



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

# SET YOUR SITES ON HISTORY

*20 Texas State Historic Sites*



# REAL PLACES TELL REAL STORIES

At 20 historic sites across the state, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) invites Texans and their visitors to experience first-hand the rich legacy of our ancestors. These unique places honor the past and inspire an understanding of what it means to be a Texan. They enhance the learning experience of children, families,

## TEXAS STATE HISTORIC SITES

- 1 Magoffin Home
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# RIES OF TEXAS HISTORY

and adults and strive to ensure that our heritage is passed on to our children and grandchildren. From Native American sites to frontier forts to common and elegant homes and the leaders and statesmen who lived in them, these sites enrich people's lives through history. Please visit and enjoy them!

**Texas Heritage Trails**  
[www.texas  
historicsites.com](http://www.texas<br/>historicsites.com)





### **1 Magoffin Home State Historic Site**

This house features the stories of a multicultural family who influenced the early development of the Southwest borderlands. Magoffin family members actively participated in U.S. expansion, West Texas settlement, trade on the Santa Fe-Chihuahua Trail, Civil War turmoil, and U.S.-Mexico relations. Built in 1875, the newly restored adobe structure reflects southwestern Territorial architecture.

1120 Magoffin St., El Paso, TX 79901

915.533.5147 • [www.visitmagoffinhome.com](http://www.visitmagoffinhome.com)

### **2 Fort Lancaster State Historic Site**

This 82-acre site preserves the remnants of one of four U.S. Army posts established in 1855 to protect the overland route between San Antonio and El Paso. Visitors can explore the visitor center and fort ruins,



imagining the once-impressive 25 permanent buildings.

629 Fort Lancaster Rd.

Sheffield, TX 79781

432.836.4391

[www.visitfortlancaster.com](http://www.visitfortlancaster.com)

### 3 Fort McKavett State Historic Site

This 150-year-old West Texas fort stands atop a remote hill in Menard County. It is one of the best-preserved examples of a Texas Indian Wars (1850–75)

military post. Gen. William T. Sherman once described it as “the prettiest post in Texas.”

7066 FM 864, Fort McKavett, TX 76841  
325.396.2358 • [www.visitfortmckavett.com](http://www.visitfortmckavett.com)



### 4 Fort Griffin State Historic Site

Holding command over the Southern Plains, Fort Griffin was one of the U.S. Army defensive forts from 1867–81, during the Indian Wars. The site is

home to the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd, the breed that helped create the cowboy mystique.

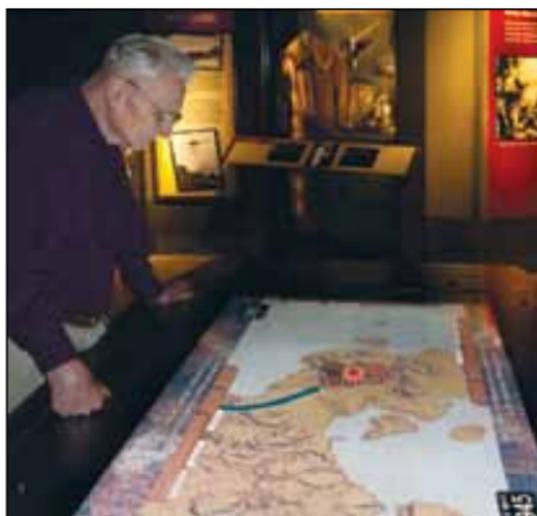
1701 N. U.S. Hwy. 283  
Albany, TX 76430  
325.762.3592  
[www.visitfortgriffin.com](http://www.visitfortgriffin.com)



### 5 National Museum of the Pacific War

The only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater in World War II, the newly expanded museum and six-acre campus include exhibits and memorial areas.

340 East Main St.  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
830.997.8600  
[www.pacificwarmuseum.org](http://www.pacificwarmuseum.org)





## **6 Landmark Inn State Historic Site**

Located on the banks of the Medina River and nestled in the historic Main Street town of Castroville, this site tells the story of Alsatian settlement and early commerce in Texas. The 1850s inn, store, and mill provided services to travelers and the community into the 20th century. Overnight room rentals are available.

402 East Florence St., Castroville, TX 78009  
830.931.2133 • [www.visitlandmarkinn.com](http://www.visitlandmarkinn.com)

## **7 Casa Navarro State Historic Site**

Explore the life of one of early Texas' most influential leaders, José Antonio Navarro, through interactive exhibits in his restored 19th-century home. A rancher and merchant, Navarro was



one of only two native-born Texans to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence and was a leading advocate for Tejano rights.

228 South Laredo St., San Antonio, TX 78207  
210.226.4801 • [www.visitcasanavarro.com](http://www.visitcasanavarro.com)

## 8 Fulton Mansion State Historic Site

The Fulton family's impressive home overlooks scenic Aransas Bay. This home— with its mansard roof and ornate trim work— was progressive, luxurious, and rare in this part of Texas in the late 1800s.

It reflects George Fulton's engineering skill and success as an inventor and rancher.



317 Fulton Beach Rd., Rockport, TX 78382  
361.729.0386 • [www.visitfultonmansion.com](http://www.visitfultonmansion.com)

## 9 Fannin Battleground State Historic Site

This site memorializes the brave soldiers who fought and lost the Battle of Coleto Creek here in 1836 during the Texas War for



Independence. New exhibits tell the story of the battle and the fate of Fannin's men. Their defeat helped galvanize the will of Texans to win the War of Independence.

