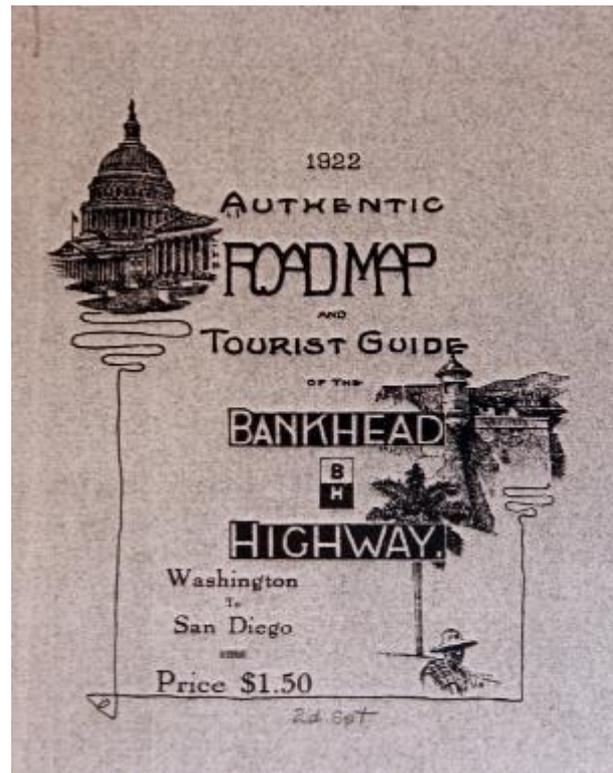
- Share historic maps, photos, postcards & other materials



Source: Texas State Library and Archives

## How can I participate?

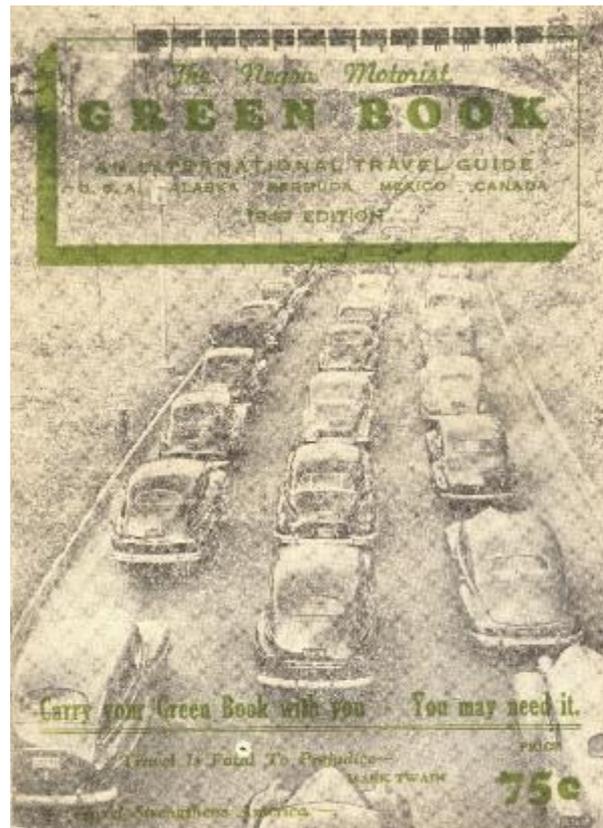
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Source: Bygone Byways

## How can I participate?

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Source: University of Michigan

# How can I participate?

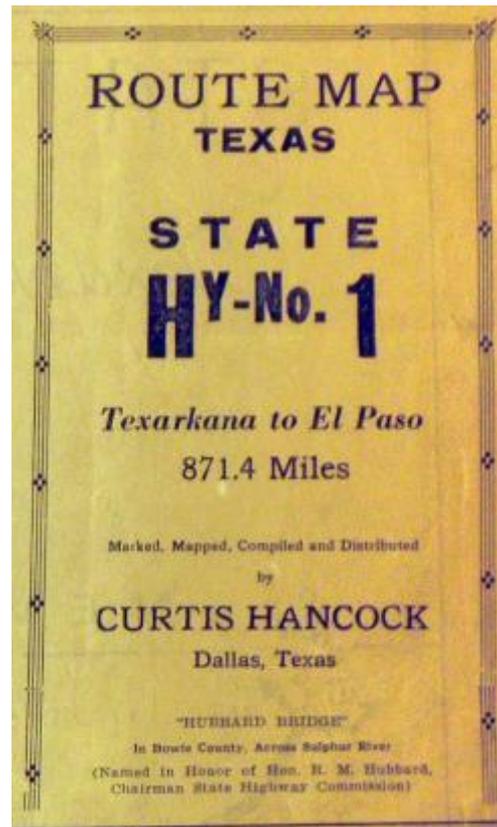
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Source: Birmingham Public Library

