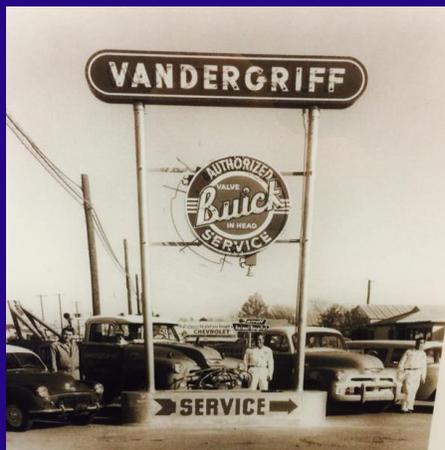
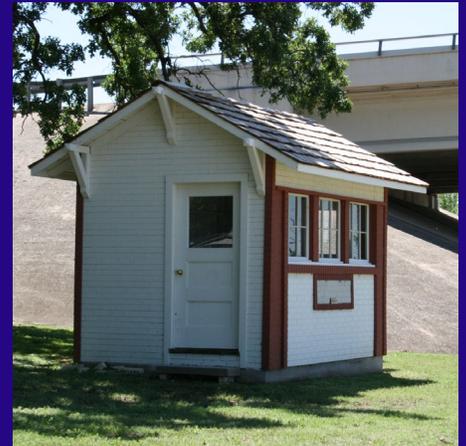
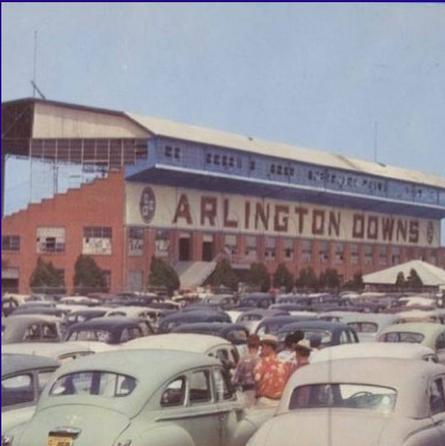


LANDMARK PRESERVATION COMMISSION



2017 ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chair	3
2017 Commission Activities	4
Landmark Arlington - Local Marker Program	5
George Anderson Coke, Jr. Pearl Harbor Sailor Comes Home	6
Certificates of Demolition	7
Dangerous Structures	7
Arlington Heritage Cemetery Project	7
2018 Work Plan	8

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Landmark Preservation Commission is pleased to present our 2017 annual report to the Mayor and City Council. Our nine dedicated Commissioners worked diligently to preserve our city’s historic landmarks and educate our citizens about the significance of these sites.

Arlington historic resources continue to decline in number every year. Our city will continue to grow and develop. Our goals to preserve and share our history with visitors and residents of our community may sustain our past identity and sense of place, as we move to the future. Hopefully, the Commissioner’s efforts will continue to keep our city’s historic soul alive for future generations.

This report will highlight the Commission’s efforts to mark history using our local marker program. We are continuing to expand our efforts, at the request of City Council, to aid in the education of citizens and visitors of the historic sites in the city. This past year our citizens have shown us quality examples of the value of preservation and adaptive reuse.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as Chairperson for LPC and thank you for giving our Commissioners the opportunity to serve Arlington by helping to oversee and preserve our historic resources and history.

LANDMARK PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Michelle Canton, Chair

“There may have been a time when preservation was about saving an old building here or there, but those days are gone. Preservation is in the business of saving communities and the values they embody”

- Richard Moe, National Trust for Historic Preservation

On the front cover (clockwise from top left): Marrow Bone Spring | Sign from Candlelite Inn, 1202 E. Division Street | Toll booth from the Turnpike, now Interstate 30 (ca. 1956) | Interurban Wait Station, reconstructed on the Fielder House property, 1616 W. Abram Street | Gated Entrance to Arlington Baptist College - once Top O’Hill Terrace | Vandergriff Buick sign (date unknown) | Sandstone chimney on the Jopling/Melear cabin located in Knapp Heritage Park, 201 W. Front Street | Arlington Downs grandstand (date unknown).

2017 COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING

As a member of the Certified Local Government program, annual reports must be provided to the Texas Historical Commission and National Park Service. Reporting was completed to both organizations in December 2017. The City also successfully completed the 2017 4-year Review with Texas Historical Commission staff.

