

Historic Sites Committee

July 20, 2023



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AGENDA
HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE

Saint George Hall
113 E. El Paso
Marfa, TX 79843
July 20, 2023
12:15 p.m.

(or upon the adjournment of the 11:15 a.m. Community Heritage Development Committee meeting, whichever occurs later)

This meeting of the THC Historic Sites Committee has been properly posted with the Secretary of State's Office according to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code. The members may discuss and/or take action on any of the items listed in the agenda.

1. **Call to Order**
 - A. Committee member introductions
 - B. Establish quorum
 - C. Recognize and/or excuse absences
2. **Consider approval of the April 27, 2023, Historic Sites Committee meeting minutes**
3. **Consider approval of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement, 2-year option – (Item 12.2)**
4. **Consider acceptance of the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association Collections Report as part of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement – (Item 12.3)**
5. **Consider approval of the Phase III Assessment of the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site as a State Historic Site – (Item 12.4)**
6. **Consider approval to accept the transfer of items from the George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc. – (Item 12.5)**
7. **Consider approval to accept the donation of a painting for the Star of the Republic Museum – (Item 12.6)**
8. **Consider approval to sell by auction previously deaccessioned items from the Governor's Mansion and other State Historic Sites – (Item 12.7)**
9. **Consider Approval of Updated Donor Naming Opportunities for the Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS Capital Campaign – (Item 12.8)**
10. **Historic Sites Facilities Report**
11. **Longhorn Herd Report**
12. **Star of the Republic Museum Exhibit Update**
13. **San Jacinto Cultural Landscape Update**
14. **Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites Update**
15. **Adjournment**

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille, are requested to contact Paige Neumann at (512) 463-5768 at least four (4) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Embassy Suites Austin Central

Agave A-B

5901 N. Interstate Hwy 35

Austin, TX 78723

April 27, 2023

*Note: For the full text of action items, please contact the Texas Historical Commission at P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711 or call 512.463.6100. * All agenda items were discussed, although not necessarily in the order presented below.*

Commissioners in attendance: John Crain, Chair, Earl Broussard, Monica Zárate Burdette, David Gravelle, Laurie Limbacher, and Pete Peterson.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Crain at 2:08 pm on April 27, 2023. The meeting had been posted to the *Texas Register*, was being held in conformance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, and that notice had been properly posted with the Secretary of State's Office as required.

A. Committee member introductions

Chairman Crain welcomed all present and conducted roll call.

B. Establish quorum

Chairman Crain reported that a quorum was present and declared the meeting open.

C. Recognize and/or excuse absences

Absences: Commissioner Jim Bruseth was absent. Commissioner Pete Peterson moved to excuse the absence. The motion was seconded by Commissioner David Gravelle. Chairman Crain called for a vote. The vote to approve was unanimous.

2. Consider approval of the January 31, 2023, Historic Sites Committee meeting minutes

Chairman Crain asked if anyone had any comments regarding the minutes. There being none, he called for a motion. Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the January 31, 2023, minutes and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Gravelle. Chairman Crain called for a vote. The vote to approve was unanimous.

3. Consider approval of the deaccessioning of objects from the Fulton Mansion, Varner-Hogg Plantation, and Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Sites – (Item 13.2)

Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites Joseph Bell said that three sites have put 11 items up for deaccession, one from Fulton Mansion, nine from Varner-Hogg Plantation, and one from Washington-on-the-Brazos. He said that these items were deteriorated beyond usefulness and staff were recommending approval to deaccession. There was a question about disposition of the items if they were approved for deaccession. Bell noted the items were reviewed for possible sale at auction as provided by statute. He also noted that some items would be donated to schools and other nonprofit organizations as learning props. Commissioner Peterson moved that the committee send forward to the full commission and recommend approval to the deaccession of objects from the Fulton Mansion, Varner-Hogg Plantation, and Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Sites and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Laurie Limbacher. Chairman Crain called for a vote. The vote to approve was unanimous.

4. Consider approval of the Historic Sites Fee Overview and Increase– (Item 13.3)

Bell explained that the fee changes highlighted on the motion page back up were to align fees for like sites in the adult, children, and senior categories. Bell noted that the Bush Family Home and Presidio La Bahía are being added as they were the newest sites. He said that for several sites this change would bring the family rates to \$22. He also noted that Washington-on-the-Brazos would not be instituting any new fee changes as they are about to close or have reduced visitor capacity due to the preservation project. He stated that at the National Museum of the Pacific War and San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association boards approved fee increases as shown. He said that staff have reviewed and recommend approval. Commissioner Limbacher moved that the committee send forward to the full commission and recommend approval of the Historic Sites Fees Structure and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Chairman Crain called for a vote. The vote to approve was unanimous.

5. Consider approval of Donor Naming Opportunities for the Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS Capital Campaign– (Item 13.4)

Bell introduced Anjali Zutshi, Executive Director of the Friends of THC to provide an update on the capital campaign. Zutshi said that the Friends of THC were acting as a supporter to the Washington on the Brazos Foundation in the capital campaign. She said that the areas where donor recognitions will be placed were the visitor center, Star of the Republic Museum, the Conference and Learning Center, and the Townsite. Zutshi noted that the foundation will pull pieces from the list and present the specific level of gift as they meet with potential donors. Chairman Crain called for a motion. Commissioner Limbacher moved that the committee send forward to the full commission and recommend approval of the Donor Naming Opportunities Plan and authorize the Washington on the Brazos Foundation to use the plan for the Capital Campaign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Chairman Crain called for a vote. The vote to approve was unanimous.

6. Historic Sites Facilities Report

Bell introduced Glenn Reed, Chief Architect, to provide the facilities update. Reed stated that the graph being shown on the screen detailed the progress of major architectural projects for this biennium from planning through construction. He noted that the orange portion indicated progress since the last commission meeting. He described the images being shown as phase 1 and phase 2 of the Caddo Cultural Center project and that the construction of the phase 1 building as shown on the left was nearly complete. He noted that the phase 2 building on the right was at the schematic design stage and was on hold until funding becomes available to resume work. Reed stated that the large earthen berms around the building have been planted with grasses that would grow to a height of two to three feet and soften the appearance of the building. He said that the next image was from the mound trail showing the large expanse of glass looking out onto the site and admitting natural light into the exhibit gallery.

Reed said that the seawall and sidewalk repairs at Sabine Pass Battleground were now complete. He said it was among the least photogenic of all the sites but was now structurally sound, safe, and accessible.

At Fanthorp Inn, Reed noted that staff had selected a contractor for the exterior preservation project. Construction would begin in June and should take about nine months to complete.

At Washington-on-the-Brazos, several projects were moving forward concurrently. Reed stated that for the new site entrance, TXDOT held the pre-construction conference on April 19. Construction was expected to begin in early May and last about six months. He said that the major renovations project to the four primary buildings shown here were still in the design phase, but work has begun on several smaller projects including renovations to the former Education Center. He said that this building was to be repurposed to serve as the headquarters for the site's interpretive staff. The main room would have storage closets around the perimeter to hold period clothing and other program supplies as well as a large worktable in the center for meetings

and special projects. He said that the building itself was being upgraded with a new HVAC system, lighting, and interior finishes.

Reed stated that the next slide showed the view down Ferry Street towards the Brazos River, with the replica Independence Hall on the right. He said that this entire area would become the new Townsite interpretive zone with a variety of new structures, signage, and landscaping noting that the investigative and design work was well underway.

At Varner-Hogg Plantation, Reed said that staff had selected a contractor for the foundation stabilization project. Work should begin in May and will take about a year to complete.

At Landmark Inn, Reed said that the dam repair project would be posted for bids in May.

In conclusion, Reed said that at San Felipe de Austin, the maintenance, archeology, and retail complex project was posted for bids and responses were due on May 16. There was a strong attendance at the pre-proposal conference, so staff were hoping to receive numerous submittals.

7. Community Engagement Report

Bell invited Angela Reed, Community Engagement Program Coordinator, to provide an update on the status of the program. Reed said the bulk of the Community Engagement program is centered around friends groups and supporting nonprofit organizations that support our historic sites through their fundraising, volunteer, and advocacy efforts. She said that her role was to help them organize new friends groups, to help operating nonprofits transition to a supporting nonprofit, and serve as a resource for governance and partnership best practices.

Reed stated that she was in conversations with potential friends groups at the Goodnight Ranch and the French Legation. She said that the process starts with the site staff identifying individuals who were interested in forming a friends group, and then meetings with site staff and those group members to orient them to their options in forming a nonprofit either as independent 501c3s or as a fiscally sponsored group under the Friends of the THC's nonprofit umbrella. She stated that they were also advised as to the sites' expectations for a friends group, the THC's expectations as an agency, and the THC's Memorandum of Agreement. Reed said that this usually takes two or three meetings, with lots of emails back-and-forth, before agreements were signed and the group was off to the races. She also noted that the same was true for those groups that were transitioning from an operating entity to a supporting nonprofit.

Reed said that ten memorandums of agreement were coming due December 31, 2023. She said that she was beginning discussions with board members to remind them about THC's expectations of a friends group and for them to recommit to what the site may need from the group.

Reed stated that the *First Friday News for Friends* newsletter continues. She said that the newsletter featured a historic site event, especially if the site's friends groups have been a part of it. Also featured were upcoming nonprofit training and webinars geared towards nonprofit groups. She said that she's added a quarterly segment in the newsletter where a friends group board member was randomly selected, interviewed, and their personal story with their friends group was featured.

Reed said that work continues with the Friends of the THC to provide development training to friends groups, noting that this year they were able to resume in-person development seminars and networking receptions to cultivate relationships between friends group members. She stated that virtual lunch-and-learn opportunities, one for site staff, and a separate one for friends group members were being organized. These

would provide an opportunity where folks can come together on a zoom call informally and talk with each other about friends group questions.

Reed explained that the Friends Alliance Awards program was also continuing in partnership with the Friends of the THC. She said that this awards program was meant to honor either a friends group or an individual volunteer for outstanding work done for the site. Reed stated that the awards for 2024 would be a little more competitive. She said that there would only be one award per year for a specific project that must be completed within two years. The recipient would receive a \$500 award to be given from the Friends of the THC to the site or the friends group on their behalf and they'll receive full registration to Real Places as well as a complimentary stay both nights of the conference.

Reed said that Historic Sites management had been considering some program additions to implement this year and next in the broader realm of community engagement. She said these programs would include support of our Interpretation Program to assist with community stakeholder meetings that were held as part of our Interpretive Master Plan process; to assist our sites in coordinating stakeholder meetings when there are advisory groups or focus groups for special projects and programs; and assist staff with the implementation of a more centralized, structured volunteer program for all of our sites.

Reed concluded noting that the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) contacted THC to ask if they could use this program's best practices for a guide to friends groups partnerships. The *History Organizations and Friends Groups--A Practical Guide for Success*, had been published and the THC's Historic Sites Community Engagement program was credited.

8. San Jacinto Update

Bell introduced Amy Rogers, Executive Director of the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association (SJ MBA) to provide an update. Rogers began by noting that Gallagher & Associates would be presenting a report to the full commission about the progress on the cultural landscape plan and that they would be sharing the visuals developed thus far showcasing what the improved site could look like. She discussed the slides being shown which detailed admission data.

Rogers noted that the San Jacinto Dinner brought in pledges nearing \$300,000. She also noted that between January and today that \$105,000 in grants and sponsorships were secured and \$33,000 was secured for the Fun Run which brought out over 400 runners.

Rogers stated that major repairs made to date include the elevator repair, sewer line replacement, chiller replacement, water/wastewater plant repairs, pump repairs, boiler repairs, and grounds improvements that included mowing, painting, picnic table replacement, and dead tree removal.

Rogers detailed a new special exhibit that opened at the museum on April 19. Titled *After the Battle of San Jacinto*, the exhibit shares the stories of men who marked history after the battle. She said that many San Jacinto veterans survived the battle and remained loyal to the Republic by remaining in the military and becoming politicians, while others established businesses. Rogers noted that the exhibit was divided into three sections: Immediately After the Battle, The Republic, and Life Under the Republic. Rogers explained that the first part of the exhibit traces what unfolded immediately after the Texians defeated the Mexican army. The second part traces the difficulties Presidents Sam Houston and Mirabeau B. Lamar faced, especially when establishing the Republic's southwestern border with Mexico. The third section showcases life under the Republic and explores the stories of women, men, Black settlers, and the Tejano communities. Among the featured women were Jane Harris, who returned to her home in Harrisburg, Texas, and Charlotte Baldwin Allen, who became known as the Mother of Houston.

Rogers then explained about the two-fold approach to the Archeology Master Plan. It will provide a comprehensive data review as well as provide management guidance and recommendations. The plan was designed to assist the THC and SJMBA in the management of the site's significant archaeological and historical resources. She stated that in preparing an archeological master plan for a site like San Jacinto, it was essential that staff understand what previous archeological investigations have been conducted, to look for gaps in the story and what needs to still be investigated, what those investigations have revealed about the site's archeological resources, and what those resources tell us about the site's history. She noted that a comprehensive archeological review had not been completed for the site since 2002.

Rogers said that the preliminary results from the comprehensive review affirm that the quality of previous archeological investigations had been good. She noted that staff would be refining project maps which took place before widespread use of digital mapping tools, identifying older surveys that relied on insufficient sampling or outdated technology, and to pinpoint those areas of the site that would most benefit from different forms of archaeological investigation. Rogers explained a geoarchaeological assessment of the site using up-to-date methods and data collection tools would be conducted to identify key battle locations through the archaeological record, and to initiate accurate identification, delineation, and assessment of select known archaeological resources to validate existing interpretations.

Rogers stated that establishment of archeological standards and best practices for the site would include new standards for fieldwork, documentation, and data management. She said that they would address the needs of the staff and best support consistency across future studies. She noted that this would come into play when staff begin to develop and interpret the Almonte Surrender Site.

Rogers said that San Jacinto staff won a Texas Association of Museums Media Innovation & Excellence Award in the category of Virtual Experiences. They were awarded the silver award for their app project titled "*Top 25 Things to do at San Jacinto*". She said that the site has over 1,300 acres and the museum was home to thousands of artifacts. This mobile tour provides a way for visitors to see what we consider the highlights of the site when faced with a limited amount of time to visit. The app was created all in house with both THC and SJMBA staff involved in the project.

Lastly, Rogers described the photos being shown of people at the site interacting in various ways. She said that whether through a visit to the museum and monument, a commemorative ceremony acknowledging pivotal moments in history, or a group of school kids participating in a hands-on living history demonstration, San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site continues to welcome guests out to create memories that will last a lifetime.

There was a question about Peggy's Lake and Vince's Bridge. Rogers explained that those sites were noted on the site map but were not owned by THC and were not easily accessible from the site. A question was asked about the Battleship Texas ship slip. Chairman Nau noted that it was part of the legislative appropriation for the agency. Finally, there was a question about exhibits and if the historical content was verified. Rogers explained that THC interpretive specialists and board members sign off on the content. If it was deemed necessary, a local historian could be contacted to review the exhibit content. Chairman Crain noted that the Texas State Library and Archives indicated the possibility of an artifact loan to San Jacinto.

9. National Museum of the Pacific War Update

Bell introduced Dr. David Shields, Museum Director at the National Museum of the Pacific War. Shields began by describing the images being shown. He detailed the children's exhibit, the Bush Gallery roof issues, and the upcoming Bush renovation project.

Shields provided details of the children's exhibit noting that many of the exhibit features were tactile and could be touched and felt. The exhibit opened in February with good visitation numbers and has been positively received by the community. He noted that the electronic and digital displays were working well and were as popular with children as the physical displays.

Regarding the Bush roof problems, Shields noted that the existing roof is 14½ years old and will be replaced after being damaged by hail on several separate occasions. He said the cost was upwards of \$350,000.

Shields noted that the Bush Gallery renovation was moving forward. He briefly described the slides of the gallery and provided insight into the new exhibit. He said that the relocation of two large artifacts to different locations, the construction of an immersive theatre, and the change in the presentation of Pearl Harbor and the minisub were just several of the major moving parts of this project. Shields noted they would be introducing digital characters from history that would describe and interpret the exhibits. He said that the current exhibits would be modernized by using immersive audio-visual experiences and having large media display spaces.

Shields said that the digitization of the collection had begun and that the oral histories were now part of the Portal of Texas History with the University of North Texas and have been popular with researchers.

10. Washington-on-the-Brazos Update

Bell introduced Jonathan Failor, Site Manager for Washington-on-the-Brazos, Star of the Republic Museum, Barrington Plantation, and Fanthorp Inn State Historic Sites. Failor said that Texas Independence Day was attended by over 6000 people. He wanted to highlight the month of March 2023 noting that visitation for this month was the fifth highest, and that the revenue was the highest ever during his eleven years at the site. He noted that this month did not include the major event of Texas Independence Day. He also noted that there were over 17,000 visitors, and revenue was nearly \$67,000. He attributes the successful month to the programs being offered every weekend and daily during spring break week.

Failor noted that for five years running he and the site staff participate in an offsite day of service. He said that staff spent one day in February at the Brazos Valley Food Bank which serves seven counties, including Washington County. While there, they assembled family meal boxes and more than 1000 healthy snack back packs for in-need youth. He noted that volunteers staff the site when they were gone for the day.

Regarding the construction project, Failor said that the interpreters office was under construction. That is the building that staff will house in during the other major parts of construction. He noted that the entry gate would begin in earnest during May. He also noted that geophysical investigations were underway at the Townsite location. Failor stated that there were several significant closing dates he wanted to mention. Those were July 1 for the closing of the conference center, September 1 for the closing of the Star of the Republic Museum, and October 1 for the closing of the visitor center. There was a question from the gallery asking if the picnic grounds and trails would be closed down during construction. Failor said that they would remain open and accessible.

11. T-Diamond Ranch Report

Bell then introduced Chris Elliott, Director of Historic Sites Operations, to provide the report on the search for a permanent home for the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd. He provided the criteria that were

established to guide the search for suitable properties. He went through the slides being shown and said that staff want to ensure the integrity of the herd for future generations and more possibilities for interpretation.

Elliott noted that the property currently under consideration was the T-Diamond Ranch. He briefly went through the costs associated with this property and described some of the features of the property that include stock tanks, native vegetation, over 5870 acres, nine pastures, ten traps, and three sets of pens.

12. Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites Update

Bell stated that he was assessing the Historic Sites operational review process noting that missions were being reviewed and updated as needed; staff were identifying interpretive master plan needs; determining what staff training needs are; and making sure that the work plan is aligned with Historic Sites business objectives. He said that he hopes to have a full report for the next quarterly meeting. There was some discussion regarding visitation, site exhibit content, retail offerings, and how the stories are presented. The concern was that interpretation is not consistent across the sites and that perhaps a policy is needed to clarify and define interpretive parameters.

Bell briefly went over the slides being shown to provide visitation and outreach detail. He noted that during the time frame shown that the number of historic sites had grown from 20 to 36 and that site closure due to renovation or construction affected the data. Bell introduced Inez Wolins, Assistant Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites, to provide further detail on visitation trends. Wolins described the information contained on the slide noting that festivals still bring in the most visitors. She noted that of those sites that do collect admission or make a sale from the museum store, several sites, by agreement, were providing that revenue to the supporting organization and THC does not collect the revenue from those sites. She provided details for both onsite programming and outreach. She said that she would be returning to subsequent meetings to expand on this topic and to provide more clarity into how THC is performing in the area of visitation and outreach activities.

Bell stated that at the Bush Family Home staff was working toward full operations, with staffing and budgeting operational, while identifying infrastructure needs. He noted that the two adjacent properties had been secured and wanted to thank Chairman John Nau for facilitating that transaction. He said that the next slide showed the invitation to the upcoming welcome ceremony, noting the change in date and that a new invitation would be forthcoming.

Bell said that at Fort Griffin the power line replacement is proceeding on a path that bypasses the fort and was rerouted through a neighboring property.

At Levi Jordan Plantation, Bell said that the slave cemetery is in the process of closing and that two other properties were being assessed for sale. Bell noted that the next meeting of the advisory committee is scheduled for June 6. This meeting staff and committee will review revised exhibits and story lines focused on local stories and a smaller scaled visitor center.

Proposed ONEOK development adjacent to the site. There was a very good meeting with Chairman Nau, Commissioner Garrett Donnelly, and Mark Wolfe. Look forward to working with the company. Bell noted that Cheniere donated \$250,000 toward site development.