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The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Texas Historical Commission website. The page title is "Historic Texas Highways | Texas Historical Commission - Media | Info". The URL in the address bar is "www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/historic-texas-highways". The page features a red navigation bar with links: HOME, ABOUT US, PRESERVE, PROJECT REVIEW, NEWS & EVENTS, GET INVOLVED, LEARN, and EXPLORE TEXAS. The main content area is titled "Historic Texas Highways" and includes a photograph of a brick-paved road. The text describes the Texas Historic Roads and Highways Program, established in 2009, and mentions the Bankhead Highway as a focus of the program. A sidebar on the right contains a "Share this" button, a "In This Section" list with links to "Bankhead Highway", "Publications for Roadside Architecture", and "TRB Conference 2013 Sacramento", and a "Submit Your Photos" section with a link to "Upload images to our Bankhead Highway in Texas Flickr Group!". At the bottom of the sidebar is a "Historic Sites Atlas" button.

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/historic-texas-highways>

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The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Bankhead Highway page on the Texas Historical Commission website. The page features a red navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT US, PRESERVE, PROJECT REVIEW, NEWS & EVENTS, GET INVOLVED, LEARN, and EXPLORE TEXAS. The main content area is titled "Bankhead Highway" and includes a "Share This" button. The text describes the highway's history, its route through Texas, and the current project to document its legacy. A sidebar on the right lists "In This Section" with links to project information, timeline, FAQs, and links. At the bottom, there is a "Submit Your Photos" section with instructions on how to contribute to the Historic Sites Atlas.

[Share This](#)

### In This Section

- [Bankhead Highway](#)
- [Bankhead Highway Project Information](#)
- [Bankhead Highway Project Timeline](#)
- [Bankhead Highway FAQs](#)
- [Bankhead Highway Links](#)
- [Publications for Roadside Architecture](#)
- [THC Conference 2013: Sacraments](#)

### Submit Your Photos

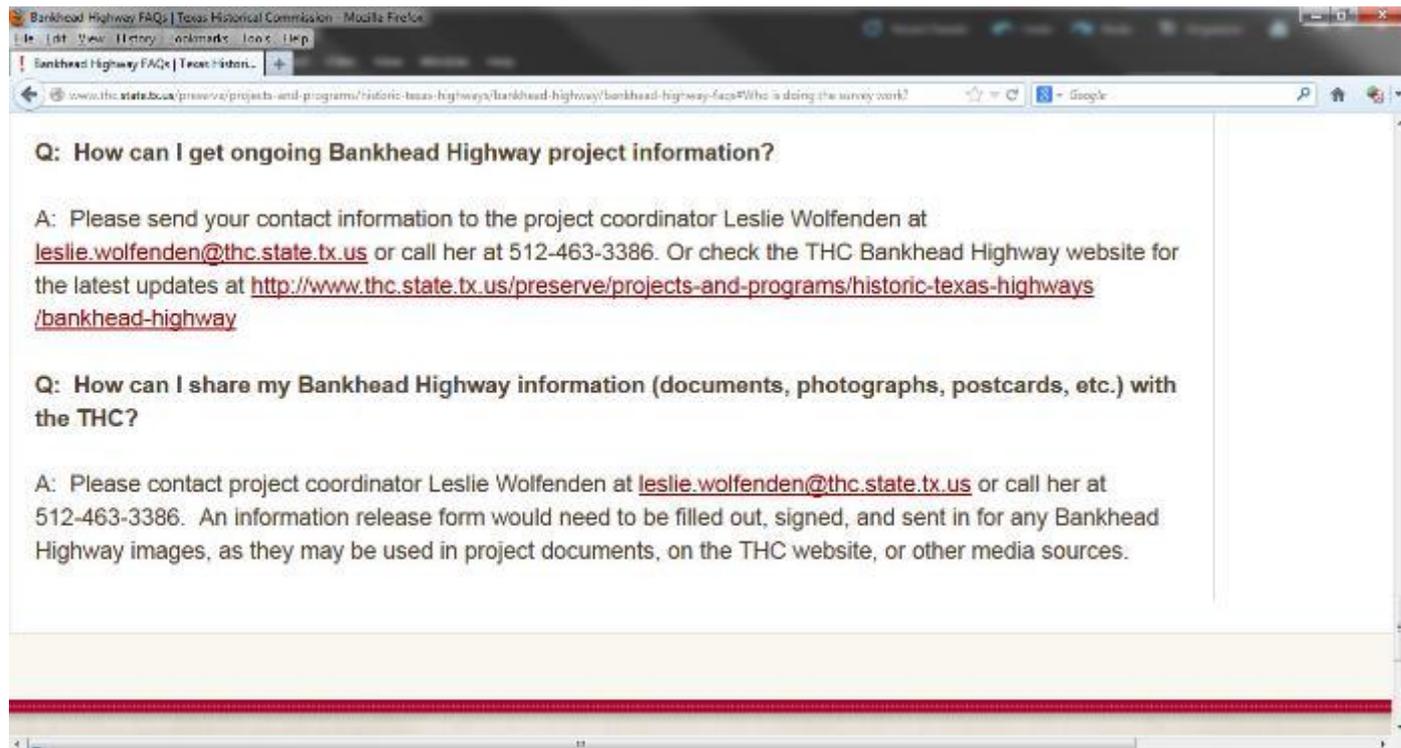
Upload images to our [Bankhead Highway in Texas Flickr Group!](#)