COMMISSIONERS

During 2017, the following citizens served as members of the Landmark Preservation Commission.

Place 1	LeJuene Montgomery (appointed July 2016)
Place 2	Lisa Allen (appointed July 2016)
Place 3	Roxanne Thalman (appointed July 2015) Geoff Scheid (appointed September 2017)
Place 4	Dorothy Rencurrel (reappointed July 2017)
Place 5	Geraldine Mills (reappointed July 2017)
Place 6	Barbara Reber (reappointed June 2016)
Place 7	Cheryl Donaldson (reappointed August 2016)
Place 8	Michelle Canton, Chair (reappointed July 2017)
Place 9	Valerie Galloway (reappointed July 2017)

CITY STAFF LIAISONS

Senior Planner Sarah Stubblefield, AICP continued to serve as staff support and Historic Preservation Officer in 2017.

Estela Bush, Administrative Assistant replaced Chelsea Nelson as the secretary to the Commission.



Left: 2017-2018 Landmark Preservation Commission
 Back Row (L to R): Lisa Allen, Valerie Galloway, Cheryl Donaldson, Geraldine Mills, Barbara Reber
 Front Row (L to R): Dorothy Rencurrel, Michelle Canton, Chair
 Not pictured: Helena "Le Juene" Montgomery, Geoff Scheid

NEWS AND EVENTS

The following were published in 2016 edition of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*:

- "Arlington's casino landmark Top O'Hill in danger of falling" (*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, 1/28)
- "At long last, Arlington sailor who died at Pearl Harbor is coming home" (*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, 6/18)
- "It's 'a very important piece of history' for DFW. What the owner plans to do with it" (*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, 10/16)
- "Western-themed event saluted Hollywood actor Morgan Woodward in Arlington" (*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, 11/2)

The following articles were published online by the City of Arlington (www.arlingtontx.gov/news):

- "Arlington Historical Society Raising \$60,000 to Restore City's Oldest Cemetery" (3/6)
- "Artifacts from Interurban Line Unearthed During Downtown Construction" (5/4)
- "Arlington will Relocate Two Time Capsules Set to be Opened 2076" (8/30)
- "Arlington Historical Society Will Honor Morgan Woodward at November Fundraiser" (10/7)
- "Honoring a Sailor Killed at Pearl Harbor: Arlington's George Coke, Jr." (12/7)



Above: Wheel from the Interurban Line discovered at Center and W Abram Street during downtown construction

ARLINGTON LANDMARKS - LOCAL MARKER PROGRAM

The local marker program recognizes buildings, sites, and areas that have historical, architectural, or cultural significance to Arlington. The program was established in 2009, and continues to grow. Landmarks are identified with metal medallions or descriptive plaques on the property. Funding for the program has come from Arlington Tomorrow Foundation grants, for fabrication and installation of the markers. There are currently 29 designated local landmarks, including two historic districts - Old Town and South Center Street. Two new markers were approved in 2017 - the Berry/Thompson Home at 314 N. Pecan Street & the Dickerson Family Home at 400 N. Pecan Street, both located within the Old Town Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places.



BERRY/THOMPSON HOUSE (314 N. PECAN STREET) The Berry/Thompson Home at 314 N. Pecan Street was home to two of Arlington's prominent citizens. Originally owned by Charles B. ("C.B.") Berry, the Bungalow Cottage home in the Original Town Boundaries was completed in 1905. C.B. Berry served on the Arlington Independent School District until his death in 1937, and in 1954 AISD named Berry Elementary in his honor. Mike D. Thompson purchased the home from the Berry family after C.B.'s death and was hired as the city's first paid Fire Chief in 1948. Fire Station #1 is named in his honor.

DICKERSON FAMILY HOME (400 N. PECAN STREET) The Dickerson Family Home located at 400 N. Pecan Street was built in 1917 by local builder R.E. Smith. Martin Luther Dickerson was a cotton broker in Arlington and moved into the home with his family in 1918. The house is in the American Bungalow architectural style that is characteristic of Old Town Arlington, featuring a wide-hipped roofline and a long front porch. This historic home is still owned by the Dickerson Family.



GEORGE A. COKE, JR., PEARL HARBOR SAILOR COMES HOME

A public memorial service for Seaman First Class George Anderson Coke, Jr., an Arlington sailor killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor, was held on June 24, 2017 at First United Methodist Church. George Coke, Jr. was buried with military honors at Parkdale Cemetery in Arlington following the 1 p.m. funeral service where hundreds of residents attended the event to pay their respects to the sailor, who was 18 at the time of his death.