Bell stated that the Caddo Exhibit contractor, Pacific Studio in Seattle, has filed for bankruptcy. The contract transferred to a new company (Dixon Studio in Tucson) under the same ownership group. Bell explained that there was a delay due to the value of transferred-in material and finished scope. Bell invited Anjali Zutshi to provide an update on the grant possibilities. Zutshi said that

Bell said that HS architecture and Magoffin Home staff were moving forward with a security assessment. He said that after a break in that resulted in four portraits being severely damaged, the assessment was deemed necessary. He described the slides showing two of the four vandalized paintings that have been restored.

At the Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch, Bell said that the property acquisition was on hold and described the slides being shown. He noted that one of the property owners, Mr. Jim Garland, had passed away. He said that once Mr. Garland's estate was settled staff would reach out to the family to resume discussions. He also noted that the house located on the property would be used as staff housing.

Bell said that at Mission Dolores, Friends Board President, Betty Oglesbee, has been working to get funding to erect a reconstruction of the mission complex. He said that staff were assessing the project and if funded, discussion of next steps would commence.

Bell concluded by noting that the Landmark Inn and Historic Sites architecture staff were working with the City of Castroville on a proposed reconstruction of the historic bridge that would provide pedestrian access to the town's visitor center.

13. Adjournment

At 4:16 pm, Chairman Crain asked for any other business to be brought before the committee. There being none, stated without objection that the Historic Sites Committee meeting was adjourned.

Quarterly Report

Historic Sites Division
April–June 2023

OPERATIONS

Visitation and outreach at the sites this quarter was 171,351, a 12.9 percent increase compared to this time last year.

The roof replacement at the National Museum of Pacific War is completed. Curatorial staff at the museum and Historic Sites are working with disaster relief company Belfor and the insurance company to address the water damage to the building from the roof failure, stabilize the museum environment, and collection restoration.

Historic Sites staff brainstormed program ideas that will be implemented this spring and summer. More than 13 sites created new programs ranging from Movies After Dark (Mission Dolores, French Legation, and Magoffin Home), an indigenous artist lecture series (Caddo Mounds), a Cornapalooza Festival (Casa Navarro), and Agriculture through History (Varner Hogg).

An updated Living History Safety Manual was prepared and distributed digitally to guide more than 33 annual living history events throughout the next 12 months.

More than 50 new retail products were developed to introduce this fall, including unique one-of-a-kind merchandise reflecting collection items, holiday ornaments, notecards, and t-shirts with historical quotes from multiple sites to enhance the visitor experience. During the same period, a reduction plan was implemented to move items from storage prior to migrating to a new Point-of-Sale system. Mother's Day and Father's Day discounts, giveaways, and promotions aimed at teachers will move more than 2,000 stock keeping units (SKUs).

Commissioners officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating the Bush Family Home in Midland.

Fundraising dinners organized by the support associations or foundations at San Jacinto Battlefield and Museum, National Museum of the Pacific War, and Washington-on-the-Brazos were hosted this spring with great success.

Gallagher and Associates continues to work closely with staff at Levi Jordan Plantation and Washington-on-the-Brazos. Meetings were held with staff and partners to review 100 percent concept designs for each site.

FRIENDS GROUPS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Program staff continue to meet with site staff and their friends group leadership as they coordinate annual plans, reports, and cooperative agreements.

Staff met with prospective friends group members for the French Legation and Goodnight Ranch. Both groups are in the process of reviewing the terms of the THC-MOA and Friends of the THC fiscal sponsor agreements in anticipation of organizing as fiscally sponsored friends group organizations.

Staff worked with the Friends of the THC to revise criteria for the Friends Alliance Awards. Recipients will be given \$500, admission to the Real Places conference, and a complimentary hotel stay.

The first virtual “lunch-and-learn friends group chats,” with site managers on one date and friends group board members on another, was launched to encourage conversation among site staff and friends groups.

Site managers participated in a webinar to learn about friends groups’ annual plan templates and approval processes. Approvals for annual plans were revised to include approvals from the appropriate director of historic site operations and the deputy executive director of historic sites or his designee.

Staff continues working with sites that are preparing for their interpretive master plan stakeholder meetings later this year and assisting the chair of the Levi Jordan Plantation advisory committee in coordinating information for their quarterly meetings.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Caddo Mounds: The Caddo Cultural Center Phase I project has reached substantial completion.

Eisenhower Birthplace: The Birthplace house porch preservation project has entered the construction phase.

Fanthorp Inn: The exterior preservation project for the inn to address window, roof, and siding deterioration has entered the construction phase.

Landmark Inn: Staff received construction bids for the Medina River dam preservation project.

Levi Jordan Plantation: The architectural design work for the museum and visitor center project is currently on hold pending commission review and confirmation of the project scope.

National Museum of the Pacific War: The roof replacement at the Bush Gallery is complete.

Varner-Hogg Plantation: The Plantation House stabilization project has entered the construction phase.

Washington-on-the-Brazos: This multi-faceted project has elements in both the design and construction phases.

INTERPRETATION

Washington-on-the-Brazos planning continues at a fast pace, with multiple segments of the project nearing the end of the schematic design phase.

Dixon Studios, having assumed the responsibility as the primary contractor on the project, continues to work with HSD staff and is in the process of printing graphics for exhibit panels. As we have reached the limit of both time and funding amendments on the project, a new RFP will soon be posted to cover the remainder of the fabrication and installation of the exhibit. Plans are to have it installed before the end of the calendar year.

A draft of the interpretive master plan for the Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch was received from History Behind the Scenes and is under review. Requests for Proposals were submitted for updated or new planning projects at Caddo Mounds, Casa Navarro, Port Isabel Lighthouse, Bush Family Home, Starr Family Home, and Varner-Hogg Plantation.

The French Legation site guidebook is currently in the queue at the printers.

The contract for the Presidio La Bahía Interpretive Master Plan has been awarded to Gallagher and Associates.

COLLECTIONS

The National Museum of the Pacific War roof failed in May, resulting in disastrous leaks throughout exhibit galleries and collections storage. Very few collection objects were harmed. Staff responded immediately and effectively, directing the triage and ongoing recovery process.

The fine arts collections insurance policy contract has been renewed with Huntington T. Block.

Collections intern Phoenix Orta, a master's degree candidate from Rice University, Department of Anthropology, joins the team for the summer. The grant cycle for Save America's Treasure Collections Services Grant for Mission Dolores is nearly complete and has yielded enhanced knowledge of historic activity at the mission and colonial trade networks in East Texas.

HISTORIC SITES - VISITATION / OUTREACH - FY2023

	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	TOTAL
Bush Family Home	150	153	193	240	208	132	378	314	476	0	0	0	2,244
Caddo Mounds	356	570	287	181	177	221	464	670	483	0	0	0	3,409
Casa Navarro	810	327	235	322	182	313	406	515	176	0	0	0	3,286
Confederate Reunion Grounds	64	354	31	51	47	759	194	228	100	0	0	0	1,828
Eisenhower Birthplace	887	1,376	1,272	925	547	598	1,038	1,153	969	0	0	0	8,765
Fannin Battleground	77	124	55	95	78	63	343	186	149	0	0	0	1,170
Fanthorp Inn	126	206	64	69	123	114	187	164	137	0	0	0	1,190
Fort Griffin	606	2,769	229	12,872	347	371	3,231	9,653	1,544	0	0	0	31,622
Fort Lancaster	103	907	143	2,361	123	133	278	197	391	0	0	0	4,636
Fort McKavett	598	1,407	1,281	1,677	255	204	1,481	557	730	0	0	0	8,190
French Legation	458	69	76	486	74	70	162	141	182	0	0	0	1,718
Fulton Mansion	1,386	2,371	653	1,007	924	734	2,101	911	1,312	0	0	0	11,399
Goodnight Ranch	331	362	257	163	208	184	324	296	409	0	0	0	2,534
Landmark Inn	408	609	507	0	220	650	476	489	608	0	0	0	3,967
Levi Jordan	31	109	54	0	67	80	101	88	127	0	0	0	657
Magoffin Home	301	2,316	236	660	362	2,121	584	615	544	0	0	0	7,739
Mission Dolores	70	291	223	282	230	237	308	244	306	0	0	0	2,191
Kreische Brewery/Monument Hill	1,042	1,587	751	4,097	1,063	1,388	1,602	1,549	2,272	0	0	0	15,351
Ntl Museum of the Pacific	9,349	15,823	15,080	16,616	12,672	27,329	38,046	14,094	24,014	0	0	0	173,023
Port Isabel Lighthouse	3,146	4,005	0	0	4,515	9,274	6,485	7,026	3,175	0	0	0	37,626
Presidio La Bahía	1,101	22	1,494	1,213	1,272	1,572	3,177	1,641	3,748	0	0	0	15,240
Sabine Pass Battleground	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sam Bell Maxey	112	289	118	67	91	180	155	318	202	0	0	0	1,532
Sam Rayburn House	408	272	81	215	112	70	233	200	731	0	0	0	2,322
San Felipe de Austin	371	1,164	695	545	795	1,128	776	1,317	1,314	0	0	0	8,105
San Jacinto Battleground	14,690	16,655	15,356	12,198	13,477	13,632	21,493	22,401	17,238	0	0	0	147,140
San Jacinto Monument	3,894	2,422	1,637	2,320	2,412	2,521	4,600	4,447	4,046	0	0	0	28,299
Starr Family Home	102	389	61	120	71	62	271	260	232	0	0	0	1,568
Varner-Hogg Plantation	251	272	366	437	167	335	505	846	166	0	0	0	3,345
Washington-on-the-Brazos Complex*	4,391	7,868	6,159	4,287	4,573	12,983	22,217	12,693	9,696	0	0	0	84,867
Monthly totals	45,619	65,088	47,594	63,506	45,392	77,458	111,616	83,213	75,477	0	0	0	614,963
Quarterly totals			158,301			186,356			270,306			0	

* The WOB Complex consists of Washington-on-the-Brazos, Star of the Republic Museum, Independence Hall, and Barrington Plantation.

**Historic Sites Division
Architectural Capital Project Status**

7/6/2023

PROJECT			DESIGN						CONSTRUCTION				
Site	Project	Budget (incl. design fees & construction)	Consultant selected	Design contract executed	Consultant	Schematic Design	Design Dev.	Const. Docs.	Bidding	Contractor selected	Contractor	Const. contract executed	Construction (% complete)
Caddo Mounds	Visitor Center - Phase 1	\$2,500,000	√	√	Richter Architects	√	√	√	√	√	Garrett & Associates	√	95%
Sabine Pass	Seawall Repairs	\$560,000	√	√	LJA Engineering	√	√	√	√	√	McInnis Construction, Inc.	√	100%
Varner-Hogg Plantation	Plantation House Stabilization and Exterior Preservation	\$624,000	√	√	WJE Engineering	√	√	√	√	√	Phoenix I	√	5%
Fanthorp Inn	Exterior Preservation	\$900,000	in house	N/A	HSD	√	√	√	√	√	Phoenix I	√	0%
Landmark Inn	Medina River Dam Repairs	\$750,000	√	√	Freese & Nichols	√	√	√	in progress				
San Felipe de Austin	Maintenance, Archeology, and Retail Support (MARS) Complex	\$1,500,000	√	in progress									
Magoffin Home	Adobe and Stucco Stabilization	\$4,144,000	in progress										
Levi Jordan Plantation	New Visitor Center		√	√	Richter Architects	√	ON HOLD						
Palmito Ranch Battlefield	Observation Platform	\$400,000	√	√	Chanin Engineering	√	√	√	ON HOLD				

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.2
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider approval of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement, 2-Year Option

Background:

The San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association has a 2-year option in the existing agreement that terminates August 31, 2023. The board voted at its June 22, 2023 special session to exercise its option for a renewal until August 31, 2025.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend approval of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement, 2-Year Option.

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to approve the San Jacinto Operating Agreement, 2-Year Option.

**SECOND AMENDMENT TO
SAN JACINTO OPERATING AGREEMENT**

THE SAN JACINTO MUSEUM AND BATTLEFIELD ASSOCIATION (previously known as the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, “the Association”), an association incorporated as a charitable corporation under the laws of the State of Texas, and the STATE OF TEXAS, acting by and through the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (“the Commission”) entered into the San Jacinto Operating Agreement (“2022 Operating Agreement”) effective as of March 1, 2022, relating to the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site (“Site”).

WHEREAS the Association and Commission have diligently worked toward meeting certain deadlines set forth in Articles IV and V of the 2022 Operating Agreement;

WHEREAS the Association and Commission desire to extend the term of the 2022 Operating Agreement for an additional two (2) year term as provided in Article II of the 2022 Operating Agreement:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises and covenants, and intending to be legally bound, the Commission and the Association hereby agree as follows:

1. The conceptual plan prepared by Gallagher and Associates satisfies the parties obligations to prepare a Cultural Landscape Plan under Article IV, Section 4.3, as amended, with each party retaining and not waiving its rights to seek future changes or modifications to such plan;
2. Article V, Section 5.5, has been satisfied with the completion of the inventory described therein; and
3. Article II, Section 2.1 is amended to provide that “This Operating Agreement shall continue until September 1, 2025”.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Commission and the Association agree to the terms herein by signing below effective the 26th day of June 2023.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE SAN JACINTO MUSEUM AND
BATTELFIELD ASSOCIATION

By: _____
Mark Wolfe, Executive Director

By:  _____
Mike Lamb, Chair

Dated: _____

Dated: June 26, 2023

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.3
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider acceptance of the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association Collections Report as part of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement

Background:

The *San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association Object and Library Collections Report* was completed and submitted on June 2, 2023, by museum and library staff to the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association in compliance with Article V of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement.

The San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association approved the report as drafted on June 22, 2023.

The collections report:

- Confirms the completion of a physical inventory, with overall condition assessments of all objects directly or indirectly associated with the Battle of San Jacinto;
- Develops criteria to identify a list of objects within the San Jacinto Museum Library directly and indirectly associated with the Battle of San Jacinto;
- Provides lists of objects directly and indirectly associated with the Battle of San Jacinto;
- Reports upon (and provides recommendations) regarding object and library collections storage and environmental needs of the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend acceptance of the *San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association Object and Library Collections Report* as part of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement.

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to accept the *San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association Object and Library Collections Report* as part of the San Jacinto Operating Agreement.

San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association

Object and Library Collections Report

June 5, 2023

Cecilia Abad, Curator
Lisa A. Struthers, Library Director

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- Appendix B: Inventory, Object Collections Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto
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- Appendix D: Links to Inventories, Library/Archival Collections
- Appendix E: San Jacinto Collection Management Policy – Objects
- Appendix F: San Jacinto Collection Management Policy – Library
- Appendix G: Draft “Agreed List”

Introduction

The San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association (“The Association” or “SJMBA”) and the Texas Historical Commission (“the Commission” or “THC”) signed a document titled “San Jacinto Operating Agreement” (“OA”) on February 24, 2022 and which is effective as of March 1, 2022. In accordance with this document, the following tasks related to the collections of the SJMBA were completed:

Article V Section 5.5. The Association with the assistance of the Commission’s curatorial staff, shall prepare within twelve months of the execution of this Agreement (a) a physical inventory, with overall condition assessments of all objects directly or indirectly associated with the Battle of San Jacinto, and (b) a physical inventory of all other objects in the Association’s Collection, together with a storage and environmental report meeting applicable professional standards. The Association will review its Collection policy and update such policy as it deems appropriate. The Association and Commission will jointly work to maintain and update the inventory as needed to insure against loss, damage, deterioration, and the conservation needs are met.

Article V, Section 5.6. The Commission and the Association will prepare the “agreed list” of items reference in Article 442.252 (g) of the Texas Government Code upon completion of the inventory described in paragraph 5.5.

The present document reports on the process of completing the tasks, provides the lists resulting from the inventories, and makes recommendations for further actions.

Collecting History of the Museum

The San Jacinto Museum of History was chartered in 1938, with the mandate “to revisualize the history of Texas and the region; instill and encourage historical inquiry; collect and preserve the materials of history and spread historical information; illustrate the chronological story of the region as determined from authoritative history by means of exhibits worthy of a museum of first rank; extend and diffuse knowledge of our history, and promote and perpetuate peace, friendship and sympathetic understanding between the people of Texas and the people of Mexico, Spain, France and the Latin-American Republics.”

From the beginning, George A. Hill, Jr., chairman of the board tasked to plan and organize a museum of history to be housed in the San Jacinto Monument, viewed the mission of the museum as a broad one. “I think the point can then well be made that the Museum of History at San Jacinto is not designed, and should not be designed, to commemorate the event of the Battle, but to teach the sound lessons to be learned from history, viz: Patriotism, the priceless benefits religious tolerance and individual freedom and mutual respect, tolerance and friendship among the nations of the earth.”

This broad approach to the purpose of a museum at San Jacinto is reflected in the breadth of collections gathered by purchase or from donors like Hill that reflect a regional history that acknowledges the permeability of the Mexico/Texas border in the early 19th century. Indeed, the

word “region” was broadly interpreted in the early years of the museum, reflected in the pre-Columbian artifacts from Central America and the American southwest, as well as collections based in the Hill Country of Texas and in Mexico City. The mission of the museum reflected the history of both sides of the Texas/Mexico border, and the purpose was a broad goal of education and understanding.

Although the collections of the SJMBA are managed under two groupings, the object collections and the library/archival collections are interrelated and support each other. Because many of the donors to the museum gave both types of items, there is interplay between the two, with the library often supporting the artifacts with research materials and contemporary publications, and artifacts mirroring the archival collections.

Collection Policies

As specified in the OA, the Association’s Object Collection Management Policy was reviewed and amended by the SJMBA’s Collections/Accessions Committee. The San Jacinto Collection Management Policy - Objects and the San Jacinto Collection Management Policy - Library were approved by the SJMBA board and signed by the Chair of the SJMBA board, Mike Lamb, and the Collections/Accessions Committee chair, Nancy Burch, on October 19, 2022. These policies are appended to this document as Appendices D and E.

The two policies include the following list of collecting priorities:

	Object Policy	Library/Archives Policy
First Priority	Battle of San Jacinto	Battle of San Jacinto
	San Jacinto Monument	San Jacinto Monument
	San Jacinto veterans	San Jacinto veterans
	Materials owned or created by San Jacinto veterans	Materials owned or created by San Jacinto veterans
	Texas Revolution in general	Texas Revolution in general
Second Priority	Acquisition of Texas by the United States	Acquisition of Texas by the United States
	Mexican War	Mexican War
	Mier Expedition	Mier Expedition
	San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site (name mandated by 77 th legislature)	San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site (name mandated by 77 th legislature)
	San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park (name until 2001)	San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park (name until 2001)
	San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association	San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association
	San Jacinto Museum of History	San Jacinto Museum of History
	Santa Fe Expedition	Santa Fe Expedition
	Texas centennial and other anniversaries - sesquicentennial, bicentennial, etc.	Texas centennial and other anniversaries - sesquicentennial, bicentennial, etc.
	Texas local history, especially Houston and historic Harris County	Texas local history, especially Houston and historic Harris County
	Texas Missions	
	Texas Navy	Texas Navy
	Texas Republic, general and specific subjects	Texas Republic, general and specific subjects
	Texas Revolution, specific subjects	Texas Revolution, specific subjects

	Texas under France	Texas under France
	Texas under Spain	Texas under Spain
	Texas under the Mexican Republic	Texas under the Mexican Republic
Third Priority		Battleship Texas
		Collection management
	Daughters of the Republic of Texas	Daughters of the Republic of Texas
	Descendants of San Jacinto veterans	Descendants of San Jacinto veterans
	History of the western United States	History of the western United States
		Library and archives management
		Materials that support collections research
	Mexico under Spain	Mexico under Spain
		Museum management
	Pre-Conquest Mexico	Pre-Conquest Mexico
	Religion in Texas	Religion in Texas
	Republic-era arts and sciences	Republic-era arts and sciences
	San Jacinto Descendants	San Jacinto Descendants
	Sons of the Republic of Texas	Sons of the Republic of Texas
		Texas bibliography
		Texas biography
		Texas folklore
	Texas in the Civil War	Texas in the Civil War
	Texas Indians	Texas Indians
Fourth Priority		Antiquarian book and auction catalogs
		Bibliography
		Historiography and historiology
		Museum collections - non-Texas institutions with similar holdings/missions
		Museum collections - other Texas institutions with similar holdings/missions
		Standard reference works - dictionaries, encyclopedias, etc.
	Texas art	Texas art
		Texas genealogy
	Texas history - post Civil War	Texas history - post Civil War
		Texas law
		Texas literature
		Texas natural science

The mission statement of the San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association is as follows:

The San Jacinto Museum and Battlefield Association is dedicated to the interpretation and commemoration of the Battle of San Jacinto, its participants, and the site's significant role in the creation of Texas as a new Republic. The Association strives to engage and educate the public and encourage historical inquiry; to collect, preserve, and share materials of historical and cultural significance of the region; to illustrate and tell the chronological story of Texas through educational programming and exhibits, and to promote archaeological and preservation initiatives at the site.

