



STATE HISTORIC SITES

The Historic Sites Division is responsible for operating the agency's 38 historic properties throughout the state. These sites tell the real stories of Texas history in authentic settings. Staff provide expertise in architecture, archeology, collection management, and interpretation.

THC STATE HISTORIC SITES

ACTON • ACTON, HOOD COUNTY Located in Acton Cemetery, the site marks the final resting place of Elizabeth Patton Crockett, second wife of Davy Crockett.

BUSH FAMILY HOME • MIDLAND, MIDLAND COUNTY This historic home of one of America's great families celebrates the lives of two presidents, two governors, and a first lady.

CADDO MOUNDS • ALTO, CHEROKEE COUNTY This site was a village for Caddo Indians who lived in the region for 500 years beginning circa A.D. 800. It includes earthen ceremonial and burial mounds, Caddo houses, and an interpretive trail.

CASA NAVARRO • SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY 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 The site, featuring an 1893 dance pavilion, a Civil War-era cannon, and the scenic Navasota River, commemorates where Civil War veterans gathered to remember their war-time experiences.

EISENHOWER BIRTHPLACE • DENISON, GRAYSON COUNTY Located in the heart of Denison, the site preserves the first home of 34th U.S. president Dwight D. Eisenhower.

FANNIN BATTLEGROUND • FANNIN, GOLIAD COUNTY The site memorializes the brave soldiers who fought the Battle of Coleto Creek in 1836 during the Texas Revolution.

FANTHORP INN • ANDERSON, GRIMES COUNTY Built in 1834 by English immigrant Henry Fanthorp, this restored stagecoach stop and inn provides visitors a realistic look into travelers' experiences in the 1850s.

FORT GRIFFIN • ALBANY, SHACKELFORD COUNTY Built by the U.S. Army, Fort Griffin served as one in a line of western defensive forts from 1867 to 1881. The site includes remnants of historic structures, a visitor center with exhibits, a campground, and the official Texas Longhorn Herd.

FORT LANCASTER • SHEFFIELD, CROCKETT COUNTY 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 visitor center with exhibits, and walking trails.

FORT MCKAVETT • FORT MCKAVETT, MENARD COUNTY 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.

FRENCH LEGATION • AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY The French Legation is a historic house built in 1841 for France's representative to Texas. The site features a visitor center, grounds, and kitchen.

FULTON MANSION • ROCKPORT, ARANSAS COUNTY Located in Rockport on Aransas Bay, the elegant 1877 historic home is one of the state's best surviving examples of grand Victorian tech innovations.

CHARLES AND MARY ANN GOODNIGHT RANCH • GOODNIGHT, ARMSTRONG COUNTY In 1887, Goodnight established the Goodnight-Thayer Cattle Company and built a spacious Victorian-style two-story ranch house for his family and farm.

IWO JIMA MONUMENT AND MUSEUM • HARLINGEN, CAMERON COUNTY On the campus of the Marine Military Academy, a new visitor center will tell the story of the famous World War II battle and national monument.

KREISCHE BREWERY • LA GRANGE, FAYETTE COUNTY In 1849, master stonemason and German immigrant, Heinrich Kreische built his home and one of the first commercial breweries in Texas.

LANDMARK INN • CASTROVILLE, MEDINA COUNTY The 1850s inn provides quaint and comfortable historic lodging on the Medina River in the Alsatian community of Castroville.

LEVI JORDAN PLANTATION • BRAZORIA, BRAZORIA COUNTY The site includes an antebellum plantation house and significant archeological remains.

LIPANTITLAN • MATHIS, SAN PATRICIO COUNTY Named after the Lipan Apaches that camped nearby, this historic site played a role in the Texas independence story.

MAGOFFIN HOME • EL PASO, EL PASO COUNTY This site explores a multicultural border family's experience with American expansion, West Texas settlement, the Civil War, and U.S.-Mexico relations.

MISSION DOLORES • SAN AUGUSTINE, SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY The site of a 1721 Spanish mission, visitors can explore a history museum, campgrounds, RV park, picnic area, and group pavilions.

MONUMENT HILL • LA GRANGE, FAYETTE COUNTY The monument marks the tomb of the men that died during the Dawson Massacre of September 1842 and the ill-fated Mier expedition of November 1842, also known as the “Black Bean Incident.”

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR • FREDERICKSBURG, GILLESPIE COUNTY A Smithsonian Affiliate, this museum is the only institution in the continental U.S. dedicated to telling the story of the Pacific Theater battles of World War II.

OLD SOCORRO MISSION • SOCORRO, EL PASO COUNTY The Old Socorro Mission site was a Franciscan mission, founded in 1682 to serve Spanish families and Native American communities.

PALMITO RANCH BATTLEFIELD • BROWNSVILLE, CAMERON COUNTY The Battle of Palmito Ranch was the final land battle of the American Civil War and was fought May 12–13, 1865, more than a month after Gen. Robert E. Lee’s surrender.

PORT ISABEL LIGHTHOUSE • PORT ISABEL, CAMERON COUNTY The only Texas lighthouse that is open to the public, this historic structure was built in 1852. Tour the exhibits in the visitor center and reconstructed lighthouse keeper’s cottage, then climb the tower and enjoy beautiful coastal views.

PRESIDIO LA BAHÍA • GOLIAD, GOLIAD COUNTY Captured by Mexican general José de Urrea, it was the site of the notorious Goliad Massacre, on March 27, 1836.

SABINE PASS BATTLEGROUND • SABINE PASS, JEFFERSON COUNTY This site tells the story of Confederate Lt. Richard “Dick” Dowling and the 46 men who thwarted an attempted Union attack on Sabine Pass, a port vital to the war effort.

SAM BELL MAXEY HOUSE • PARIS, LAMAR COUNTY This 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 • BONHAM, FANNIN COUNTY This was 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 The site preserves the location where Stephen F. Austin, the “Father of Texas,” established his colony in 1823. The site includes a 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art visitor center, museum, and historic townsite exhibit.

SAN JACINTO BATTLEGROUND • LA PORTE, HARRIS COUNTY The decisive Battle of San Jacinto resulted in Texas’ independence from Mexico in 1836. This 1,200-acre park includes the towering San Jacinto Monument and the San Jacinto Museum of History.

STARR FAMILY HOME • MARSHALL, HARRISON COUNTY This site reflects the 150-year history of the noted Starr family in Texas.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN MEMORIAL • WEST COLUMBIA, BRAZORIA COUNTY This site is the location of the home of George B. McKinstry, where Stephen F. Austin died on December 27, 1836.

VARNER-HOGG PLANTATION • WEST COLUMBIA, BRAZORIA COUNTY Settled in 1824 by one of Texas’ first colonizers, the site was later acquired in the late 19th century by Texas Gov. James Hogg.

WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS COMPLEX

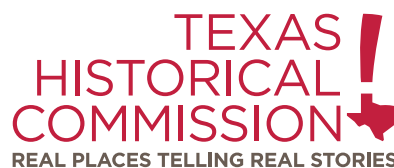
BARRINGTON PLANTATION • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY The living history farm of Dr. Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas. This site is complete with costumed interpreters using 19th-century farming practices.

STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY This is the only museum created by the Legislature for the purpose of interpreting the Republic period of Texas history.

WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS • WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON COUNTY The Texas Declaration of Independence was signed here on March 2, 1836. The site contains a reconstruction of Independence Hall.

HOW TO REACH US

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