Mr. Coke, born on Aug. 6, 1923, joined the U.S. Navy in January 1941 during his senior year at Arlington High School. He was among 429 servicemen killed on Dec. 7, 1941, when the USS Oklahoma capsized after being hit by Japanese torpedoes during the attack on Pearl Harbor. His recovered remains, along with other unidentified fallen U.S. personnel, have been interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu for decades. But thanks to DNA technology available today, Mr. Coke is among many of the Pearl Harbor casualties who have recently been positively identified by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and brought home.

Family members say they were overwhelmed by the news that Mr. Coke had been identified in late 2016 and would return to his final resting place in Arlington after so many years of being declared Missing in Action.

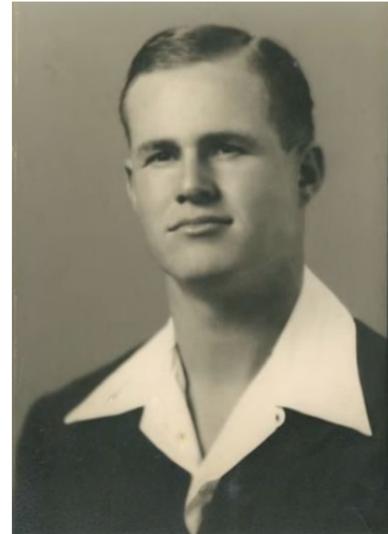
A few years ago, a family member was asked to submit a DNA sample to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. Around Christmas last year, Milton Coke of Georgia said he received the surprising call that his uncle had been identified. Since then, the family has worked with the Arlington Historical Society and others in the community to arrange the homecoming that has been years in the making.

At least 48 Arlington men lost their lives during World War II, according to the Arlington Historical Society. Mr. Coke is the only one known to have died on the USS Oklahoma. The city's population at that time was only around 5,000, said Wanda Marshall, treasurer and researcher for the Arlington Historical Society.

Donald Maner is one of the few living people who knew George Coke personally. Maner, who graduated from Arlington High School a year before Mr. Coke did, described the former classmate and football player as an "all-American boy." "It's nice that the present citizens of Arlington know what this little community gave to the war effort," Maner said. "They should be honored."

"I don't believe that any family wants a member who is missing, without some sort of closure," said Arlington resident Sherry Dorn, who is Mr. Coke's second cousin. "A lot of my family members are buried out in Parkdale, and I would like for the whole family to be together."

Mr. Coke was buried at Parkdale near his parents, George A. "Dutch" Coke, Sr. and Julina Jane Tomlin Coke. Family members say Mr. Coke's mother always hoped her missing son would return home. On the 76th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 2017, MyArlingtonTV released a moving mini documentary which honors one of Arlington's own and looks back on an emotional homecoming for the Coke family and friends.



CERTIFICATES OF DEMOLITION

The Arlington Unified Development Code requires LPC review of demolition permit applications for all structures at least 50 years of age, whose age is unknown, or those with historical designations. Community Development and Planning staff provide historic review and property history as well as exterior photos for the Commission's review.

Address	Const. Date	Appl. Date	Contributing
108 Hosack Street	1910	3/9/2017	LOW
110 Hosack Street	1905	3/9/2017	MEDIUM
1440 Bennett Drive (garage)	unknown	5/11/17	LOW
200 E. Abram Street	1962	6/8/2017	--
212 E. Abram Street	1952	6/8/2017	--
319 S. Mesquite Street	1963-68	6/8/2017	--
7100 Calender Road	1964	10/12/2017	--
5507 Matlock Road	1965	12/14/2017	--

All of the properties listed in the table were reviewed by the Commission at a public hearing. Date of construction is listed according to Tarrant Appraisal District records. The 2007 Historic Resources Survey is used by City staff and the Commissioners to determine if the property is an historically-contributing structure to Arlington.

The eight applications received in 2017 were all released by the Commission, and are listed in the table below. The number of applications decreased slightly in 2017 - there were 10 permits reviewed in 2016, and 10 permits in 2015.