Defining Directly Associated and Indirectly Associated with the Battle of San Jacinto

For the purpose of creating inventory lists, defining the meaning of “directly associated with the Battle of San Jacinto” and “indirectly related with the Battle of San Jacinto” proved challenging. History is a series of causes and effects, and drawing the line between an indirect effect and a remotely related effect was difficult. A set of criteria that corresponded to the object collections did not necessarily correspond to the library and archival collections. After much discussion between the authors of this report, consultation with Laura De Normandie of THC, and feedback from San Jacinto Battleground site staff, the following determinations were made:

Directly Associated with the Battle of San Jacinto

- Artifacts found on the San Jacinto Battleground, from the 19th century.
- Items owned by San Jacinto veterans.
- Depictions of San Jacinto veterans.
- Biographies of San Jacinto veterans.
- Artifacts used during the San Jacinto Campaign.
- Items owned by the veteran’s wife, child, grandchild (depending on significance of item), or parent.
- Objects from the Texas Revolution.
- 19th century military objects from Mexico. (Research is needed to determine whether these artifacts are directly or indirectly related.)
- Photographs of items owned by San Jacinto veterans.
- Items memorializing the Battle of San Jacinto, including on the San Jacinto Battleground and the San Jacinto Memorial Monument.
- Artwork was categorized by subject and not by the historical significance of the artwork. Example: Artworks created in the 1980s with the subject being Sam Houston or a Texas Revolution scene were placed under Directly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto.

Indirectly Associated with the Battle of San Jacinto

- Objects from the period of the build up to the Texas Revolution, 1810 to 1835, including the colonization of Texas and the Mexican Revolution of 1810-1821.
- Objects from the period of the Texas Republic, 1836 to 1846.
- Items memorializing the Texas Revolution, including the Texas Veterans Association.
- Items from other wars in which San Jacinto Veterans fought: War of 1812, Mexican Revolution, U.S.-Mexican War, Pastry War, French intervention in Mexico, Civil War.
- Artifacts and books that explain how life was lived in 19th century Texas - cooking, games, music, crafts, medicine, tools - for research for public programs, and for illustrations for exhibits and outreach programs.
- Materials related to native peoples in Texas who interacted with the Texas Republic, or during the leadup to the Texas Revolution and the Texas Revolution.
- 19th century Mexican artifacts pertaining to the government and other objects. (Research is needed to determine whether the artifact is directly or indirectly related.)

Any collection items that did not fall under Directly or Indirectly related to the Battle of San Jacinto were automatically placed in the list: Other (non-San Jacinto Related Objects).

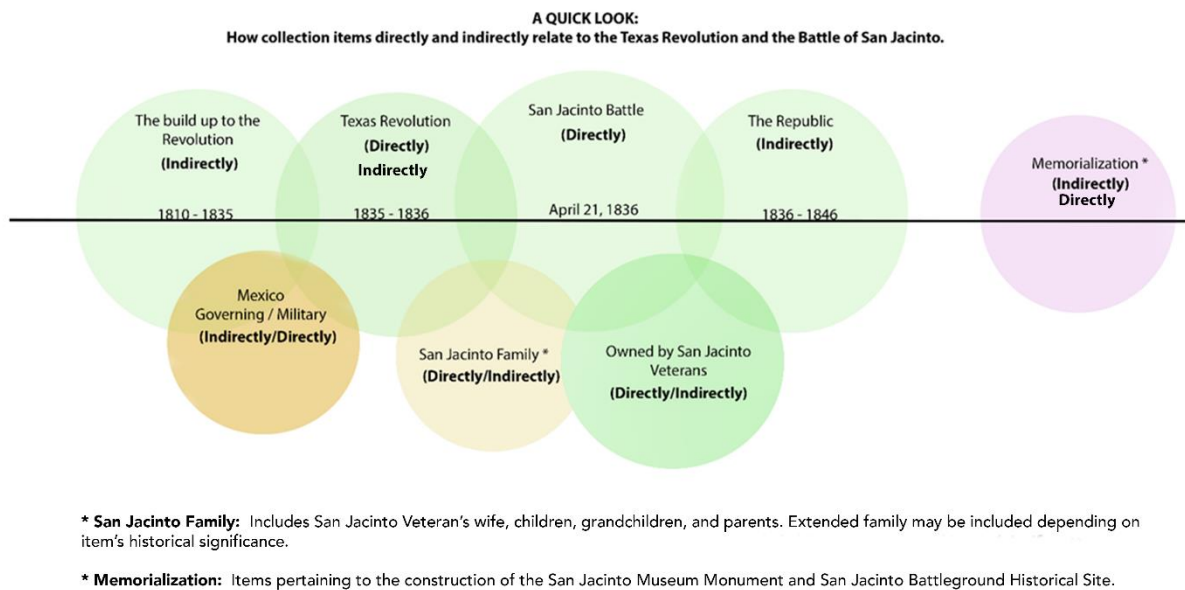


Figure 1: Through the perspective of a timeline, the image above shows how different events and groups of people are Directly and Indirectly related to the Texas Revolution and the Battle of San Jacinto.

While the categories of Directly and Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto are useful in considering the collections, the Museum's mission statement is broader than those two categories - "the creation of Texas as a new Republic", "to engage and educate the public and encourage historical inquiry", "to collect, preserve, and share materials of historical and cultural significance of the region", "to illustrate and tell the chronological story of Texas." Within the collections are useful items to fulfil these parts of the mission that do not fall within the categories of Directly or Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto.

Artifacts in the object collection that do not fit into the categories of Directly and Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto remain important and useful in fulfilling the Museum's mission by preserving and interpreting early Texas history and culture.

For the library materials, three groups within the Other listings are useful to the museum and site: books and other materials on museum and library management; books and media that include images from the museum's collection that therefore are significant for the maintenance of copyright in those images; and books and other materials that are useful for research about collection items.

Methodology of Inventory - Object Collections

The Museum's collection consists of over 17,000 artifacts. The objects are organized and tracked by an assigned accession number. Under one accession number an artifact may contain multiple items that are considered or part of the artifact itself. Each accession number is digitally organized and tracked on the museum's collection management system, Mimsy XG software. In this software, information relating to or about the artifacts is tracked-including the number of items associated with one accession number and its physical location. To conduct the physical inventory of all artifacts in the object collection a location report by cabinet and shelf was run and printed. The printed location report was marked off once the object was physically located. Misplaced objects were noted and will be corrected in the coming months by placing them in their designated location or updating their location in the museum's software cataloguing system.

On May 3, 2023, the physical inventory of artifacts was completed. Below is a chart of all who assisted in the physical inventory.

Organization	Name	Position
THC	Laura DeNormandie	Chief Curator
THC	Mike Lebens	Curatorial Field Manager
THC	Angela Pfeiffer	Regional Collections Manager
THC	Amanda Cagle	Regional Collections Manager
SJMBA	Cecilia Abad	Curator
SJMBA	Student	Curatorial Intern
SJMBA	Sebastian Russo	Curatorial Intern

San Jacinto Object Lists

The objects in the museum collections are categorized according to *Nomenclature 3.0 for Museum Cataloging: Third Edition of Robert G. Chenhall's System for Classifying Man-Made Objects* (Lanham, Md.: AltaMira Press, c2010). The museum has ten categories which are present on the pie graph (Figure 2).

A report of all artifacts sorted by Chenhall's categories was run and reviewed by the museum's curator, Cecilia Abad. Each object was sorted into the following lists, as Excel spreadsheets: Directly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, and Other (non-San Jacinto or Texas Revolution related artifacts). The following information on each artifact was reviewed: accession number, artifact name and type, maker, date made, place made, culture, description, provenance, notes, and people associated with the object; the object was then placed into its corresponding list (Directly, Indirectly, or Other).

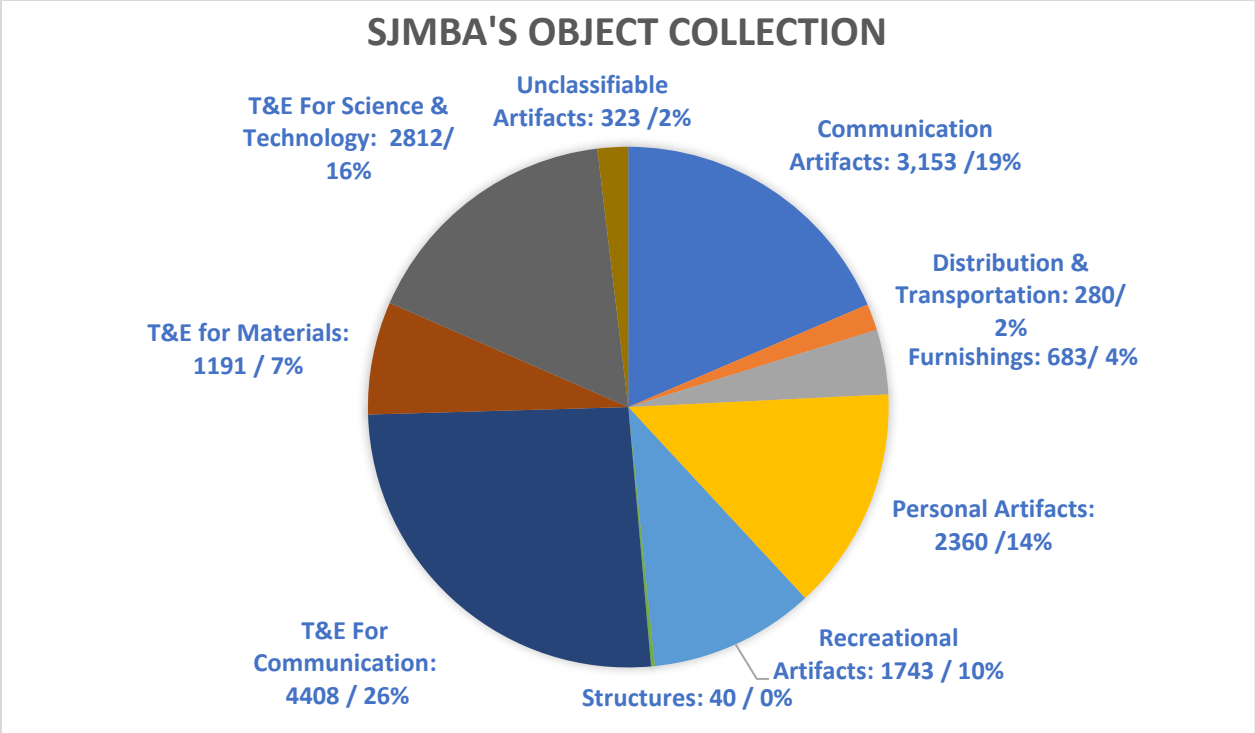


Figure 2: This chart shows the distribution of objects in the museum’s collection. The numbers above show the number of accession numbers under each collection type.

Categorizing artifacts into three lists: Directly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, and Other (non-San Jacinto or Texas Revolution related artifacts) was straightforward yet challenging at times. There are objects in the collection that need research to determine if they fall under Directly or Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto. For example, many of the Mexican military and government-related objects require further research. Due to this lack of research, Mexican military artifacts were placed in the list Directly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto. Mexican objects pertaining to government such as paintings of Mexican presidents and seals were placed in the Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto list. Another example is objects from early Texas; many Museum objects do not have a date or much of a description associated with the artifact. This poses a problem in interpreting the artifact and its importance to 19th-century Texas history. Like the Mexican objects, these artifacts need further research.

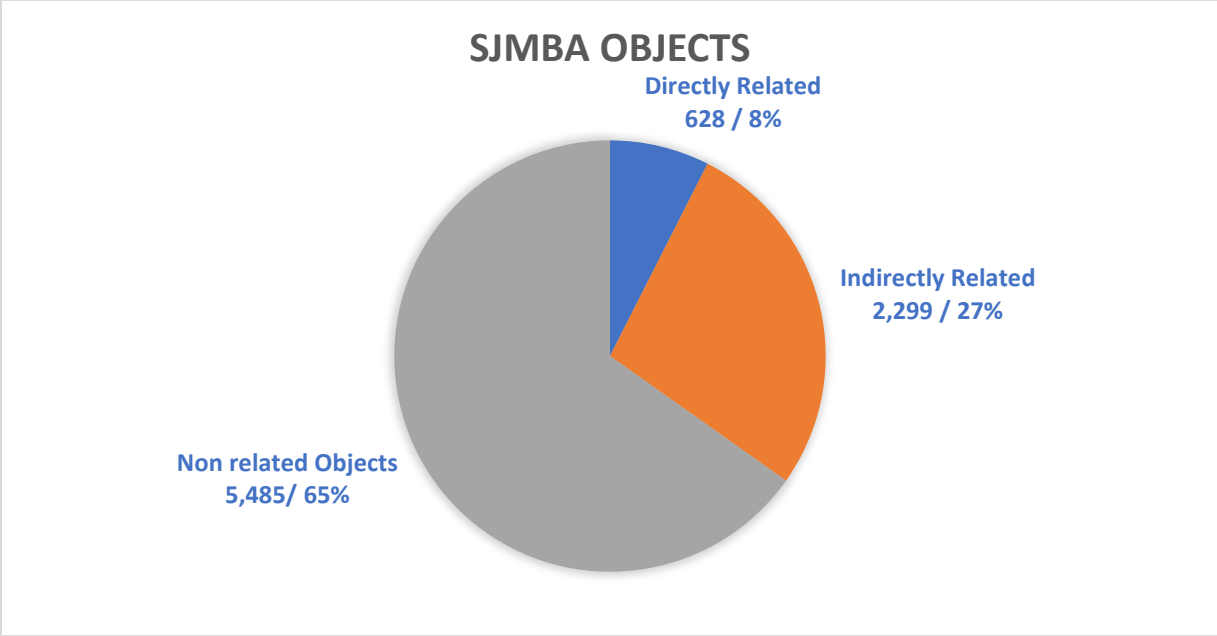


Figure 3: This chart shows the distribution of objects related to the Battle of San Jacinto.

The non-related objects include artifacts that fall under the following subjects:

- Texas local history
- Texas under France
- Texas under Spain
- Mexico under Spain
- Pre-conquest Mexico
- Texas Indians
- Texas Missions
- Texas history – post Civil War

Condition Assessment of Objects

Once the objects were categorized, a location report list was printed, and each San Jacinto Related, or Indirectly Related object was assessed for condition. The condition assessment for the artifacts was done by the following people:

Organization	Name	Position
THC	Laura DeNormandie	Chief Curator
THC	Mike Lebens	Curatorial Field Manager
THC	Angela Pfeiffer	Regional Collections Manager
THC	Amanda Cagle	Regional Collections Manager
SJMBA	Cecilia Abad	Curator

When assessing the condition of the San Jacinto Related and Indirectly related objects curatorial staff from SJMBA and THC used the following terms: Good, Fair, and Poor. Good and Fair were used if the artifact was determined to be stable. An artifact marked as poor was determined to be

unstable and therefore is not suitable to be placed on exhibit and may need some conservation work. Overall, most of the objects were determined to be in Good or Fair condition, with the exception of a few.

Methodology of Inventory - Library Collections

The Albert and Ethel Herzstein Library holds 30,762 items in its collection, as of March 1, 2023. Inventory of the library collections, consisting of books, periodicals, maps, media (VHS, CD, DVD, LP, etc.), and visual materials (prints, lithographs, photographs, etc.) was completed by a team of 22 people. This inventory took 556 person-hours.

Organization	Name	Position
THC	Laura DeNormandie	Chief Curator
THC	Jamie Ross	Curatorial Field Manager
THC	Angela Pfeiffer	Regional Collections Manager
THC	Amanda Cagle	Regional Collections Manager
THC	3 persons	Park Hosts
	12 persons	Volunteers
SJMBA	Lindsey Fluker	Public Service Staff
SJMBA	Vivian Thompson	Public Service Staff
SJMBA	Lisa Struthers	Library Director

Using the library's Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC), which uses EOS software by Sirsi/Dynix, a Shelf List report was run for each of the 26 locations listed in the catalog. Working in teams of one to three people depending on the physical location of the item, each collection item was checked off on the printed Shelf List report for that location. As all individual items entered into the catalog have a location in the digital record, all items are included on one of the Shelf List reports. Items acquired after March 1, 2023, are not included in the inventory. Some photostats of newspapers, prints, and photographs were identified during the physical inventory but were not in the catalog; they will be added, and any discrepancies in location will be corrected in the coming months.

Following completion of the physical inventory, a review by format of each title in the OPAC was conducted, with each title sorted into one of three lists, Directly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto, and Other; each of the material formats appears in all three lists. These lists are available online through the OPAC; links appear in Appendix D.

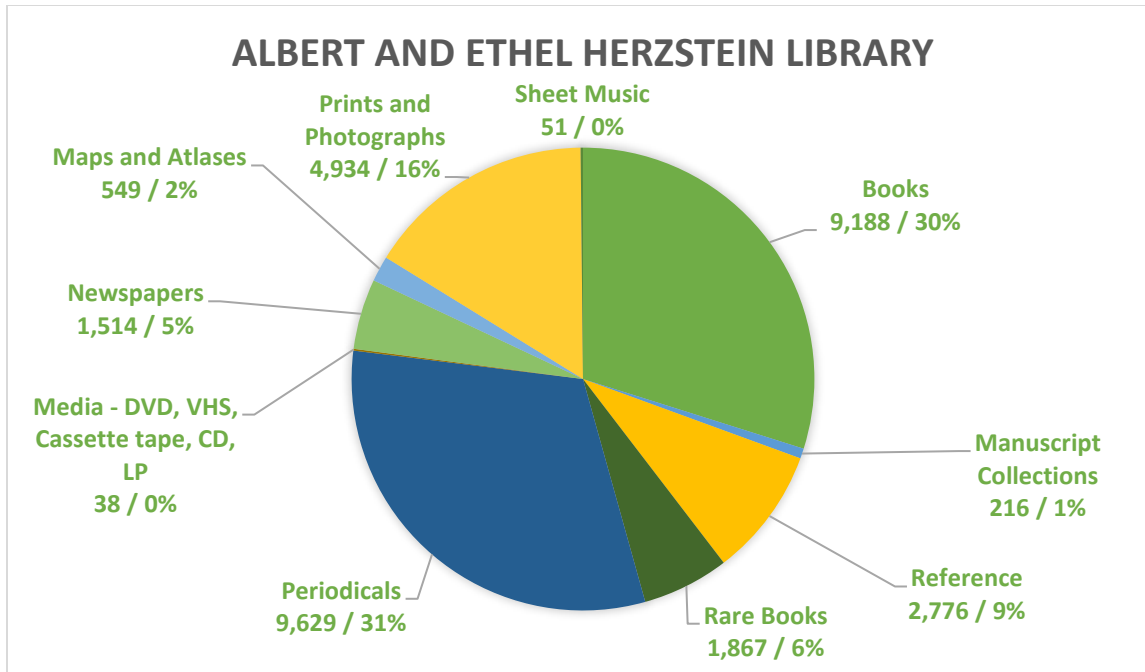


Figure 4: Chart showing the number and distribution of materials in the library and archival collections.

It may be useful to provide some information about how the library materials are cataloged. In 1998 when the project to catalog all of the SJMBA's collections began under a grant from the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, library staff decided to note some of the books in the collection as "rare." To be noted as a Rare Book (labeled RB in the catalog) a book needed to meet one of these criteria: published before 1801; less than ten copies appearing in the online database WorldCat; or having an association with a significant figure in Texas or U.S. history, or with a San Jacinto veteran. Books, media, and maps were cataloged using the Library of Congress Classification scheme, which organizes materials based on subject. Each item gets its own unique call number, which begins with the Class letter/number, and includes further elements representing data such as author, title, and date. Periodicals such as journals and magazines have a call number based on the title of the periodical, while newspapers have a call number based on both the place of publication and the title of the newspaper. A faceted call number scheme was used for the visual materials, GMD (general material designation as defined in Anglo-American Cataloging Rules 2nd edition, revised [AACR2r] and later revisions), SMD (specific material designation as defined in AACR2r), location or collection code, and accession number. For non-accessioned materials that were cataloged, a separate identity code was used in place of the accession number. Each call number might be further expanded with volume, copy, and issue information, to uniquely identify one specific item.