734 FM 2506, Fannin, TX 77960  
979.885.2181 • [www.visitfanninbattleground.com](http://www.visitfanninbattleground.com)

## 10 Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site

Levi Jordan moved his family and 12 enslaved workers to Texas to establish a sugar and cotton plantation on the San Bernard River in the 1840s. The site highlights the multiple perspectives and evolving relationships of those who lived and worked on the land during the 19th century. The site is under development and available by appointment only.



7234 FM 521, Brazoria, TX 77422  
979.345.4656 • [www.visitlevijordanplantation.com](http://www.visitlevijordanplantation.com)



## **11 Varner-Hogg Plantation State**

**Historic Site** Settled in 1824 by one of Texas' first colonizers, Martin Varner, and developed as a sugar plantation by Columbus Patton, it was later owned by Texas Gov. James S. Hogg and furnished by his philanthropist daughter, Ima Hogg. Visitors can explore the stories of the people who lived and worked on this property and Ima Hogg's outstanding decorative arts collection.

1702 North 13th St., West Columbia, TX 77486

979.345.4656 • [www.visitvarnerhoggplantation.com](http://www.visitvarnerhoggplantation.com)

## **12 San Felipe de Austin State Historic**

**Site** On a bluff overlooking the Brazos River, this site is where Stephen F. Austin established the town of San Felipe de Austin in Mexican Texas in 1824, the first Anglo-American settlement in Texas. From 1824–36, San Felipe



was the social, economic, and political center of Austin's colony, as well as the provisional capital of the Texas Revolution.

15945 FM 1458, San Felipe, TX 77473

979.885.2181 • [www.visitsanfelipedeAustin.com](http://www.visitsanfelipedeAustin.com)

### **13 Confederate Reunion Grounds State Historic Site**

On the banks of the Navasota River, Civil War veterans met for reunions from 1889–1946. Today, the site remains a gathering place for living history events, recreation, and family reunions. The 1893 dance pavilion and a Civil War-era cannon remind visitors about the past.



1738 FM 2705, Mexia, TX 76667  
254.472.0959 • [www.visitcrg.com](http://www.visitcrg.com)

### **14 Sabine Pass Battleground State Historic Site**

The location of a significant Civil War battle, this site honors a small band of Confederate soldiers who defeated four Union gunboats and prevented Union forces from invading the Texas interior in 1863. The site features a memorial to Confederate Lt. Richard “Dick” Dowling and interpretive exhibits.



6100 Dick Dowling Rd., Port Arthur, TX 77640  
512.463.7948 • [www.visitspb.com](http://www.visitspb.com)

### **15 Caddo Mounds State Historic Site**

More than 1,200 years ago, a group of Caddo Hasinai Indians built a village and ceremonial center here. Today, three earthen mounds still rise from the lush Piney Woods landscape. Discover the everyday life of the Caddo people through exhibits and programs.



1649 State Hwy. 21 West, Alto, TX 75925  
936.858.3218 • [www.visitcaddomounds.com](http://www.visitcaddomounds.com)



Brian Mihealsick  
courtesy of Architects Clayton & Little

### **16 Starr Family Home State Historic**

**Site** James Harper Starr, land commissioner in the Republic of Texas, and his son Frank were important land agents, surveying and issuing land titles for more than one million acres in 90 Texas counties during the 19th century. Maplecroft, Frank's richly appointed late Victorian home, is the focal point of this site.

407 West Travis St., Marshall, TX 75670  
903.935.3044 • [www.visitstarrfamilyhome.com](http://www.visitstarrfamilyhome.com)

### **17 Sam Bell Maxey House State Historic**

**Site** In 1868, Samuel Bell Maxey and his family moved into their fashionable new home on the south side of Paris. Built in the Italianate style, the two-story structure was a fitting home for the West Point-educated Mexican War veteran, Confederate general, and two-term U.S. senator.



812 Church St.  
Paris, TX 75460  
903.785.5716  
[www.visitsambellmaxeyhouse.com](http://www.visitsambellmaxeyhouse.com)

## 18 Sam Rayburn House Museum

Sam Rayburn was one of the most powerful and influential U.S. politicians in the 20th century, serving 24 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives and as Speaker of the House for 17 terms. The house is still furnished as it was at Rayburn's death, with his belongings and memorabilia from the 1930s to the 1960s.



890 West State Hwy. 56, Bonham, TX 75418  
903.583.5558 • [www.visitsamrayburnhouse.com](http://www.visitsamrayburnhouse.com)

## 19 Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site

The modest white frame house at this site is where the 34th U.S. president and WWII commander, Dwight David "Ike" Eisenhower, was born in 1890. Period furnishings illustrate the family's working-class life in the town of Denison, once a hub for the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad.



609 South Lamar Ave., Denison, TX 75021  
903.465.8908 • [www.visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com](http://www.visiteisenhowerbirthplace.com)

## 20 Acton State Historic Site

The gravesite of Elizabeth Crockett, the second wife of celebrated folk hero Davy Crockett, is marked by a 1911 monument to Crockett's widow, who died in 1860. The site is within Acton Cemetery.

FM 167, Acton, TX 76049  
512.463.7948  
[www.visitactontx.com](http://www.visitactontx.com)



Historic Sites Division  
Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711  
512.463.7948  
historic-sites@thc.state.tx.us

## Preserve for the Future

While touring these historic sites, help the Texas Historical Commission preserve the past. Please be mindful of fragile historic artifacts and respectful of historic structures. We want to ensure their preservation for the enjoyment of future generations.

## Join Us

Support the preservation of these special places. Consider making a donation to support ongoing preservation and education efforts at our sites at [www.thcfriends.org](http://www.thcfriends.org).

**Plan your next trip at [www.texas-historicsites.com](http://www.texas-historicsites.com) and [texas-timetravel.com](http://texas-timetravel.com)**



**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
*real places telling real stories*

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[www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us)