DANGEROUS/SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES

Address	LPC Date
2000 Skylark Drive	1/12/2017
905 Moore Terrace	2/9/2017
210 Ditto Avenue	2/9/2017
1921 Brookeshire Street	4/13/2017
1308 Darlene Lane	4/13/2017
1916 Meadow Lane	5/11/2017
802 Truman Street	5/11/2017
610 Sanford Street	6/8/2017
305 E. Mitchell Street	11/9/2017

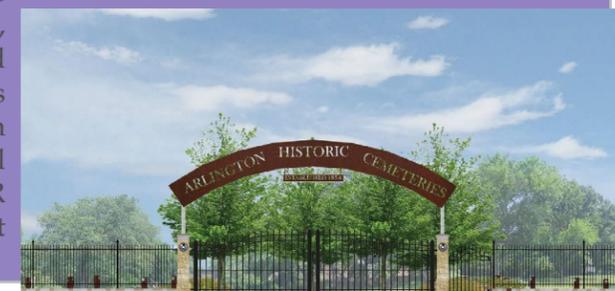
The Dangerous and Substandard Structures (DSS) team investigates dangerous buildings, the conditions of which endanger the life, health, property, or safety of the public. On occasion the Commission must review the cases being worked by the DSS team due to the potential demolition of the structure.

The properties listed here were reviewed and released to the City of Arlington for appropriate action. Commissioners assisted with applications by visiting sites and preparing notes for discussion at meetings. DSS team officers provided case information related to review of dangerous structures.

The Commission turned over nine properties listed in the table to the left for appropriate action by the DSS team. This number was down significantly from previous years - there were 17 cases reviewed in 2016, and 12 cases in 2015.

ARLINGTON HERITAGE CEMETERIES FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

In 2017, the Arlington Historical Society, owner of the Heritage Cemeteries on Arkansas Lane began raising funds to repair, replace, and refurbish three combined cemeteries tucked behind a convenience store near the intersection of Center Street. The capital campaign would complete ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to identify any unmarked graves, a new wrought iron fence and entryway, headstone cleaning and repair, and an interactive tour for visitors. With community partners including the City of Arlington and the Lucretia Council Cochran Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, among several individual donors, the Arlington Historical Society complete the GPR assessment in 2017, and is excited to continue this project, and protect this valuable historic resource in 2018.



2018 WORK PLAN

The Work Plan outlined below provides a description of the major items the Landmark Preservation Commission proposes to address in 2018. Some of the items come from the Preservation Plan adopted in 2010; other items are continued from the previous year's program. They are intended to implement the City Council priority to "Champion Great Neighborhoods", as well as sustaining core services related to culture, recreation, and education.

Local Marker Program. Continue to market and implement the local marker program. Nominate additional properties as Arlington landmarks. Organize dedication ceremonies for approved landmarks.

Priority Historic Resources. Continue to monitor critical historic resources in Arlington. Continue to conduct special outreach to owners of all properties rated as "high priority" in the Historic Resources Survey and encourage them to apply for designation as an Arlington landmark.

Outreach. Increase awareness of Arlington landmark preservation efforts with local, state, and national preservation organizations. Consider the installation of sign toppers to highlight historical areas of the City. Continue to update the Landmark Preservation Commission pages on the City website.

Incentives. Propose an incentive program for consideration by the City Council. Such a program could help lay the foundation for and sustain a program that promotes quality preservation in the community. Areas of study include tax incentives for historic properties. Promote existing state and federal tax credit program for historic properties.

LP Overlay. Evaluate the existing Landmark Preservation Overlay zoning district. Study opportunities for including additional properties, buildings, and historic sites, as well as coordinating with potential incentives. Recommend appropriate changes to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Tourism. Study the possibility of a walking tour of local landmarks and a smartphone application dedicated to Arlington's history. Create an interactive map of all local marker sites to add to the City website.

Training. Continue to seek opportunities for training related to preservation. Provide refresher course on ethics and open meetings.

Commission. As positions become available, actively recruit LPC members with general preservation experience and knowledge. Improve communications with the City in order to assist the LPC in effectively fulfilling its role.

Staff support. Keep Commissioners informed about community preservation events and initiatives. Continue staff functions, including:

- Assist with case reports for demolition permits that are referred to the Commission by the Community Development and Planning Department.
- Review applicable zoning cases for their potential effect on historic properties and forward their findings to the Commission.
- Prepare annual Certified Local Government and other grant applications on behalf of the Commission.
- Network and coordinate with the private sector, the community, and other City departments on preservation issues and efforts.