Although late 19th, 20th, and 21st century books are commonly purchased from a publisher or other bookseller already bound, books in the 16th, 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries were often sold unbound and were later bound by their owners. An owner might bind several small books or pamphlets together, and there are some instances in the Herzstein Library's collection where one pamphlet in an owner-bound volume would fall into the Directly or Indirectly Related to San Jacinto list, while other pamphlets within that volume appear on that list only because they are physically bound with the first item.

Similarly, manuscript collections might have one or more documents, volumes, or photographs that are Directly or Indirectly Related to San Jacinto, and the whole collection would therefore fall on that list. Archival holdings are organized around the idea of the fonds, which is defined as “the entire body of records of an organization, family, or individual that have been created and accumulated as the result of an organic process reflecting the functions of the creator.” The basic principle of arrangement is that of *respect des fonds*. “The first postulate of the principle of respect des fonds is that records will be maintained in the organic units or fonds in which they were originally accumulated ... The principle serves to make known the character and significance of records; for the subject-matter contained in individual documents can be fully understood only in context with related documents. If records are arbitrarily torn from their context and rearranged under a subjective or any other arbitrary system of arrangement, their real significance as documentary evidence may be obscured or lost.” For this reason, the record groups should be maintained together; even if a collection was put together by a collector or a member of a later generation, the collection speaks to the intent of the collector and often to the intent of the original creator.

The OPAC contains a listing for each of the manuscript collections, as a collection. Additionally, an inhouse Access database is used to record each individual manuscript item within a processed collection. There is a backlog of information that is waiting to be entered into this database from handwritten processing worksheets.

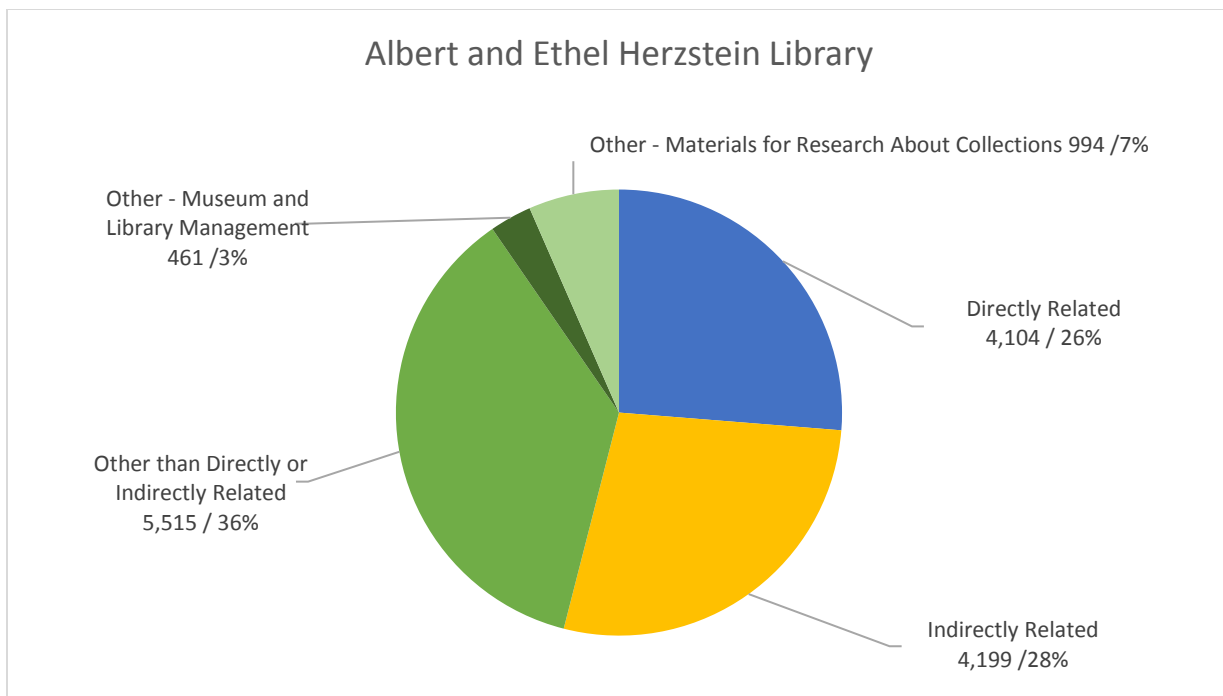


Figure 5: Titles in the Library and Archives collections, by relationship to the Battle of San Jacinto.

Library/Archives General Conditions

In general, the condition of the library materials is good. Where there are issues with condition of a specific item in the library catalog, a Restriction note is included in the catalog record for that item. The most common issue with books is detachment or weakness of the hinge between the front or

back board and the spine. Some maps have tears along folds that do not prevent their use for research, but that would need mending or reinforcing before exhibit.

Individual manuscript items have been designated with a condition of Good, Fair, Poor, or Unacceptable, in an Access database. Of the individual manuscripts that have to date been entered into this database, 17% are designated as Poor, and 3% are designated as Unacceptable. For the manuscript collections, an additional Access database listing the Poor and Unacceptable items includes notes as to what specifically is the issue with each individual manuscript. Tears, fading, brittle paper, and past insect, mold, or water damage are the most common reasons for Poor or Unacceptable condition. Those items that are fragile and should not be handled have been removed to a box awaiting conservation, and a surrogate photocopy has replaced the original within the manuscript collection for researchers to view.

Storage and Environmental Report

Object Storage

The object collection is mostly held in the inner basement with the exception of the textile collection located on the fourth floor. In 2021, the inner basement was flooded causing the artifacts located in the lower cabinets to come into contact with water. These artifacts were temporarily placed in various locations throughout the museum: the exhibit storage room, the small office, and the fourth floor. Although all objects are appropriately stored and are secure, it is a recommendation that all artifacts be located in a centralized location or be returned back to the inner basement once appropriate museum-quality shelving is installed.

Inner Basement

The inner basement's cabinetry dates from the 1930s and 1940s and is made of up wood and metal. Wooden cabinets are no longer considered appropriate to store artifacts due to acid migration from the surrounding wood which causes damage to the artifacts. In 2001, to mitigate the acidic migration Marvelseal and Ethafoam were placed on the shelving to create a barrier from the wood however, this is not enough, and it is difficult to maintain cleanliness. During the February 2021 Freeze a pipe containing clean water burst causing water to accumulate in the inner basement. The lower parts of the wooden cabinets came into contact with the water which has created an unsafe environment for artifacts due to potential mold growth, instability of wood, rust in the metal shelving, and chemical leaching. Replacement of the old cabinetry to museum-quality storage is a priority and is a step in the right direction toward the museum becoming accredited.

With that said, a plan to replace the wooden cabinetry has been discussed and is currently taking place. The first wooden cabinetry to be replaced will be the wooden art rack and it will be replaced with a museum-quality art rack. The other wooden cabinetry will be replaced in phases.

In the meantime, efforts to make the environment safe for the artifacts are taking place. The lowest shelves of the lower wooden cabinets were removed and vacuumed. Bug traps have been placed throughout the inner basement and are monitored daily, and a cleaning routine of the floors has been adopted. The old Marvelseal and Ethafoam lining the shelves have been removed and replaced with new clean Marvelseal and Ethafoam to better protect the collection until the wooden cabinetry can all be replaced with museum-quality shelving.

Textile Room

The textile room is located on the fourth floor. The space is small and there is no proper space or surface on which to unfold or fold textiles.

Library

The library on the second floor of the San Jacinto Monument contains three types of shelving: powder-coated steel bookshelves, wooden cabinets with glass doors, and wooden shelving built in around the room. This last shelving is extensive and high; it is not ADA-compliant, in that it requires a ladder to access the upper rows. In addition, there are two map cases and a series of file cabinets that are appropriate for the materials stored within.

Archival Storage, 4th Floor

Although most of the large format paper collections stored in the archives on the fourth floor are appropriately housed in acid-free boxes or Solander cases, some of the newspapers and some of the print and photograph collections would benefit from correctly sized folders. In addition, about a third of the manuscript collection that has not yet been processed should be rehoused into new boxes and folders when they are processed. The shelving units for the archival storage area are appropriate for their contents. The map case that contains the blueprint collection has minor rust in two drawers.

Climate

In the past, environmental monitoring of the storage areas was conducted manually. When available, a staff member would log the temperature and Relative Humidity of storage. This process has been replaced by using five HOBO data loggers that monitor the environment.

	Average Temp °	Maximum Temp °	Minimum Temp °	Average Humidity%	Maximum Humidity %	Minimum Humidity %
Inner Basement	69.57	76	63	50.24	68	39
Exhibit Gallery	71.70	76	65	51.5	61	36
Library	69	70	61	51	72	37
Archives/Textile Storage Area	65	76	54	55	63	41

Current museum standards for temperature and humidity are 40°F-60°F at 45% to 50% relative humidity; standards for library and archival materials are 50°F-65°F at 30-50% relative humidity, with no more than ±5% change within a 24-hour period. Prior to January 2023, standards for library and archival materials allowed for a slightly higher range in both temperature and humidity.

Staff does employ dehumidifiers to mitigate the high humidity in the inner basement storage as well as on the 2nd and 4th floors.

“Agreed List”

A provision of the OA is the creation of a list of collection items, agreed upon by both the SJMBA and the THC, that would not transfer to THC upon dissolution of the SJMBA, as per the following section of the Texas Government Code:

442.252 (g) In the event of the association’s dissolution, the commission is the sole beneficiary of all items held in the association's name that relate to the revolutionary and battle history of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site and to early Texas settlement and culture, except as otherwise provided by the association’s articles of incorporation or the terms of the gift or other transfer of the items to the association. The items for which the commission is not the sole beneficiary must be clearly identified and described on an agreed list prepared jointly by the commission and the association. TX Govt Code § 442.252 (g) (2021)

Collection items on this “agreed list” appear in the Directly Related and Indirectly Related to the Battle of San Jacinto Lists, as well as on the Other Objects list. Criteria for inclusion on the “agreed list” include loaned items, items for which clear title does not belong to the SJMBA, and items for which the terms of the gift specify return to the donor upon dissolution of the SJMBA. A review of the deed of gift/transfer of title files for any conditions placed on gifts was performed by a team of five people, and their findings were reviewed by the SJMBA’s Curator and Library Director for inclusion in the “agreed list”. For some of the items, further research is needed to clarify questions of legal title.

Organization	Name	Position
THC	Cait Johnson	Lead Educator/Interpreter, SJBSHS
THC	Michelle Newell	Office Manager, SJBSHS
SJMBA	Sebastian Russo	Curatorial Intern
SJMBA	Kali Ellis	Development Director
	Veronica Thelen	Volunteer

A draft list of these items is included as Appendix G, to serve as a starting point for discussion between SJMBA and THC.

Recommendations

As one of the goals listed in the OA is to work toward AAM accreditation, there are several steps relating to collections and their care that could make progress along that path.

More Consistent Climate Control

As noted above, temperature and humidity fluctuate more than is appropriate for locations housing collections. Relative humidity runs at least 10-20 percent higher in the Spring, Summer and Fall months than is recommended for historic objects and archival materials. Elevated humidity causes higher rates of deterioration throughout all collections and is a significant threat. Collections staff use portable dehumidifiers to help control humidity in storage areas, but this is not appropriate for the exhibit galleries. Although much has been done by San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site staff to address the HVAC system in the San Jacinto Monument in the last two years, the final step

to control the temperature on the second floor has not yet been completed, awaiting the return of a contractor.

Improved Storage Conditions in Inner Basement

When the San Jacinto Monument was designed in 1936, planning appropriate space for collection storage was not considered. When the San Jacinto Museum of History opened in 1939, most of its artifacts were on exhibit. The exhibits displayed the indigenous, Spanish, Mexican, Texas Revolution, and San Jacinto artifacts. Over time, additional artifacts were donated to the museum, and many went directly on display, while others were housed in the vault, a small room beside the elevator off of the elevator lobby. However, in the late 1980s the exhibit space used to display the indigenous, Spanish, and Mexican artifacts was replaced with the current Jesse H. Jones Theatre for Texas Studies. The artifacts not on exhibit were then stored in the inner basement.

Although the inner basement maintains a fairly steady temperature and relative humidity throughout the year, the inner basement is not properly sealed which allows for the admission of unwanted air pollutants, insects, and small reptiles, which are harmful to artifacts both innately and because they draw insects and reptiles to them. Furthermore, HVAC piping and an air conditioning water drain pan located in the corner of the inner basement are a flooding risk, as is the water line just outside the inner basement. Lastly, there is no elevator access to the inner basement, requiring artifacts to be carried up and down stairs when moved to and from the inner basement, which is difficult for staff and dangerous to the artifact, particularly for heavy, large, or fragile items.

There are several recommendations to improve the current collection storage space.

1. Replace all of the wooden and metal cabinetry with museum-quality shelving. By replacing the old cabinetry this will not only benefit the artifacts but help maintain cleanliness. The shelving should have doors to control access but still allow for ventilation so as not to create a microclimate.
2. Relocate the artifacts nearest to the AC water drainage pan and pipes which would require different cabinetry.
3. Seal the doors at the bottom to reduce air pollutants or insects entering the space.

Improved Storage Conditions for Textiles

The Museum has an extensive textile collection. To properly care for textiles, they need to be unfolded and inspected on an appropriately sized surface. Sufficient space within storage boxes is required to reduce damage to the textile from being tightly folded or tightly packed. A larger space designated for textile storage room along with working space to properly unfold and fold the textiles is recommended.

Exhibit cases

The architect of the Monument, Alfred C. Finn, selected exhibit cases from Remington Rand Company in 1939 because they incorporate design elements also used on the Monument. These original cases are still being used for exhibitions and are not up to current museum safety standards. They are built with non-shatterproof glass, making them an ongoing risk to the public and staff. Maintaining a constant temperature for the artifacts in the exhibition space is difficult due to structure of cases and their original doors. The cases should be upgraded to ones that are safe for the public and also creates a safe environment for the artifacts.

Replace Windows, Exterior door on 2nd Floor

The eight large windows in the library, measuring 71 ¼ inches tall by 53 3/8 inches wide, have deteriorated over the decades. Their seals no longer function, allowing dirt, pollen, and drafts to enter the room. Two of the eight windows are covered either by cabinetry or shelving, while the others are accessible. These windows frames need to be replaced, and at a minimum these windows should be resealed and lined with UV film. During any such work, the library shelves and materials could be covered either with Tyvek or plastic sheeting for protection during installation.

Security

Although there are security cameras in the museum galleries, cameras could usefully be installed throughout the Monument, to better ensure the safety of collections and of visitors. Of particular value would be cameras at the entrance to collection storage areas to track people entering and leaving those areas. The main entrance to the monument, the exit to the monument and the maintenance entryway that leads to the outer basement currently do not have security cameras installed.

Reconciliation of Accession Register with Inventory

When the project to catalog the museum's collections was under way under a grant from the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation in 1998-2002, an effort was made to clarify any issues with accession numbers for individual artifacts and library/archival materials, including noting them in a photocopy of the Museum's accession register. Each item cataloged was marked off in the copied register. Items not marked off at that time, and not found in the current physical inventory should be identified, their current location or condition researched, and any issues resolved. If necessary, items not found should be put on a list for consideration for future deaccessioning.

Deaccessioning

Deaccessioning is the formal process used to remove an object from the collections permanently or, when an object has been lost or destroyed, the formal process used to document the loss in collection records. Deaccessioning improves the quality of the collection, and frees space for newly acquired materials. It is an integral part of the management of collections, and will be done with the mission of the Association kept firmly in mind. The collection management policies approved by the board earlier this year contain provisions for deaccessioning collection items under specific circumstances. Following the completion of the inventory, the Association's curatorial staff should review the collections to consider recommending to the board items for deaccession based on the following criteria:

- Duplicate copies
- Items that should not have been removed from SJMH/SJMBA organizational records
- Items not within the priority lists of the Collection Management policies
- Items, if any, not found after comparison of accession register with the inventory

Manuscript Collections

Under the grant from the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, approximately two-thirds of the Association's manuscript collections were processed, rehoused, and finding aids were written in 1999-2002. Since that time, more manuscript collections have been processed, but several collections remain unprocessed, including the large George A. Hill Spanish Language Collection. In 2011 grant funding was sought to partially fund a two-year project archivist position to process these

collections, but as sufficient funds were not received, the project was not completed. Although current staff could process these collections, the Association may have other priority projects for the Library Director to complete. Seeking grant funding for a two-year project archivist who reads and understands 16th-19th century Spanish is recommended. This would provide better intellectual access for the use of staff and of researchers; would safely rehouse the collections into new non-acidic containers; and would allow the updating of the manuscript collection condition database to include all individual manuscripts in poor or unacceptable condition, preparing the way for possible conservation efforts.

Organization Records and Records Retention

The Association has about 275 boxes of organizational records that are under permanent retention. As of this date they have not been processed, and there are known redundancies within the records. It would be useful for an archivist to process these papers, particularly before any movement or storage of the boxes is done. Better intellectual access to these boxes by way of container lists would be useful when information in these papers is sought.

The Association put a records retention policy in place in 2000. It would be beneficial for someone familiar with records retention laws to review this policy. In addition, a backlog of outdated records is awaiting destruction in accordance with this policy. Once this policy has been reviewed, destruction of these items should take place.

In 1999, the Association's vital documents – board minutes and deeds of gift – were microfilmed as a backup in case of disaster. These microfilm rolls are housed in a professional secure storage facility. The Association's should now microfilm the additional critical records added since 1999.

Update Disaster Plan

The site-wide Disaster Plan should be reviewed and, if necessary, amended to better address the needs of the collections in a disaster.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.4
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider approval of the Phase III Assessment of the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site as a Texas Historical Commission State Historic Site

Background:

Stephen F. Austin died December 27, 1836 in the home of George B. McKinstry. McKinstry was appointed by Sam Houston as the first Judge of Brazoria County. He is also associated with the Battle of Velasco. The McKinstry home is located a few miles outside of the then Capital of Texas, Columbia. Austin, at the time of his death, was serving as the Secretary of State of the recently formed "Republic of Texas".

The location of the Stephen F. Austin's death place location: About one mile north of West Columbia, Texas on Highway 36.

The property is being donated to the THC by the Price family. They have provided stewardship of the property for years and are requesting acceptance of the property into the network of State Historic Sites.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend acceptance of the Phase III recommendation that the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site become a Texas Historical Commission State Historic Site.

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to accept the Phase III recommendation that the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site become a Texas Historical Commission State Historic Site.



Phase III Assessment of the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site

**West Columbia, Texas
For Addition to the Texas Historical Commission's
Historic Sites Program**

June 2023
Texas Historical Commission



**Phase III Assessment of the Stephen F. Austin
Memorial Site**

**West Columbia, Texas
For Addition to the Texas Historical Commission's
Historic Sites Program**

Assessment Team:

Dr. Chris Elliott, Director of Historic Sites Operations

Shannon Smith, Site Manager

Michael Bailey, Curator, Brazoria County Historical Museum-retired

Laurie Kincannon, Mayor of West Columbia, TX

James Glover, Historic Site Director, Stephen F. Austin- Munson County
Park

June 2023

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

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GENERAL ORDERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Columbia, December 27th, 1836. }

The father of Texas is no more! the first pioneer of the wilderness has departed! general Stephen F. Austin, secretary of state, expired this day, at half past 12 o'clock, at Columbia.

As a testimony of respect to his high standing, undeviating moral rectitude, and as a mark of the nation's gratitude for his untiring zeal and invaluable services, all officers, civil and military, are required to wear crape on the right arm for the space of thirty days. All officers commanding posts, garrisons or detachments, will, so soon as information is received of this melancholy event, cause twenty-three* guns to be fired with an interval of five minutes between each, and also have the garrison and regimental colors, hung with *black*, during the space of mourning for the illustrious deceased.

Announcement of Austin's Death, Telegraph, and Texas Register, December 27, 1836.
Courtesy of TSHA

INTRODUCTION

Often referred to as the Father of Texas, Stephen F. Austin assisted in settling hundreds of families from the United States. His father, Moses Austin, obtained a Mexican grant to bring U.S. settlers into Spanish Texas. Upon his father's death in 1821, Stephen assumed responsibility for the grant. Under the terms of a special government act in 1824, additional contracts were executed in 1825, 1827, and 1828. These were all granted by the newly independent Mexican government with Austin responsible for allocating land to new arrivals and ensuring that they abided by the laws of Mexico.

Stephen F. Austin died December 27, 1836, in the home of George B. McKinstry. Sam Houston appointed McKinstry as the first Judge of Brazoria County. McKinstry is also associated with the Battle of Velasco. The McKinstry home was located a few miles outside the then Capital of Texas, Columbia. The house no longer exists. At the time of his death, Austin was serving as the Secretary of State of the recently formed "Republic of Texas."