HISTORIC SITES ATLAS

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/historic-texas-highways/bankhead-highway>

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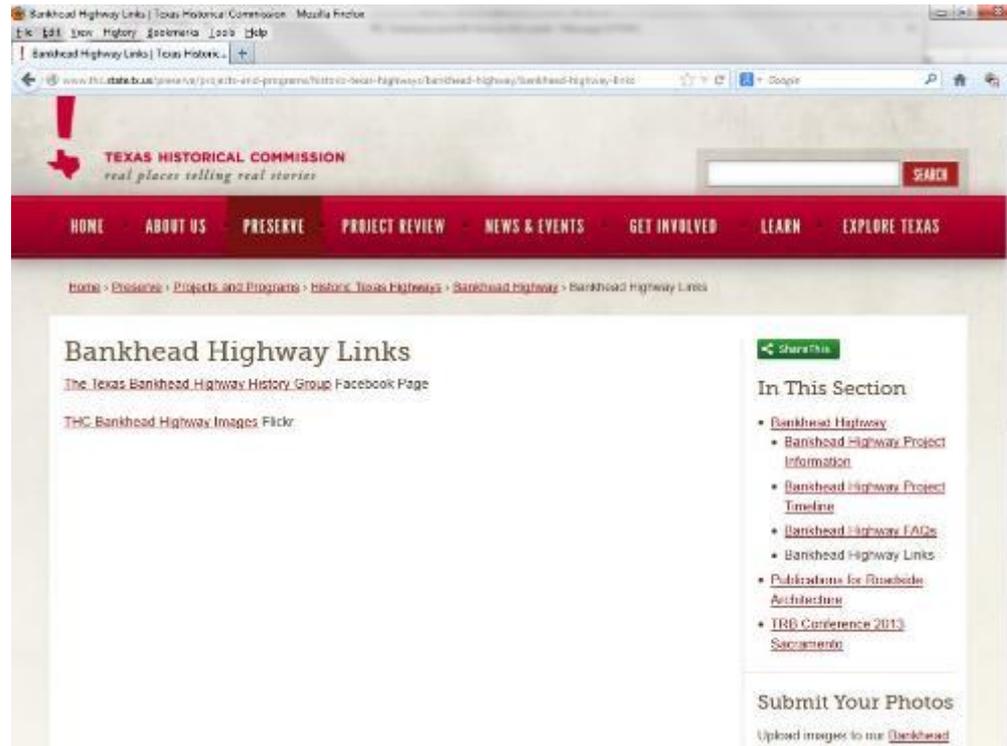
- Share historic maps, photos, postcards & other materials



<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/historic-texas-highways/bankhead-highway/bankhead-highway-faq>