On Christmas Eve, Stephen F. Austin had taken to bed with a chill and sank quickly into fever and delirium and at about noon on December 27th, he died. Upon his death, the President of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston said, "The father of Texas is no more! The first pioneers of the wilderness have departed! General Stephen F. Austin, Secretary of State, expired this day" (Telegraph, and Texas Register, December 27, 1836). Houston ordered thirty days of mourning. All civil and military officers were ordered to wear crepe on their right arms with every post and garrison to fire a twenty-three-gun salute, one for each county in the republic, because of "his high standing, undeviating moral rectitude ... untiring zeal and valuable service".

The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site is located about one mile north of West Columbia, Texas, on Highway 36. N 29° 09' 21.2" W 095° 39'13.9". The property is being donated to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) by the Price family. The Price family has provided stewardship of the property for years and are requesting acceptance of the property into the network of State Historic Sites.

A historic site must meet specific criteria to be considered for acceptance as a Texas Historical Commission Historic Site when offered as a donation. Texas Historical Commission Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 16 Rule §16.3 addresses the potential for acceptance to the THC Historic Sites network. To make this determination, the candidate site undergoes a three-phase evaluation and assessment conducted by THC staff.

This report represents the Phase III assessment of the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site. The report discusses each evaluation requirement as outlined in the THC rule. The candidate site met the requirements set forth by the THC rule providing a comprehensive evaluation of the context and interpretive potential of the site and provides specific details regarding how the site would be developed and operated including the funding needed.

This report contains a conclusion section that addresses what is presently known about the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site relative to the Chapter §16.3 rule criteria, which are the overarching conditions a site must meet to be considered for THC's Historic Sites program.

Based on this Phase III assessment, the Assessment Team and THC staff finds that the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site meets the criteria for acceptance and recommends that it become a State Historic Site.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site (SFAMS) is in the northern extent of West Columbia in Brazoria County (*Figure 1*). It consists of a five-acre, manicured tract near the eastern terminus of Oil Field Road, off Highway 36.

The site consists of two markers amongst several large live oak trees. A concrete pad notes where Stephen F. Austin died in the McKinstry home, and a centennial marker notes the significance of the George McKinstry House. The property has no standing structures, but the parcel has water and power.

The closest physical THC State Historic Site to the SFAMS is the Varner- Hogg Plantation, which is located approximately one mile to the east. The George B. McKinstry home, where Stephen F. Austin died, was once located on this site.



Figure 1. Location of Brazoria County and the State Historic Sites

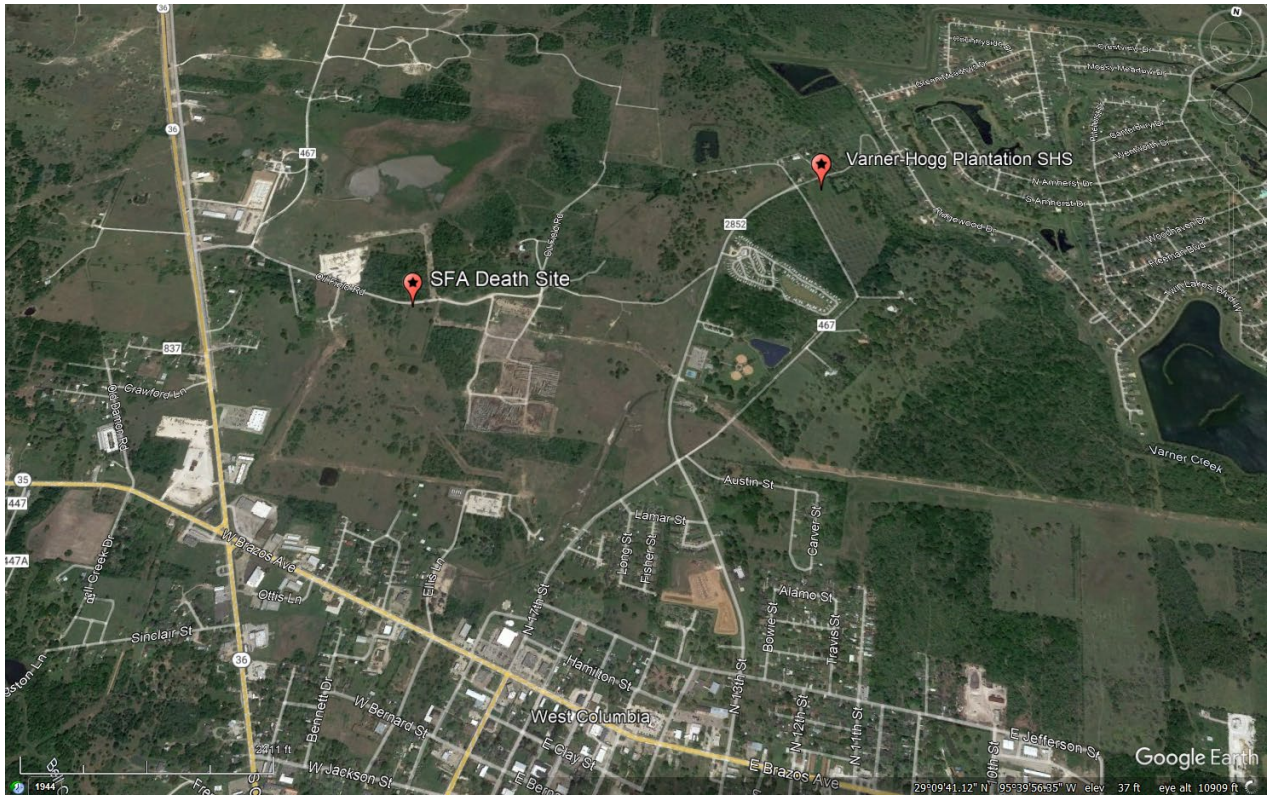


Figure 2. Satellite view of the SFAMS within West Columbia, TX



Figure 3. Centennial Marker for the McKinstry House



Figure 4. Overview of Memorial Site marker

BACKGROUND, SIGNIFICANCE, AND INTEGRITY

Historic Sites Staff interviewed Mrs. Janie Price, the current landowner, in June 2023. She shared information about the McKinstry house's appearance and design based on historic documents. Mrs. Price stated the house was a small, modest wooden, white-washed home that is estimated to have blown down in a hurricane dating back to the late 1920s or early 1930s.

Prior to the land being purchased by the Prices in 1994, the property was locally used as a junkyard and dumping ground for the area's oil field trash. After securing the property in 1994, the Price family reached out to Texas A&M and asked for assistance in investigating the potential archeological significance of the site. According to the filed site form, no official archeological survey was conducted, or ground disturbance documented. The site form states the landowners' provided examples of artifacts allegedly recovered from the site. These artifacts include a silver coin, a musket ball, historic sherds, and a decorated brass brushback. Mrs. Price reported that the site's integrity has been impacted by individuals with metal detectors hunting for metal objects and artifacts. The family has a collection of artifacts from the site that may support its period of significance. To safeguard the site's archeology, a portion of it was covered with a concrete slab in the late 90s to deter any excavations of the house's foundation. Further fieldwork is needed to verify the integrity of subsurface archeological remains and the house's size and configuration. We recommend conducting a systematic survey to delineate the site boundaries more accurately within the property.

Stephen F. Austin

Stephen Fuller Austin, the founder of Anglo-American Texas, son of Moses and Maria (Brown) Austin, was born at the lead mines in southwestern Virginia on November 3, 1793. In 1798, Moses Austin moved his family to other lead mines in southeastern Missouri and established the town of Potosi in what is now Washington County. In Missouri, Stephen grew to the age of eleven, when his father sent him to a school in Connecticut. Stephen later returned westward and spent two years at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. At Potosi, Moses Austin was engaged in the mining, smelting, and manufacturing of lead and, in addition, managed a general store.

After his return from Transylvania in the spring of 1810, Stephen Austin was employed in the general store and subsequently took over the management of most of the lead mine business. Stephen served the public as adjutant of a militia battalion and for several years was a member of the Missouri territorial legislature, in which he was influential in obtaining the charter for the Bank of St. Louis. After the failure of the Austin business in Missouri, he investigated opportunities for a new start in Arkansas and engaged in land speculation and mercantile activities. While there, the territorial governor appointed him Circuit Judge of the First Judicial District of Arkansas. He took the oath of office and qualified in July 1820. He briefly held court. At the end of August, he was in Natchitoches, Louisiana; subsequently, in December Austin held office in New Orleans, where he arranged to live in the home of Joseph H. Hawkins and study law. At this time, December 1820, Moses Austin was on his way to San Antonio to apply for a land grant and permission to settle 300 families in Texas.

Stephen was not enthusiastic about the Texas venture; but he ultimately decided to cooperate with his father. He arranged to obtain a loan from his friend Hawkins to fund the enterprise and was at Natchitoches, expecting to accompany his father to San Antonio, when he learned of Moses Austin's death. He proceeded to San Antonio, where he arrived in August 1821. Authorized by Governor Antonio María Martínez to carry on the colonization enterprise under his father's grant, Austin came to an understanding about certain administrative procedures and was permitted by the governor to explore the coastal plain between the San Antonio and Brazos rivers to select a site for the proposed colony. Among other details, he arranged with Martínez to offer land to settlers in quantities of 640 acres of land to the head of a family, 320 acres for his wife, 160 acres for each child, and 80 acres for each enslaved person. Under the terms of the grant, Austin could collect 12 ½ cents per acre in compensation for his services. Martínez warned Austin that the government was unprepared to extend administration over the colonists and that Austin must be responsible for their good conduct.

Austin returned to New Orleans, published the grant terms, and invited colonists, detailing that settlements would be on the Brazos and Colorado rivers. The prolonged depression, followed by the panic of 1819 and changes in the land system of the United States, made settlers eager to take advantage of the offer, and the first colonists began arriving in Texas by land and sea in December

1821. To his great disappointment, Austin was informed by Governor Martínez that the provisional government set up after Mexican independence refused to approve the Spanish grant to Moses Austin, preferring to regulate colonization by a general immigration law.

Austin hastened to Mexico City to see what could be done to preserve the colony's ability to continue its immigration efforts. He persuaded Emperor Agustín de Iturbide to send to Congress, the *junta instituyente*, a law that the emperor signed on January 3, 1823, that addressed immigration. The National Institutional Junta, (*junta instituyente*) was a legislative assembly established on November 2, 1822, by order of Emperor Agustín de Iturbide which he later dissolved. He declared that until a new congress could be convened, popular representation would reside within his Junta. It offered heads of families a league and a labor of land (4,605 acres) and other inducements, and he provided for the employment of agents, called *empresarios*, to promote immigration. For his services, an empresario was to receive some 67,000 acres of land for each of the 200 families he recruited. Immigrants were not required to pay fees to the government, which led some of them to challenge Austin's right to charge them for services performed at 12½ cents an acre. The law was annulled when Iturbide abdicated, but in April 1823, Austin requested Congress to grant him a contract to introduce 300 families to his colony. In August 1824, a new congress passed an immigration law that vested the administration of public land in the states with certain restrictions and authorized them to make laws for settlement. In March 1825, the legislature of Coahuila and Texas passed a law conforming in general to the previous act approved by Iturbide. It continued the empresario system contemplated by that law. It offered each married man a league of land (4,428 acres), for which he was obligated to pay the state thirty dollars within six years. In the meantime, Austin had substantially fulfilled his contract to settle the first 300 families. Under this state law, he obtained three contracts (in 1825, 1827, and 1828) to settle a total of 900 additional families around his first colony, in addition to a contract in partnership with his secretary, Samuel M. Williams, for the settlement of 800 families in western Texas.

Austin had complete civil and military authority over his colonists until 1828 and was subject to relatively nominal supervision by San Antonio and Monterrey officials. He wisely allowed them to elect militia officers and local *alcaldes* (magistrate or mayor), corresponding to justices of the peace in the United States; moreover, to assure uniformity of court procedure, he drew up forms

and a simple civil and criminal code. As Lieutenant Colonel of the Militia, he planned and sometimes led campaigns against Native Americans.

The time and labor of directing surveyors, checking their field notes, allocating grants, preparing titles and records, entertaining prospective colonists, corresponding with state and federal officials, punishing hostile American Indians, and finding food and presents for friendly visitors to keep them from marauding was heavy and expensive. Austin's only resource was to assess fees against the colonists to meet the operational costs. Though the first settlers initially welcomed his original plan to collect 12½ cents an acre for services rendered, some refused to pay after the imperial colonization law proposed to compensate empresarios by land grants. An empresario was a person who had been granted the right to settle on land in exchange for recruiting and taking responsibility for settling the eastern areas of Coahuila y Tejas in the early nineteenth century. Ignoring the facts that the empresario could not claim the grant until he had settled at least 200 families and that he could hardly sell land when every married man could obtain 4,600 acres unrestricted, the settlers appealed to the political chief at San Antonio for an opinion, and he ruled that Austin could not collect. At the same time, however, he proclaimed a fee bill, which among other details, allowed the land commissioner (the Baron de Bastrop in the first colony) to charge \$127 a league for signing titles, and Austin made a private arrangement with Bastrop to split this fee. A veiled provision of the state law of 1825 allowed *empresarios* to reimburse themselves for costs and services; and under this law, Austin required colonists to pay, or promise to pay, the first sixty dollars and later fifty dollars a league. Nearly all necessary public expenses fell upon him. This applied to all colonizing expenses. His personal financial circumstances became somewhat more manageable with the growth of the colonies. Austin wrote shortly before his death that his wealth was prospective, consisting of the uncertain value of land acquired as compensation for his services as *empresario*.

In addition to attracting colonists to Texas, Austin strove to produce, advocate, and maintain conditions conducive to their prosperous development. In September 1823, the federal government relieved the colonists of the payment of tariff duties for seven years. Mexican actions sometimes clashed with the practical needs of the colonists, and Austin had to find compromise. The status of slavery was always a complex problem, and Austin's attitude occasionally seems

inconsistent. With most colonists arriving from the slave states, Austin worked with the *junta instituyente* to legalize slavery in the imperial colonization law under which the first colony was established. Contrary to his strenuous efforts, the Constitution of Coahuila and Texas prohibited the further introduction of enslaved people by immigration. The legislature passed a law at his suggestion that evaded the constitution's intent by legalizing labor contracts with formerly enslaved people. He understood the potential evils of slavery, but he failed to reconcile the colonists to the Mexican laws and, after 1833, declared consistently that Texas must be a slave state. Whatever his private convictions may have been, it is evident that they yielded to what may have seemed to be the current need of Texas. His acceptance of federal and state regulations against the extension of slavery contemplated the labor needs of Texas and views of the colonists from slave states.

Another subject Austin addressed was the efforts of creditors to collect debts incurred by debtors before colonists moved to Texas. Given conditions in the United States during the 1820s, it was inevitable that many colonists left debts and unpaid judgments behind them. Working through the local *ayuntamiento*, the political chief at San Antonio, and representatives in the legislature, Austin secured a state law that closed the courts for twelve years to plaintiffs seeking collection of such debts and permanently exempted land, tools, and implements of industry if a suit was finally won. The *ayuntamiento* was the main governing body of Spanish municipalities. It functioned as the town council and had many administrative duties. The law further provided that unsuccessful defendants could not be required to pay produce or money in a way to "affect their attention to their families, to their husbandry, or art they profess." In effect, it was a sweeping homestead exemption law. In 1832, Austin toyed with the idea of abolishing collateral security for loans and basing "the credit system upon moral character alone...avoiding unjust retroactive effects."

Aware of the importance of external trade, Austin consistently urged the establishment of ports and the temporary legalization of coastal trade in foreign ships. In lengthy arguments with various officials, he declared that the coastal trade would establish ties of mutual interest between the colonists and Mexico and enable Mexico to balance imports from England by exporting Texas cotton. Congress legalized the port of Galveston after a survey by Austin in 1825, and the

government authorized the use of the Brazos and other landing places, but the coastal trade in foreign vessels was not established. As a result, external trade was confined to the United States. As early as 1829 and as late as 1835, Austin considered diversifying the Missouri–Santa Fe trade to Texas, but this was another far-sighted plan that could not be realized.

Harmony with state and federal authorities was indispensable to the colony's success. Austin realized this fact and never allowed the settlers to forget the tangible benefits they received through the liberal colonization policy or their obligation to obey the laws and become loyal Mexican citizens. He anticipated and disarmed criticism of inconvenient laws. He used the patience of the colonists as evidence of good faith in asking the government for concessions. He thwarted the efforts of Haden Edwards colonists in the Fredonian Rebellion and led the militia from the Brazos and Colorado to assist Mexican troops in putting it down. His political approach was to take no part in Mexican party convulsions. "Play the turtle," he urged, "head and feet within our own shells." Two factors finally defeated the policy of aloofness. By 1832 Austin's various colonies comprised 8,000 persons, and other *empresarios*, though less successful, had brought in many more. Naturally, it became increasingly difficult for Austin to reconcile them to his cautious leadership. On the other hand, the rapid growth of the colonies and persistent efforts of the United States to buy Texas increased the anxiety of Mexican leaders. Their consequent attempt to safeguard the territory by stopping immigration—with other irritations—caused an insurrection; and continued friction led to revolution and independence.

The Law of April 6, 1830, embodied the Mexican policy of halting further colonization of Texas by settlers from the United States. The law proposed to annul general empresario contracts incomplete or not begun, and prohibited settlement of immigrants in territory adjacent to their native countries. In effect, it applied only to Texas and the United States. By ingenious and somewhat tortuous interpretation, Austin secured the exemption of his own colonies and the colony of Green DeWitt from the prohibition. He thereby gained a loophole for continued immigration from the United States and then turned industriously to getting the law repealed in December 1833.

In the meantime, however, military measures to enforce the Law of April 6, 1830, and imprudent

administration of the tariff laws, to which the Texans became subject in September 1830, produced the Anahuac Disturbances. Austin had been away from Texas for several months at Saltillo, attending a legislature session (of which he was a member). He could have possibly averted the uprising had he been at home. The local authorities, including Ramón Músquiz, the political chief, had quieted and repudiated it when irresistible circumstances compelled Austin to abandon his well-tried policy of aloofness from national political struggles and adopt the cause of Antonio López de Santa Anna against the incumbent administration of President Anastasio Bustamante. Texas could no longer stand aside. Fortuitously, Santa Anna won; and the colonists could not be diverted from claiming the reward for their valorous support.

The Convention of 1832 met in October of that year to inform the government of the needs of the Texans. They wanted the repeal of the prohibition against immigration from the United States, extension of tariff exemption, separation from Coahuila, and authority to establish state government in Texas. For reasons not entirely clear, these petitions were not presented to the government. Though Austin was president of the convention, he doubted the expediency of the meeting, fearing that it would stimulate suspicion of the colonists' loyalty - all the more because the old Mexican inhabitants of San Antonio had sent no delegates to the convention. It is easy to conclude that Austin held out hope that he might persuade these local Mexicans to take the lead in asking for reforms in a later convention. He was in San Antonio when a call for a second convention, to meet at San Felipe on April 1, 1833, was published. Again, Austin acquiesced and served in the convention, hoping in some measure to moderate its action. The Convention of 1833 repeated the more critical petitions of the previous meeting and went further in framing a constitution to accompany the request for state government. The convention elected Austin to deliver the petitions and argue for their approval. Even men distrusting him acknowledged his significant influence on state and federal authorities. He left San Felipe in April, arrived in Mexico City in July, and, after unavoidable delays, persuaded the government to repeal the Law of April 6, 1830, and to promise significant reforms in Texas local government. He started home in December, reasonably satisfied with his work and convinced at least he had left nothing undone. President Santa Anna would not approve state government for Texas. Austin was arrested at Saltillo in January, suspected of trying to incite insurrection in Texas, and taken back to Mexico City. No charges were made against him, no court would accept the jurisdiction of his case, and

he remained a prisoner, shifting from prison to prison, until December 1834, when he was released on bond and limited to the area of the Federal District. A general amnesty law freed him in July 1835, and at the end of August returned to Texas by way of New Orleans.