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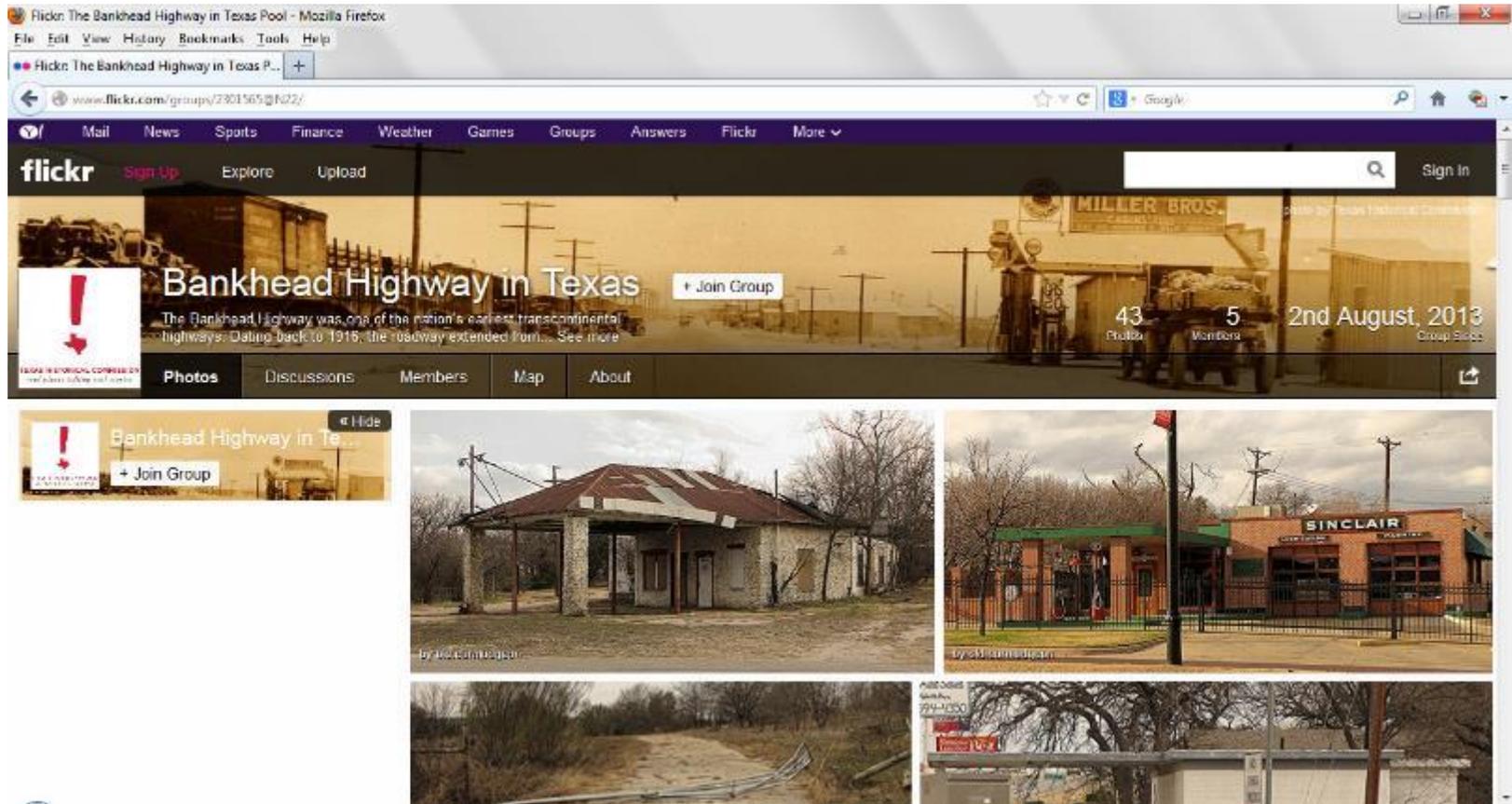
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<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/historic-texas-highways/bankhead-highway/bankhead-highway-links>

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## How can I participate?

### Project Contact information

- Texas Historical Commission
  - Leslie Wolfenden, Project Manager
    - Email: [Leslie.Wolfenden@thc.state.tx.us](mailto:Leslie.Wolfenden@thc.state.tx.us)
    - Phone: 512-463-3386
- Hardy·Heck·Moore, Inc.
  - David Moore, Historian
    - Email: [dmoore@hhminc.com](mailto:dmoore@hhminc.com)
    - Phone: 512-478-8014 x 109

# Thank you for coming!

- Questions?