Austin was thus absent from Texas for twenty-eight months. Upon his return, he learned that an unofficial call had been issued for a convention, or consultation, to meet in October 1835. He could have quashed this call; however, in a notable speech at Brazoria on September 8th he gave it his sanction, and the election of delegates proceeded. The Consultation was organized on November 3rd. In the meantime, during September and early October, Austin had been, in effect, the civil head of Anglo-American Texas as chairman of a central committee at San Felipe. War began at Gonzales on October 1. Austin was elected to command the volunteers gathered there and led them against the Mexican army at San Antonio. In November, the provisional government elected him to serve, with William H. Wharton and Branch T. Archer, as commissioner to the United States. He arrived in New Orleans in January 1836 and returned to Texas in June. The commissioners' business was to solicit loans and volunteers, arrange credits for munitions and equipment, fit out warships, and do whatever they could to commit the government of the United States to recognition and eventual annexation if Texas should declare independence. They were reasonably successful in accomplishing this program, except in the effort to obtain assurances from President Andrew Jackson and Congress. Austin was convinced, however, Congress would have voted for recognition in May, after the battle of San Jacinto, if the acting president, David G. Burnet, had cooperated with the commissioners by sending them official reports of conditions in Texas. Somewhat hesitantly, Austin consented to offer himself for the presidency after his return to Texas. He was defeated in the election of September 1836 but accepted the office of secretary of state from the successful candidate. He died in service on December 27, 1836, at the untimely age of forty-three.

Judged by historical standards, Austin did great work. He began the Anglo-American colonization of Texas under conditions more difficult in some respects than those that confronted the founders of the English colonies on the Atlantic coast. He saw the wilderness transformed into a relatively advanced and populous state. His unremitting labor, perseverance, foresight, and tactful management brought that change to pass. Contemporaries who disagreed with his cautious policy

of conciliating Mexican officials, accused him of weakness and instability, but criticism did not cause him to abandon it. Casually discussing this subject in a letter of April 9, 1832, to his secretary, he wrote, "Some men in the world hold the doctrine that it is degrading and corrupt to use policy in anything...There is no degradation in prudence and a well-tempered and well-timed moderation." Until the passage of the Law of April 6, 1830, attempting to shut out emigrants from the United States, he believed that Texas could develop into a free and prosperous Mexican state, a goal that he sincerely desired. The passage of that law and continued political turmoil in Mexico certainly shook his confidence. The prudence forbade abandonment of the policy, outward patience, and conciliation seemed strong enough to demand reforms and back the demand by force. Premature action might be fatal, or so he thought. He would have prevented the conventions of 1832 and 1833 if he could have had his way, but since he could not, he went along and tried to moderate the demands. The same considerations caused him to oppose the Texas Declaration of Independence by the provisional government in 1835, while there was hope of winning the support of the liberal party in Mexico. In short, his methods varied with circumstances, but he never wavered from the abiding aim to promote and safeguard the welfare of Texas. As he wrote in July 1836, "The prosperity of Texas has been the object of my labors, the idol of my existence—it has assumed the character of a religion, for the guidance of my thoughts and actions, for fifteen years." Consciousness of heavy responsibility dictated his policy of caution and moderation and compelled him to shape his methods to shifting circumstances.

"I make no more calculations except to spend my life here, [whether] rich or poor, here (that is in this colony) I expect to remain permanently."

-Stephen F. Austin

George B. McKinstry

George B. McKinstry, a soldier and civil servant, was born in Ireland on July 12, 1801. He arrived in Texas, most likely from Georgia, on April 20, 1829, and took the oath of citizenship on May 19. In Stephen F. Austin's Register of Families, he is listed as a trader. On December 15, 1829, he purchased two building lots and one garden lot in San Felipe de Austin. In 1830 he was appointed the first postmaster of Brazoria, and during his residency in Brazoria, he engaged in coastal trade.

In 1824 Martin Varner and his family moved approximately one mile east of the McKinstry House and lived in a cabin he built on the creek bank. Varner farmed corn and raised livestock and some sugar cane. He was thanked in 1829 by Austin for a gift of rum, which Austin called the first "ardent spirits" made in the colony and possibly in Texas. On April 4, 1834, Varner sold his holdings in Brazoria County for \$13,000 to Columbus R. Patton, who, as the family's eldest son, represented his father, John D. Patton, in the purchase. It can be assumed due to the proximity of these two homesteads and that both men fought in the Battle of Velasco that both Varner and McKinstry knew each other; however, further research would be needed to locate possible connections.

On December 16, 1831, a meeting of Brazoria citizens appointed McKinstry and Branch T. Archer to seek a repeal of a recent decree that had closed all Texas ports but Anahuac, on Galveston Bay. Refused satisfaction by George Fisher, customs agent at Anahuac and author of the decree, the men approached Juan Davis Bradburn, commander at Anahuac, threatening an attack on his fort if their demand was not granted. Bradburn sent an agent to the Brazos to collect duties. McKinstry later wrote that while he and Archer were in Anahuac, they "entered into a secret understanding with [William Barret] Travis and some others to resist...unlawful proceedings" by the Mexican military and customs officials. They also arranged for the purchase of "powder lead and flints" in New Orleans. In a letter of February 6, 1832, condemning the action taken by the Brazoria colonists, Stephen F. Austin also expressed extreme concern about the imprudence of certain individuals, including McKinstry, who publicly boasted that Brazoria had subscribed \$800 for the purchase of powder and arms.

In the summer of 1832, McKinstry participated in the effort to release Patrick Jack and others from jail during the Anahuac Disturbances. On June 10th, he was one of a group of American colonists who met unsuccessfully with Bradburn to seek the release of the prisoners. On June 20th, together with 103 others, including John Austin, W. H. Wharton, and Edwin Waller, McKinstry signed an agreement at Brazoria organizing a military unit composed of Austin colony recruits. The next day he and others received orders from John Austin to seize the arms and ammunition at Brazoria from the Mexican collector of customs. Taking two cannons from Brazoria and loading them on a schooner, McKinstry and his group sailed down the Brazos River.

At Velasco, however, near the mouth of the river, the Mexican commander refused them permission to pass. In the ensuing battle of Velasco, the colonists used powder and lead McKinstry had helped secure New Orleans. After the battle, McKinstry, elevated from Sergeant Orderly to Lieutenant, commanded the captured fort for an undetermined period. Meanwhile, before McKinstry's companions could transport their armaments to Anahuac, Bradburn relinquished his command there, and the prisoners were released. In September 1832, the customs agent at Brazoria, Francisco Mansue y Duclor, whose store of weapons had been seized by McKinstry and his unit, received permission from the customs agent at Galveston to return to Tampico.

At the Convention of 1832, McKinstry was one of four delegates representing the Victoria District. During that meeting, he served on a committee chosen to draft a petition to the federal government requesting the reduction of import duties on "articles of the first necessity." Stephen F. Austin, who presided over the convention, remained critical of him. In a letter dated May 30, 1833, Austin deplored the departure of Duclor, "a Santa Anna officer," from Brazoria, an event he attributed chiefly to McKinstry. Austin wrote that the colonists' intemperate actions at Brazoria and Anahuac had damaged their position with Antonio López de Santa Anna and that McKinstry had "done as much harm to Texas as any man in it."

At a public meeting in Columbia (now West Columbia) on June 28, 1835, McKinstry, with John A. Wharton and several other local notables, was chosen to report on conditions in Texas. They prepared a resolution condemning the declaration of colonists in Anahuac on May 4, 1835, that they would pay no customs until the collection of duties was enforced at other Texas ports. The Columbia resolutions also recommended "[continued] union [with Mexico], moderation, organization and a strict adherence to the laws and constitution of the land." However, at another meeting in Columbia on December 25, 1835, McKinstry voted in favor of a declaration of independence. After the battle of San Jacinto, McKinstry formed part of the volunteer guard that escorted Santa Anna and other Mexican prisoners to Galveston and Velasco.

In January 1834, he bought two enslaved men through William B. Travis; the following April, he contracted with Travis for three more. On November 25, 1836, McKinstry sold Simon, an enslaved person about twenty-seven years old, to Stephen F. Austin for \$1,200. On December 20, 1836, President Sam Houston appointed McKinstry the first chief justice of Brazoria County.

Stephen F. Austin died at McKinstry's home in Columbia on December 27, 1836. In May 1837, McKinstry was among a group of men who secured a charter for a railroad to be built between Galveston Bay and the Brazos River. He died in Brazoria on December 10, 1837, and was buried in Columbia.

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO THE SITE

Interpretive and Wayfinding Signage. The Historic Sites team would install Wayfinding signage like those found at other THC sites. An interpretive panel would feature the life of Stephen F. Austin and explain events in Texas history, such as the Battle of Velasco and railroad history, where McKinstry was involved in these and many other activities in the area. The interpretation would discuss the colonial period of the area including: the development of the city of Columbia, the Patton Planation, social/political structure of the colony, and use of slavery in the development of the area. Signage would direct visitors to learn more about Stephen F. Austin by visiting the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site and Varner-Hogg Planation (Patton Planation) State Historic Site.

Archeological Investigations. The site provides an excellent opportunity for future interpretation of archaeological investigations as it is an early homesite dating to the Austin Colony experience. The site has the potential to cultivate collegiate, corporate, and community partnerships for future investigations into the life of one of Austin's first 300 and gain a rural perspective on life on the coastal prairie in the early colonial days of Texas.

Potential Education and Public Programming. This site is a place of significance in the development of the Republic of Texas, with a dramatic influence on Texas and American politics and culture. It is a well-maintained property. The stories associated with the property expand the THC portfolio of sites. There may be great interest by schools and the public in getting a fuller story of Texas colonial and Republic periods.

The interpretive and educational potential of the site far exceeds the ability of the current owner to achieve due to limited resources; however, that potential could be expanded under the management of the Texas Historical Commission. The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site presents opportunities for field schools and camps. An expanded story of the site would open the potential for special events and seasonal programs as well as cultural programming and teaching civics. Similar programs have proven successful at historic sites and suggest opportunities to expand the audience to learn about the site's development and role in Texas history.

Acquiring this site enables coordination with the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site (65 miles from the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site, the City of Columbia with its senate building, and Varner- Hogg Planation (Patton Plantation) a few miles away). The San Felipe de Austin staff educators have developed engaging programs and curricular ties commemorating the San Felipe de Austin location where, in 1823, Stephen F. Austin established a headquarters for his colony in Mexican Texas, and to share the stories of early settlers in this region. The agricultural development of the area into plantation can be explored with the programming at Varner-Hogg Plantation. There is also an opportunity to work with the City of Columbia in the interpretation of the political history of the city during the early Republic era.

Historic Sites utilize the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Texas public schools in crafting its programming. The TEKS detail the curriculum requirements for every course, and State-mandated standardized tests measure students' acquisition of the specific knowledge and skills outlined in this curriculum. Historic Sites tie their place-based learning to TEKS to ensure that the field trip experience connects a school's teaching goals to the student experience. The importance of good citizenship, the function of government in American life, and the role of the free-market economic system are themes that run through the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Texas public schools for all grade levels, though the most relevant to the site are in the elementary and high school levels. Similarly, "Texas colonial and Texas Republic eras" are defined in the TEKS as major eras in Texas history, and the site is well positioned to telling this important history and the continuing impact of it on the region's economy and development.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letters are attached in Appendix A and include support from the following: The Mayor of West Columbia, Laurie Kincannon; the Site Manager for the Stephen F Austin-Munson County Park, James Glover; and the recently retired Curator for the Brazoria County Historical Museum, Michael Bailey.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

There is an opportunity to establish a Friends group to support the site.

Friends Groups

The growth of local support for the historic site within an established Friends Group, if there is interest, and building community support at large is vital. This may include a strong volunteer force that supplements the site's ability to meet business objectives and host onsite events and outreach programs.

Community Engagement

The active support of the local community in meeting overall business objectives is critical. Community engagement also includes the active participation of the site manager in local groups to represent the Texas Historical Commission, contribute to the community, and build strong relationships with public and private organizations. Through these efforts, the result is a favorable reputation of the Texas Historical Commission within the community it serves and reciprocated support that expands the site's capacity to grow in its mission.

NEEDED AND AVAILABLE FUNDING

Currently, funding and FTEs are available to operate as a THC state historic site in partnership with the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site. Funding for development, repairs, and improvements to the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site is estimated to be \$\$78,500 annually. These estimates are approximated for planning purposes.

OPERATING AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS

The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site would be accessible six days a week. Its proximity to the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site ensures that the site will have operating support to address the costs for any utilities, maintenance, and repairs.

DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Site Work, General Repairs & Improvements	
Irrigation & Lawn Repairs	\$50,000
Signage Replacement & Additions	\$30,000
New Sidewalks	\$3,960
Flag Illumination	\$7,500
Tree Maintenance	\$20,000
Road and parking lot repairs	\$50,000
Entry gate	\$85,000
20%contingency	\$49,292
	<i>Subtotal</i>
	(\$295,752)

ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

Utilities & Telecommunications	\$20,500
Supplies/Equipment	\$15,000
Fuel	\$3,000
Maintenance & Repairs	\$40,000
Other Operating Expenses	\$25,000
	Total
	\$78,500*

*The above costs are available through the existing Sporting Good Sales Tax (SGST). Financial analysis indicates that the operational and development costs are available to be addressed without any impact to the overall State Historic Site network operational budget. In conclusion, financial support of the site is available.

VISITATION

Visitation statistics at similar THC-operated sites in FY2022 can provide an estimate of anticipated visitation at the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site. However, the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site's proximity to the Varner-Hogg Plantation suggests the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site could attract more tour traffic from the Houston market area, which is growing as a regional destination for tourism.

<u>Site</u>	<u>Total Trips</u>
Acton SHS	25,000
Lipantitlán	1300
Fannin Battleground SHS	3500
Varner-Hogg Plantation SHS	14,502

The estimated average visitation of the SFAMS is projected to be about 12,000 annually. In the same period, average affinity funding through grants and donations could average 3,000. With additional marketing, programs, and enhancements to the visitor experience, visitation numbers could approach 20,000.

There is potential for visitation and interest through on-site field trip programs. In 2023, there were 2,911 students in the West Colombia Independent School District (ISD) and an additional 3,000 students in nearby ISD that covers the city of Sweeny, TX. Despite the impact of the pandemic in the last few years, Brazoria County has been growing, with the oil and gas industry attracting families from across the country. The site already draws visitors from outside the state as it has broad interest. Working with other local museums, visitor centers, and businesses could increase the potential growth of the site as a destination.

ACCEPTANCE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Vision

Texas is rich in cultural differences. This is evident in each historic site's local economic focus, history, and customs. Stephen F. Austin has had a significant impact on the politics and economic development of Texas. The site's history contributes to its sense of place, identity, culture, and lifeways of Texas. Establishing an operational vision for the site and connecting the site to other Texas Independence and Republic era sites is essential to assess opportunities to attract a visitor

base and grow revenue to support the site and the agency.

The THC strives to preserve not only its standing resources and to celebrate the achievements and legacy of Stephen F. Austin but also to preserve and share the unique cultural expressions of the Texas colonial period and Republic of Texas. This can be achieved through good stewardship practices. Through the active use and programming of the site, we can share what is authentic and unique about Texas.

Operational Focus

The following are important focus areas for the THC's Historic Sites:

- Preservation/Stewardship

One primary focus is the overall care and maintenance of the property and the on-site conservation and care of its monuments. This includes implementation of best practices in the stewardship of historic sites; efforts in place or planned to promote public interest in historic preservation, archeology, and museum/archival collections; and the establishment of best practices to safeguard the site collections as well as the public.

- Educational Programming

The development of educational and interpretive programming that attracts visitors to the site is vital to success. This includes garnering positive responses from local schools and districts on the site's value in meeting the school's needs through programs that meet the core state curriculum standards and resources for students and teachers that augment classroom learning. This will also include public programs that attract a broad spectrum of ages and interests that center on Texas history, as well as distance learning opportunities.

- Community Engagement

Local support for the historic site within the community at large is vital. This may include a strong volunteer force that supplements the site's ability to meet business objectives, onsite events, and outreach programs. The active support of the local community in

meeting overall business objectives is critical. Staff building solid relationships with public and private organizations is vital in expanding the site's capacity to grow in its mission.

Revenue Growth Potential

An operational model for the site can assist in growing additional revenue to support the historic site.

- Retail Store

The stories of the Texas Republic provide an opportunity to merchandise items that illustrate and enhance the stories told on-site. Mission-related items from the inventory at the THC's Texas Republic Sites, particularly at the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site and Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site Stores, could enhance retail offerings at both sites.

- Admission Fees

Establishing a fee structure at the site requires further assessment. The Executive Director and Commissioners approve prices based on the Texas Administrative Code. At this time, the site is scheduled to be a fee-free access site.

- Tours and Treks

It is crucial to connect the historic site with the Texas Heritage Trails Program and local heritage tourism efforts. To forge a stronger partnership, Historic Sites can develop regional tours and treks centered on a historic site and, where possible, partner with the local Texas Heritage Trail office.

- Market Analysis and Investment

An important need is to develop a new market strategy for the historic site. Having a strategic marketing plan to identify market areas for the investment is vital. Knowing the demographic makeup of an interested user group will help define investment areas both outside and inside the state and target markets in specific areas for the best results

connecting to other Texas Independence and Republic sites.

- Donations
The feasibility of a donation fee may be assessed at this site.

Overall Business Goals for the Site can be Defined as:

- Relevant, realistic, and achievable outcomes/assumptions;
- Quality visitor experience(s) driving growth;
- Establish compelling reasons to visit the site and connect to their historic sites;
- Expand visitor base through effective programming;
- Strengthen value and support of local customer base;
- Set business goals with strategies in the site's development;
- On-going market research;
- Testing of the market, product quality, and customer response;
- Link in and utilize local government support to meet economic, political, and community development objectives;
- Utilize available resources to meet budget and operational needs most cost-effectively.

Friends Group Support

THC-sponsored Friends Groups provide important assistance in business support and growth through solid connections with successful and local public and private organizations. Within an established Friends Group, there is a need for professional engagement in:

- Heritage Tourism
- Marketing
- Event Planning
- Retail

When in place, these skills will help support a site manager. Having the local executive director of the Texas Heritage Trails program as a member of the Friends board can be important to build more robust capacity and engagement.

Investment of Volunteer Time

Engagement and management of volunteers can be successfully achieved but takes time. Realistically, Friends Groups can assist in achieving specific planned objectives and events. The following are areas of focus for a Friends Group that should be assessed annually:

- *Community Engagement* - May have more access to the broad community itself as well as underserved sectors of the community.

- *Market Research and Awareness Building* - May have access to pro bono media and expertise. Can leverage or augment in-house staff capability. Can function as a liaison with the community and be a voice for the historic site.
- *Staff Support* - Can supplement the agency's in-house staff capability either by hiring staff or by supporting staff.
- *Program Delivery and Event Staging* - Can assist special programs and events.
- *Procure Equipment/Services* - Can acquire and donate equipment.
- *Recruit and Manage Volunteers* - Can recruit and manage their own volunteers or help the public agency manage its volunteer program.

PROPOSED PHASING

The following are proposed steps required for the property to transition to a Texas Historical Commission State Historic Site:

Phase I (informally conducted prior to June 2023)

- Texas Historical Commission approves the acceptance of the site for inclusion as a Texas Historical Commission State Historic Site.

Phase II

If approved, Texas Historical Commission's Historic Sites staff will work with the Attorney General's Office on the legal documents to prepare for the property transfer to the Texas Historical Commission.

- The Texas Historical Commission's Historic Sites will work to have the property rebranded and work to install new signage and collateral material.
- Historic Sites staff will work with the Pierce family to plan for a transition to THC
- Finalize operational, exhibit, marketing, and business plan.
- Deferred maintenance addressed.
- Build a partnership base with local private and public organizations, including local cultural institutions; cross promote the Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site with the Varner-Hogg Plantation SHS, Levi Jordan Plantation SHS, and the major THC-operated Texas Independence and Republic Sites: Barrington Plantation, Monument Hill, Casa Navarro, Presidio La Bahía, Fannin Battleground, San Felipe de Austin, Fanthorp Inn, San Jacinto Battleground, French Legation, Star of the Republic Museum, and Washington-on-the-Brazos.

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

As put forward in THC rule (Title 13, Part 2, Chapter 16 Rule §16.3), consideration for accepting a historic property for development as a Texas Historical Commission historic site must be accomplished through addressing the specific criteria listed below.

(1) The property must have recognized statewide or national significance based on the standards of the National Register of Historic Places.

Conclusion: Further archeological investigations will need to be conducted to determine this potential. The history of the site is significant in addressing this need.

(2) The property should be able to provide an interpretation of a significant theme or event of Texas history that is not fully represented by the Commission's existing historic sites or other historic sites accessible to the public. The Commission will strive to maintain a geographic, cultural, and thematic balance in its program.

Conclusion: The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site (SFAMS) provides an opportunity for the THC to tell a complete story of Austin's significant influence on the political life of Texas. This would expand the story told at the other Texas Revolutionary Sites and enhance the story of the early years of the Texas Republic.

(3) The property should have exceptional integrity of location (including the surrounding environment), design, material, setting, feeling, and association.

Conclusion: The integrity of the site is generally good. The property has not been significantly altered and potentially has intact archeological remains.

(4) The property should have appropriate collections (objects, manuscript material, artifacts) associated with the historic site, or necessary artifacts related to the site's history and period of significance should be identified and available.

Conclusion: The collection items include the centennial marker, memorial site elements,

and the collection held by the Price family.

(5) The property must be appropriate for use as an interpretive museum or historic site, have high potential to attract and accommodate diverse and new audiences, and be accessible to travelers as well as to the local community.

Conclusion: The Stephen F. Austin Memorial Site already functions as a historic site. The site's location near West Columbia provides tourist traffic. With enhanced marketing, expanded programming, and improvements to the visitor experience, its visibility has the potential to be significantly higher and reach more diverse and new audiences.

(6) The property must be available without restrictions that would limit the Commission's options for preservation and interpretation as a historic site (for example, a life estate retained by the grantor, restrictions against future sale or conveyance, or limits on alterations deemed appropriate by Commission). The Commission encourages the use of easements or other restrictions to ensure the preservation of historic sites.

Conclusion: The site is owned by the Price family. The family has indicated it will transfer the site to the THC without restrictions (see "Statement of Willingness to Transfer").

(7) Financial resources must be available or assured, including an endowment fund where appropriate, or sources of funding must be identified in a comprehensive funding plan to ensure the restoration, interpretation, development, long-term operation, and preservation of the site.

Conclusion: Operation of the site as a state historic site would require a commitment from the state for operating costs from the THC's annual base operating budget. Additional one-time funds would also be necessary for needed repairs and improvements to the site.

(8) The property must have the potential for strong supporting partnerships, including community support.

Conclusion: There are existing and potential partnership opportunities with institutions in the area, such as Brazosport College, Rice University, and Prairie View A&M University. Additional corporate partnerships exist with companies such as Dow Chemical, Chevron Philips, and Tenaris.

Recommendation

The Stephen F Austin Memorial Site is an important and historically significant site that can contribute to the public's understanding of Austin's considerable influence on the founding of the Texas Republic and its political life. The site meets all the Phase III assessment criteria to become a potential THC state historic site. As such, the staff and the reviewers recommend that the Commission accept the property as a State Historic Site.

APPENDIX A: REVIEW COMMITTEE LETTERS OF SUPPORT

JANIE PARKER PRICE
P. O. BOX 337
WEST COLUMBIA, TX 77486-0337

Members of Historical Commission Board:

The historic property where Stephen F. Austin died was purchased in August, 1994. It is located near West Columbia, Texas on C.R. 467 at 521 Oilfield Road.

A monument marking the historical property was placed on the property by the State of Texas in 1934. The property was originally owned by Judge George B. McKinstry, who had fought in the Battle of Velasco, and was a delegate to the General Convention of 1832. Stephen F. Austin became ill while conducting business of the Colony in Columbia, and he died at the home of Judge McKinstry.

A Texas Flag flies over the site, and for many years celebrations were held on November 3, Austin's birthday. These ceremonies featured honored guest speakers, including Gov. Mark White, Sam Houston IV and 4th Grade School students studying Texas History.

As current owner of the property, it is my hope that the Texas State Historical Committee will accept the 5 acre park as a donation in memory of Billy F. Price. I appreciate the work of the Commission in the preservation of historic site.

Sincerely,

Janie Price

Concerning the possible acquisition of the George B. McKinstry home site, the death site of Stephen F. Austin, by the Texas Historical Commission – I am hopeful that the acquisition will take place.

Currently, this historic property is in private hands. It may one day be closed to the public or even be developed. As the site itself is very picturesque – on a rise overlooking the access road and with sparsely wooded pasturage to the north – it is very attractive as a modern home site. Were the Commission to acquire the property, it would make a very nice pocket park with little need for development or upkeep. Merely preserving the site as a historic location would be a great public benefit.

Conversely, losing the site to potential development would be tragic. This is the site where George B. McKinstry, Chief Justice of Brazoria County, lived until his death. It is the site where Stephen F. Austin breathed his last while serving as Secretary of State. Nothing remains of the original structures on the site; however, the legacy of the location speaks for itself.

James Glover, Historic Site Manager

Stephen F. Austin-Munson County Park
jamesg@brazoriacountytx.gov
979-849-5965



P.O. Box 487
512 E. Brazos Avenue
West Columbia TX 77486

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
LAURIE B. KINCANNON
Email: kincannonlaurie@gmail.com

Phone (979) 345-3123
Fax (979) 345-3178
www.westcolumbiatx.org

June 22, 2023

To the Texas Historical Commission:

The Stephen F. Austin Death Site, like the town of Columbia, is sacred to the story of Texas. As the Republic's first Secretary of State, Austin toiled tirelessly in his office in the House of Representatives. The winter was cold and harsh, yet he worked in a building with no comforts or heat. The draftiness of the building coupled with a cold winter resulted in Austin getting a "severe cold" which later turned to "lung fever" (pneumonia).

From my research, I have been able to determine that Stephen F. Austin was probably renting the shed that was attached to George B. McKinstry's home. The shed too was unheated and located on the north side of the home. Too ill to be transported to his sister's home, he died there on December 27, 1836.

The Death Site is beautiful and perfectly manicured and maintained. I have visited this site often in my seventy years for its solitude and historical significance.

As mayor of the City of West Columbia, I strongly urge the Texas Historical Commission to add this significantly historic site to its portfolio.

Sincerely,



Laurie B. Kincannon

21 June 2023

Re.: Stephen F. Austin Death Site: West Columbia, Texas

To whom this may concern;

I am so happy to hear that the Texas Historical Commission is considering adding the Stephen F. Austin Death Site to the inventory of properties THC manages. Not only is the Site known as the place where Stephen F. Austin died; it was also the home of Judge George B. McKinstry. Judge McKinstry was appointed by President Sam Houston as the first Judge of Brazoria County. There is a Centennial Marker at the Site to commemorate his life. McKinstry died days short of the one year anniversary of Austin's death. A site such as this will not only give THC a chance to interpret the life of Stephen F. Austin but also provide for interpretation of events in Texas history such as the Battle of Velasco and railroad history. As McKinstry was involved in these and many other activities.

The property has been well maintained by its owner, Billy Price, and after his death, his wife has continued its upkeep. I have personally attended events, with local school children, on that site and can attest to its serene space and solemn presence. It will also provide an excellent chance to do archaeology in the future because of it being an early homesite dating to the Austin Colony experience.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Michael J. Bailey
Curator, Brazoria County Historical Museum-Retired
Past President Sons of the American Revolution, Cradle of Texas Chapter
Admiral Texas Navy
979-848-3705
michjbailey@gmail.com



Bob Bullock
Lieutenant Governor of Texas
President, Texas Senate

The Capitol
Austin, Texas 78711-2068
(512) 463-0001

1-800-441-0573
(512) 475-3758 TDD

October 26, 1994

Mr. Billy F. Price
Price Compressor Co., Inc.
7752 Braniff Street
Houston, Texas 77061-5199

Dear Billy:

The people of Texas are in your debt for your planning, care and concern for preserving and marking the place where Stephen F. Austin died in Brazoria County. It is only because of concerned Texans like you that many places of historical interest have been rescued and marked for future generations. I know I speak for Governor Richards when I say "Thank you."

Please accept this Lone Star flag, flown over the Capitol, to fly over the West Columbia site of the death of the Father of Texas. I regret that Jan and I will not be able to attend the ceremony this year.

Thank you again, Billy, for your contribution to the preservation of this important place of Texas history.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,


BOB BULLOCK
Lieutenant Governor

BB:cer

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Ann W. Richards

Honoring a Texas hero

Planting of a Stephen F. Austin tree here will salute singular contributions

forum

elmon R. PHILLIPS

The name Stephen Fuller Austin means a lot to the people of Texas. Most historians agree that he is considered to be the founder of Anglo-American Texas. Gen. Sam Houston called him the "Father of Texas." He was the most successful of all the *empresarios* who were given the right to bring settlers in the new area now called Texas. Austin was born in Austinville, Va., on Nov. 3, 1793; he was placed in charge of the Texas project begun by his father, Moses, after Moses' death in 1820.

Austin died Dec. 27, 1836, only a few months after the battle of San Jacinto at the early age of 43. At the time of his death he was living at the home of Judge George McKinstry, located just north of the town of Columbia, where he had been residing for several months. This home was located just off State Highway 36 a few miles north of the present town of West Columbia.

Austin never married and held no elective office. Because he did not have any progeny to carry on his name and because of his untimely death, he is not as well known as other heroes of the early Texas Republic.

A Houston businessman, Bill Price, who has had a lifelong interest in Austin, several years ago found that the property where the Judge George McKinstry home had been located was for sale. Mr. Price and his wife Janie purchased the property and started the Friends of Stephen F. Austin and the Stephen F. Austin Heritage Oak Project.

The site was covered by a junkyard that had existed there for years. After considerable effort and expense the site was cleared

and a park has been created dedicated to the memory of Stephen F. Austin and for the enjoyment of the people of Texas. Every year on Nov. 3, the birthday of Austin, a celebration is held at the park.

At the site of the old McKinstry house and within the park there is a giant live oak tree that has been standing in that location since before Austin lived in the house. Acorns have been gathered from that ancient live oak and have been propagated into trees that are available for plant-

“

Austin, who never married and died at an early age, left no progeny and so is not as well known as other Texas heroes of his day.

”

ing These trees have been certified by the Texas Forestry Association as disease-free and from the tree on the McKinstry property.

To date more than 300 trees have been planted around the state. A tree has also been planted at the site of Austin's birth in Austinville, Va.

One aim of the Project is to involve school children in the planting and to foster an appreciation of Austin's contribution to the development of the Texas of today. Since Stephen F. Austin had no children to perpetuate his memory, these trees are one element to stand in their stead.

Some groups that have planted the trees have chosen to remove acorns from the tree when they mature and plant them and give the seedlings to children and others to plant at their homes: in a sense, to continue the perpetuation of Austin's memory by planting the grandchildren on the original Heritage Oak tree.

The ceremony to plant the first Stephen F. Austin tree in Nueces County will be held at 2:30 p.m. March 8, at the 1892 Nuecestown School House. The school is located at 11425 Leopard Street. The school is on the grounds of the Hilltop Community Center. The event is sponsored by the Nueces County Historical Commission, the Nuecestown School House, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

The public is invited, and everyone, especially children, asked to bring a small container of dirt from a favorite location to place around the tree so as to provide a link to the importance of the event:

The Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Junior Historians and other students will be the guests of the sponsoring organizations.

Ben Warren III from Pasadena, Texas, will be the featured speaker at the planting and will talk about the history of the project and the importance of Stephen F. Austin's place in Texas history. Mr. Warren is a member of the Friends of Stephen F. Austin, coordinator of the Heritage Oak Project for South Texas, president of the Sam Houston Chapter No. 38 of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and a 1951 graduate of Miller High School

(Elmon R. Phillips is a member of the Nueces County Historical Commission and the City of Corpus Christi Landmark Commission.)



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276 (TELEPHONE) 512-463-6096 (FAX) 512-463-6095 (RELAY TX) 1-800-735-2989 (TDD)
DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES PROTECTION

September 1, 1994

Mr. Billy Price
Price Compressor
7752 Braniff
Houston, TX 77061

Dear Billy:

It was a pleasure to meet you on Monday and to visit the McKinstry House site. The other plantations that Ann took us to were exciting as well. These were sites of great importance in Texas history, and I was very impressed. Enclosed please find a copy of the archeological site form for the McKinstry House site. The site is now officially recorded and assigned the number 41BO186. The 41 is for Texas; the BO for Brazoria County; and the 186 is the sequential number in that county. I also turned in forms for Waldeck Plantation and for Orozimbo. It is amazing to me that these sites have not been previously recorded as archeological sites.

I look forward to continuing to work with you on your project. Thank you for your interest and commitment.

Yours truly,

J. Barto Arnold III
State Marine Archeologist

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

State of Texas
 ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE DATA FORM

Instructions: Answer all questions. Be specific in distinguishing between "none" and "none observed" or "unknown"; if in doubt, enter "unknown." Where question is followed by (Yes) (No), simply circle answer. Enter measurements in metric. Attachments may be used to complete any question: at question, write "See Attachment ____," and number attachments consecutively. List all attachments at end of this form.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Temporary Site No. _____
 Permanent Site No. 41B0186
 Site Name GEORGE B. MCKINSTRY HOUSE SITE
 Project Name _____

Project Funding Source(s) THC

Owner and Address BILLY PRICE
7752 BRANIFF
HOUSTON, TX 77061
713/649-0071

Informant and Address VAN EDSSEN
2903 OLD SPANISH TRAIL
HOUSTON, TX 77045
713/747-4647

Additional Sources of Information ANN CROCKER
805 S. COLUMBIA DR.
WEST COLUMBIA, TX 77486
409/345-4431

Previous Investigations
 Who _____
 What _____
 When _____
 Why _____

Name of Original Recorder of Site _____

RECORDING INFORMATION

Name of Recorder BARTO ARNOLD
 Institutional Affiliation, if any TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Date 8/31/94

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

County BRAZORIA
 USGS Map Name & No. WEST COLUMBIA, TEX.
2995-213

Elevation 35'

UTM: Zone 15

Easting 2 41 880 (GPS)

Northing 3 2 27 970

Latitude _____
 Longitude _____

Description of Location (include nearby USGS topographic landmarks as well as on-site references: note mileages, distances, etc.)

FROM STATE HWY 36 TURN EAST
ON COUNTY RD. 467, GO PAST HL+P
TRANSFORMERS, OVER CATTLE GUARD,
SITE IS ON RISE ON SOUTH SIDE OF
ROAD. LOOK FOR GRANIT HISTORICAL
MARKER (1936). NW OF WEST
COLUMBIA.

Permanent Site No. _____

WORK PERFORMED BY FIELD PERSONNEL

Survey (Yes) (No)

Testing (Yes) (No)

Method _____

Excavation (Yes) (No)

Method _____

Notes (Yes) (No)

Where Housed THC

Photographs

Slides- Color (Yes) (No)

Black & White (Yes) (No)

Prints- Color (Yes) (No)

Black & White (Yes) (No)

Where Housed THC

Collections (Yes) (No)

Where Housed OWNER

Collection Techniques (e.g., controlled, noncontrolled, select, random, arbitrary; describe)

RANDOM

Kinds of Materials Collected SILVER LAIN, MUSKET BALL,

HIST. SHEETS, DECORATED BRASS BRUSH BACK

Special Samples (e.g., carbon, archeomagnetic, plant; list and describe)

How Collected _____

ENVIRONMENTAL LOCATION

Nearest Natural Water Source YARNER CREEK

Distance 1 KM

Drainage Basin BRAZOS R.

Drainage Type (e.g. riverine) playa, marine

Soil Origins (may be multiple)

Colluvial (Yes) (No) Alluvial (Yes) (No)

Eolian (Yes) (No) Marine (Yes) (No)

Soil Type (e.g., clay loam, sand) _____

Vegetation (list dominant, others if known) GRASS,

TREES, BRUSH BEING CLEARED.

Ground Surface Visibility 5% (ST. AUGUSTINE GRASS)

Environmental Setting of Site (include pertinent landforms, slope, visible landmarks, etc.)

Additional Comments _____

Permanent Site No. _____

CULTURAL MANIFESTATIONS

Site Size (estimate if necessary)

At Present _____

At Original Occupation _____

Basis for Determination _____

Circumstances of Observation _____

Depth of Cultural Deposit _____

Basis for Determination _____

Time Periods of Occupation (e.g., Prehistoric-Early Archaic; may be multiple)

HISTORIC - ANGLO COLONIAL

Components (refers to discreet occupations)

Single (Yes) (No) Multiple (Yes) (No)

Unknown (Yes) (No)

Basis for Determination _____

Site Type (e.g., open campsite, military post, rockshelter)

HOUSE SITE

Cultural Features (If present, describe; e.g., burned rock midden, hearth, structural remains; how do they relate to components, time periods, physiography; how many are there. spatial distribution, size, contents, etc.)

SMALL AREA OF BRICK FOUNDATION
VISIBLE. TWO OIL TANKS - ONE METAL
ONE CYPRESS

Artifactual Materials Present (kinds of materials, distribution across site, relationship to features, etc.)

Discussion of Site (comments, observations, impressions)

SITE OF HOUSE IN WHICH
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN DIED ON DEC. 27,
1836.

Additional Comments _____

(Continued)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.5
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider approval to accept the transfer of items referred to in the Operating Agreement between Texas Historical Commission and George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

Background:

The operating agreement between Texas Historic Commission and George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc., Section I, “Obligations of the Parties”, refers to the transfer of all property, buildings, fixtures, equipment (excluding the shipping container currently owned by the George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc. and its contents) and on-site inventoried collections, furnishings, fixtures, art, and artifacts associated with the museum, including gift shop inventory with the exception of the logos, trademarks, and copyrights associated with George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc. which shall be retained by GWBCH, Inc. All contents for transfer have been sorted, inventoried and valued and recorded on deeds of gift which have been signed by THC and Foundation staff.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend acceptance of the transfer of items referred to in the operating agreement between Texas Historical Commission and George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to accept the transfer of items referred to in the Operating Agreement between Texas Historical Commission and George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

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DEED OF GIFT

Accession Number: BFH.2023.1

Donor Name: George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

Street Address: P.O. Box 8586

City, State & Zip: Midland, TX 79708

Phone: 432-685-1112

Email: gwbhome@bushchildhoodhome.org

I the Donor, have delivered, and hereby **unconditionally** and **irrevocably** given, the object(s) described on the attached pages, together with all copyright, trademark, title, and associated rights of the Donor therein, to the Texas Historical Commission (THC). I the Donor(s) affirm that I own the object(s) listed below and to the best of my knowledge I have complete rights, title, and interests to give. Further, I warrant that the objects listed below have been legally obtained in compliance with all local, state, federal, and international laws and it has not been imported or exported in violation of any state, federal, or international laws. I warrant that there are not liens placed on the object(s). I acknowledge that upon execution of this Deed of Gift the object(s) irrevocably becomes the property of the Texas Historical Commission and may be used, displayed, stored, and maintained as the Texas Historical Commission sees fit.

Donation Description:

Collection objects on display in the George W. Bush family home.

Type of Acquisition: Gift Purchase Bequest Transfer

Is Donor seeking tax deduction? Yes No

Signature of Donor

Date

Signature of Site Representative or Chief Curator

Date



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Deed of Gift

Conditions of Deposit

This Deed of Gift is subject to the following conditions. The Donor is advised to seek legal advice and an appraisal before claiming deductions from any taxable income under laws of the State of Texas and/or the United States. No money, services, or anything of value was exchanged for this donation.

Donor or Depositors, hereinafter called Depositor, should request identification from the person receiving object(s) listed on the reverse and be prepared to show identification.

The THC receives the deposit on the understanding that the Depositor has full authority to make it.

In receiving or surrendering deposits, the THC requires that the Depositor comply with all applicable government regulations. If the Depositor has knowledge of special conditions governing the object(s), such as copyright, lien, and so forth, the Depositor must inform the Commission thereof.

Terms of Acceptance

New acquisitions to the permanent collection will be approved by the Texas Historical Commission. Gifts will be accepted and acknowledged by THC curatorial staff or HSD Site Managers of the Texas Historical Commission. THC curatorial staff or HSD Site Managers will acknowledge the acceptance or the decline of this gift or donation of deposited object(s) within sixty days of deposit. The gift or donation shall be considered conditional until this notification.

If the gift or donation is declined, the Depositor shall reclaim the property within ten days' notice or upon a mutually agreed date. If the property is not reclaimed within ten days on the agreed date, the THC may, at its option, store the property at the Depositor's risk and expense or treat the property as loaned property as provided by Chapter 80, Texas Property Code.

Care and Preservation

While the gift is conditional, the THC will exercise the same care in respect to the object(s) covered by this deed of gift as it does with its own property. Depositor releases and holds harmless the Texas Historical Commission from any liability for damage to or loss of the deposited property.



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Object List

Item	Notes/Description
iconic 40s and 50s baseball stars	
1955 Midland Cubs Little League Roster w/ GWB	
GWB throwing 1st pitch at Game 3 of 2001 World Series	
(2) Saturday Evening Post wall displays	
photo panel - Marilyn Monroe and Joe Dimaggio	
magazine, Sports Illustrated, August 16, 1954	
(2) signed Willie Mays baseball cards, 1954	
History of Baseball photo panel	
Little League photo panel	
glass case containing: 1950s Little League mitt and baseball	
GWB and TX Rangers photo panel	
photo	GHWB with Babe Ruth at 1948 Yale baseball game, signed by GHWB
Noxema cream jar	
Pro-Grip bowler's non-slip cream in jar	
Johnson's baby lotion	
Cutex cuticle oil jar	
Methiolate bottle	
Nail polish jar	
Vicks Vapo-Rub tin	
Gillette safety razor and blades	
Children's Mild Musterole	
travel first-aid kit in leather case	



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wrapped bar, Camay soap	
bathmat and rug	
Colgate tooth powder canister	
Avon Talc powder can	
hand towel	
Cashmere bouquet bath set	
various linens, towels	
Drop leaf table	on loan from Gayle Dodson
(2) ivy leaf vases	
teal jar w/lid	
Photo	GW with toddler Jeb, studio photo
Photo	GWB first inauguration, swearing in
Photo	GWB and Jeb in Florida, 2004
Photo	extended Bush family at a Christmas gathering
Photo	extended Bush family at White House - 60th anniversary party for GHWB and Barbara
Photo	GWB and Barney, Crawford, TX
Photo	GHWB and Barbara, Jenna/Barbara, Laura/GWB, and Jenna Welch at Crawford, 2005
Photo	Bush family: GH, Barbara, GW, Jeb, Neil, and Marvin in Midland, 1959. Barbara is pregnant with Dorothy.
Photo	GH with GW at Zapata Offshore event (opening/ribbon cutting?) - Houston, TX
Photo	GH and Barbara at 1412 W Ohio, ribbon cutting/opening ceremony, April 2006
Photo	GH/Barbara, GW/Laura at Camp David, 2005
Photo	GH/Barbara, GW/Laura, twins at Crawford ranch, 2005
Photo	Bush siblings at public event (GW, Jeb, Neil, Marvin, Doro), with GH and Barbara on background screen
Photo	Barbara and Dottie Craig with three unidentified people - signed photo from Barbara to Dottie, in silver White House frame



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Photo	Barbara and Laura at Walkers Point, 2004
Photo	GW with dog Mark at W.Ohio front yard
Photo	Toddler Jeb in W. Ohio backyard, 1954?
Photo	GW with best friend Mike Proctor, front porch of W. Ohio, 1955?
Photo	newspaper clipping - GW and GH competing in YMCA electric train races (Midland)
Photo	newspaper clipping w/headline: "Final Vote Condemns McCarthy" (1954)
Photo	Bush family: GH, Barbara, GW, Jeb, Neil, Marvin, and baby Doro - Houston, 1959
Photo	Bush boys on Christmas morning in Sentinel St. house, 1955 (GW, Jeb, and Neil)
Photo	Toddler Jeb on slide, W. Ohio backyard, 1954
Photo	Bush boys at Sentinel St. house, 1956 - GW holding newborn Marvin, Jeb, and Neil
Photo	Cover, Scouting Magazine, February 1953
Photo	GW in Cub Scout uniform, front yard of W. Ohio house, 1954 or 55
Photo	GW with Mark on front porch of W. Ohio
Photo	GW and Jeb on slide with neighborhood friends, 1954
Photo	Barbara with George and Jeb on front porch of W. Ohio, 1954
Photo	postcard - Midland churches
Photo	cover, Saturday Evening Post, March 24, 1956
Photo	Barbara by kitchen door of W. Ohio
Photo	Barbara and GW in front yard of W. Ohio
Photo	Concept color drawing of 1421 W. Ohio Ave
Photo	Jeb on bouncy horse, backyard of W. Ohio, 1954
Photo	GHW and toddler GW, about 1948



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Photo	GW in cowboy hat with tin horse, Christmas morning in Compton, CA, 1949 (note: horse in photo matches our tin horse in the playroom)
Photo	cover, Saturday Evening Post, July 24, 1954
Photo	GHW holding Robin, around 1953
Photo	Robin feeding newborn Jeb a bottle, 1953
Photo	GW "riding" a cement rabbit sculpture in Odessa, TX
Photo	front of Zapata Petroleum building, downtown Midland
Photo	1955 Christmas card photo of GW, Jeb, and Neil
Photo	GW and Jeb making a snowman in front yard of W. Ohio, 1954-55
Photo	cover, Saturday Evening Post, June 18, 1955
Photo	Barbara holding 5-week-old Robin in Compton, 1949
Photo	Studio photo of GW and Robin, ages when they moved into W. Ohio in 1951 (5 and nearly 2)
Photo	Barbara holding baby Jeb with Robin next to her on front porch of W. Ohio, 1953
Photo	GW and Robin on Easter 1953, front porch of W. Ohio (likely one of few times she was home from NY following her diagnosis)
Glass Display Case	glass case containing: Roy Rogers and Dale Evans coloring book, marbles, metal popgun and holster
Photo	GW with housekeeper Julia May Cooper on front porch of W. Ohio, 1953
Glass Display Case	glass case containing scouting manual, Cub Scouts official penknife, Cub Scouts hat
Panel Display	6 panels detailing restoration process, research, and team
Glass Display Case	glass containing child's cowboy boots, Midland postcard, plastic cowboys and horses
Glass Display Case	glass case containing diecast plane, diecast dump truck, and plastic cowboy/horse figurines
teal vase/flower holder	



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teal vase/flower holder	
Floor lamp	identical to lamp in Compton 1949 Christmas photo
China Buffet	storage for china/silverware/linens, lift-up top
Photo	Large, framed photo in pearl-adorned frame of Barbara Bush, 2000s
Photo	Large, framed photo of GHW and GW, 1990s/early 2000s
Child's cowboy hat	
early Mickey Mouse stuffed toy	
teddy bear	
(2) baseballs	
Plastic toy horse	
Cast iron fire truck	
(2) cap guns with holster	
box of bang caps for cap guns	
Daisy B3 air rifle	
Cub Scout uniform shirt and neckerchiefs	
Book, "Roy Rogers and the Gopher Creek Gunman"	
(2) Roy Rogers Trigger button-down shirts	
Child's leather belt	
woven bedspread, western-themed	
wooden croquet set	*Formerly owned, and donated by, Joseph O'Neill, friend and childhood playmate of GWB
child's felt cowboy hat	
child's leather cowboy boots	
viewmaster toy with 19 viewmaster photo slides	
set: Young Folks library books, 1955 (ten volumes)	
Dinky Toy Co. metal truck	
plastic wind-up airplane toy	
"Calling All Cars!" board game	



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Marvel strap-on metal roller skates, model 197	
wooden spinning top	
leather marble pouch	
paddle ball	
wooden slingshot	
six plastic farm animals, var.	
school supplies	glue, tape dispenser, mucilage container, Major brand staples
gooseneck desk lamp	
(2) Lone Ranger comic books - 1954, #74 and #75	
metal Hubley truck	
plastic horseshoe throwing set	
pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey party game	
plastic motorcycle policeman action figure	
wooden airplane toy	
leather football/rugby ball	
wooden racer car	
plastic taxi toy car	
Tootsie Toy metal dump truck	
metal Packard car	
Structo Telephone Co. metal truck	
Grapette glass soda bottle	
wooden dominos set	
checkboard	
diecast metal truck	
wooden Wilson baseball bat	
Westinghouse portable record player, model H71Mp1	
(5) 45 records/record player	
Lionel train set, track, and power pack	



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Lincoln Log set w/box	
Tinkertoy set w/box, #146	
metal Chinese checkerboard	
Rope Ring Toss set	
child's wooden desk chair with cushion	
GWB exhibit display	
Chest of Drawers - built in 1939, original to house	
tin farmhouse with plastic animals, cowboys, and fence set	
U.S.A. map puzzle - Jaymar Vacation and Play, 1950	
magazine, Sports Illustrated, July 25, 1950	
baseball uniform - felt, gray/red trim	
Indian costume bonnet	
set of 4 Stardee's puzzles	
Saalfield carboard jigsaw puzzle 7342	
(24) 1950s <i>Post and Life</i> magazines	
(19) Scouting magazines, 1952-54	
wooden bow with quiver, four arrows	
Black rotary telephone with cords	
1954 Midland phone book	
1952 Midland phone book	
box of Hershey's Milk Chocolate Kisses	
dial radio	
rolling pin	
metal rolling cart	
martini shaker	
flour sifter	
oven mitt	
embroidered doily	



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green glass orange juicer	
toaster	
saucepan	
ivy leaf pattern serving tray	
Aqua General Electric "combination unit" refrigerator	formerly owned, and donated by, Jenna Welch (Laura Bush's mother). Was in good working condition at time of donation in early 2000s but has not been plugged in since that time.
metal ice tray with lever	
Pyrex "refrigerator dishes" - red, yellow, blue	8 dishes, varying sizes, 6 with clear glass lids
green glass water bottle with pouring cap	
7-up soda bottle	
glass juice jar	
plastic butter dish	
metal bread box	
fish-themed thermos	
ceramic mug with plastic measuring spoons	
red metal rolling cart	
3 glass soda bottles (RC Cola, Nugrape, 7-up)	
stand mixer with glass mixing bowl	
tin measuring cup	
plug-in iron	
cut-glass bowl with metal carrying handle	
recipe pamphlets	
ceramic child's plate with bear decoration	
metal pitcher	
silver flatware set	
wood card table	
3 metal folding chairs with red fabric	*Identical to chairs in kitchen photos



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wooden baby highchair	*Identical to Jeb's high chair in photos
ceramic baby plate, hollow bottom with cork hole	
metal/plastic baby teething toy (key set)	
Ivy Leaf Wedgewood china set	same pattern GH and Barbara received as a wedding gift
ceramic soup tureen	
"cake cutter" tool	
cut glass drinking cups (6-8)	
orange juice cups - glass with painted oranges	
metal cake plate/cover	
red metal stepstool set	
1955 Norman Rockwell illustrated calendar	
Universal oven/range unit, gas	
Grease container/kettle	
pressure cooker	
ceramic dish with teal lid	
(3) crocheted heat pads	
box of matches	
"Laundry Twins" salt and pepper shaker set	free gift that came with the Westinghouse Laundry Twins set, 1950
cornbread baking pan	
roasting pan with lid	
embroidered hand towel	
plug-in electric wall clock	
Photo	GW and Jeb in kitchen on Jeb's first birthday
green brocade tablecloth	
Photo	cover, Saturday Evening Post, April 8, 1953
Photo	cover, Saturday Evening post, February 19, 1955
metal ice tray with lever	
potato masher	



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syrup jar with pour lid/handle	
cookie and biscuit cutters (star, two circles)	
rolling pin	
ice cream scoop	
hand egg/cake beater	
onion/veggie chopper and jar	
jar with nut grinder lid/handle	
set of Pyrex mixing bowls, primary colors	
Betty Furness Westinghouse cookbook	
(3) floral-patterned tin cannisters	
crocheted dishrag	
seasoning/flavoring bottles (var.)	Poultry, cloves, garlic salt, MAGGI seasoning, imitation maple flavoring, red and green food coloring, mint extract, salt substitute
Hummel ceramic figurine	
Alka-Seltzer bottle	
(2) green glass spice bottles with metal lids	
(2) embroidered handkerchief window valances	
ceramic baby bottle warmer	
toaster	
embroidered hand towels	
sheer (chiffon?) apron	
glass baby bottle with plastic cap	
(3) green glass drinking cup	
dish drainer/dry rack	
(4) glass milk bottles, half-pint to liter sizes	
(6) metal glasses	
tin cannister - Sunrise Pure Lard	
tin canister - Premium Saltines	
tin canister - Sunshine Trumps Cookies	



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tin canister - Planter mixed nuts	
tin canister - Cheese Ritz	
tin canister - Peter Pan peanut butter	
tin canister - Shurfine coffee	
tin canister - Donald Duck coffee	
tin canister - Maxwell House coffee	
Pyrex refrigerator dish w/glass lid, yellow	
2 glass canister jars with lids	
white glass mixing bowl with handle and pour spout	
Glass jar with lid	
glass measuring cup handle/pour spout	
set: striped juice pitcher and glasses (5-6)	
Book	Little Golden Book of Words
Book	Little Golden Book, "The Animals of Farmer John"
Book	Little Golden Book, "The Little Red Caboose"
Book	Little Golden Book, "The Three Bears"
Book	Little Golden Book, "Roy Rogers and the Mountain Lion"
Book	Little Golden Book, "Fury"
Book	Little Golden Book, "Bugs Bunny and the Indians"
Book	<i>The Chequer Board</i> by Nevil Shute
Book	<i>The Last Frontier</i> by Howard Fast
Book	<i>The Tender Trap</i> , play by Schuman and Smith
Book	<i>Hilda Crane</i> by Samson Raphaelson
Book	<i>Reclining Figure</i> by Kunitz
Book	<i>Cannon Hill</i> by Mary Deasy
Book	<i>"Prayers for Little Children"</i> - a Rand McNally book
Book	<i>"Gene Autry Goes to the Circus"</i>
Book	<i>Blaze of Glory</i> by Agatha Young
Book	<i>Silas Marner</i> by George Eliot
Book	<i>Origins of the American Revolution</i> by John C. Miller



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Book	<i>Lady Baltimore</i> by Wister
Book	<i>Behind the Crimson Blind</i> by Carter Dickson
Book	<i>Fanny</i> , a play by Dorothy Hughes
Book	<i>The Davidian Report</i> by Behrman and Logan
Book	<i>The Desert and the Stars</i> by Holt
Book	<i>Postmarked Moscow</i> by Kirk
Book	Set: "The World's Greatest Events" Vol. I-V
Book	"How to Make Good Pictures" - Kodak
Book	<i>Jaro and the Golden Colt</i> by Phelps
Book	<i>Each Bright River</i> by Mildred Masterson McNeilly
Book	<i>Each Man's Son</i> by Hugh Maclellan
Book	(2 copies) <i>The Outline of History</i> by H.G. Wells
Book	<i>Our Amazing Birds</i> by Robert Lemmon
Book	<i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell
Book	<i>A Change of Climate</i> by Kauffman
Book	<i>Banners at Shenandoah</i> by Bruce Cotton
Book	<i>Not as a Stranger</i> by Morton Thompson
Book	<i>Deep Water Days</i> by Oliver Swan
Book	Set: "Nations of the World," Vol. I-XII
Book	<i>Canterbury Tales</i> by Chaucer
Book	<i>Annapurna</i> by Maurice Herzog
Book	<i>Valley of the Sky</i> by Skidmore
Book	Three-volume set by George Coxe: <i>The Glass Triangle, The Jade Vase, The Fifth Key</i>
Book	<i>Union Now</i> by Clarke Street
Book	<i>Coniston</i> by Winston Churchill
Book	Set: "Lands and People," Vol. 1-7
Book	Set: "Childcraft Encyclopedias" (12 volumes)
Book	<i>Magnificent Obsession</i> by Lloyd Douglas
Book	<i>Forgive us our Trespasses</i> by Lloyd Douglas
Book	<i>White Banners</i> by Lloyd Douglas



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Book	<i>Doctor Hudson's Secret Journal</i> by Lloyd Douglas
Book	<i>Disputed Passage</i> by Lloyd Douglas
Book	<i>Green Light</i> by Lloyd Douglas
Bookends	2 carved wood Scottish Terrier bookends
Camera	Anson Rediflash camera
Camera	Brownie Flash camera, Hawkeye model
Camera	Sylvania flashbulbs (box)
Framed Card	framed Christmas card to Dottie and Earle Craig, signed by GH and Barbara Bush, 1991
Framed Card	framed Christmas card to Dottie and Earle Craig, signed by GH and Barbara Bush, 1992
Sled	antique Royal Racer sled
Wooden end table	
Marble-based red glass lamp	
Book	Emily Post's <i>Etiquette</i> , 1950
Green glass ashtray	
1949 Hoffmann television set	same make/model that GH and Barbara received as a Christmas gift in 1949
Period-style sofa	
Period-style armchair	
Blanket chest/coffee table	
wooden TV stand	
"Rabbit ears" antennae for TV	
2 throw pillows on sofa	
Framed mirror/wall art	
tin spinning top toy	
stuffed dog toy	
wooden magazine holder	
Magazines from 1950s - Time, Life, American Girl, etc	
Savings account ledger, "Midland Savings Association"	



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address book	
Midland Savings matchbook	
matchbook with Midland High 1954 football schedule	
Book	"the Little Engine that Could" by Watty Piper
Book	"Fun with Us" by Bond (children's book)
Book	<i>Something for Nothing</i> by Davis
Book	<i>Great Operas</i> by Newman
Book	<i>Masterplots</i> by Magill, Second Series A-Lay and Laz-Z (2 volumes)
Book	<i>My Name is Aram</i>
Book	<i>Grimm's Fairy Tales</i>
Book	<i>The Robe</i> by Douglas
Book	<i>The Song of Bernadette</i> by Werfed
Book	<i>the Barretts of Wimpole Street</i> by Besier
Book	J.P. Marquand, three-in-one: <i>Thank You, Mr. Moto, Think Fast, Mr. Moto, Mr. Moto is so Sorry</i>
Book	Mary Roberts Rinehart, two-in-one: <i>The Door and The Confession</i>
Book	Home Repairs Simplified
catalogs, Montgomery Ward (2)	
rolling library cart	
photos: iconic Midland buildings and locations	
Stromberg/Carlson combination record/radio console	
South Pacific vinyl record and cover	
glass case containing: 1953 Midland phonebook	
(4) 1950s Midland postcards	
(3) store counter checks	
Hotel Scharbauer stationery	



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Early Midland photo panel	
Midland 1950s photo panel	
Buildings/MAF photo panel	
Santa Rita #1 photo panel	
Gone To Texas photo panel	
Community Service/involvement photo panel	
Photo	GWB at age 10, in front of his dad's pump jack, w/quote on growing up in Midland
Photo	framed photo of GW, Laura, Dottie and Earle Craig (signed by GWB and Laura Bush)
1991 Gala invitation	
Letter	from Barbara to Dottie Craig, thanking her for chairing the White House Endowment Fund
Photo	framed photo of Barbara with dottie and Earle Craig
Photo	framed photo of Dottie and Earle Craig at White House with ID card for Secret Service
Letter	informal note to Dottie from Barbara
Photo	Framed photo of GH and Barbara with Earle Craig, signed
Dinner invitation with president of Yemen Arab Republic, White House	
RSVP card from White House Social Secretary	
Inaugural anniversary gala invitations, 1991-92	
Letter	Notice of Secret Service assigned mail code "Blue" to close friends and family of Bushes
Letter	postcard from GH to Earle Craig, thanking him for encouragement
Photo	framed photo of GH and Barbara with Earle Craig, unknown event



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Letter	handwritten letter to Dottie and Earle Craig from GH after Christmas 1992
Photo	framed photo of GH in Oval Office
Invitation	bicentennial inauguration invitation
Letter	handwritten note from Barbara to Dottie Craig, 1989
Letter	handwritten note from Barbara to Dottie and Earle
Letter	handwritten note from Barbara to Dottie Craig
Invitation	invitation and passes to groundbreaking and dedication of George Bush Presidential Library, 1994
Invitation	invitation to commemorate 200th anniversary of cornerstone laying at the White House, 1992
Photo	framed photo, Dottie Craig with GHWB at dinner to greet Queen Elizabeth II, 1991
Dinner invitation	dinner with Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, 1991
Invitation	invitation for event to greet Queen Elizabeth and Philip, 1991
Photo	framed photo of Barbara and Dottie on sofa
Photo	framed photo of Barbara and GHW at a house party, 1950s
Letter	postcard from GH to Dottie, thank-you for dinner, 1991
Letter	postcard from GH to Dottie and Earle, sending best wishes
Photo	framed photo of GH and Barbara with Dottie and Earle, date unknown
Photo	framed photo of Barbara with Dottie and Earle Craig, with signed happy birthday card
wood box/TV stand/table	
Bugs Bunny stuffed toy	
wooden letter building blocks	
Wooden child's puzzle	
Flatscreen TV/DVD player	player and TV play a DVD of clips from historic newsreels and television shows popular in the 1950s
Baseball player ring toss set	



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wooded painted bouncy spring horse	
Painted wooden child chair	
Tin riding horse	*identical to horse in Christmas 1949 photo taken in Compton, CA
Vinyl record and cover	"Bozo at the Circus" - Capitol Records
Ceramic duck figurine	
Giraffe stuffed vinyl toy	
Framed painting of baby	
Bozo the Clown rattle toy	
String of large wooden beads	
Clown wobble toy	
Jolly Time jigsaw puzzle in box	
"The Brownies" paint book	
Rubber clown squeaky toy	
Heinz 57 rattle	
stick horse, "Texas Pony"	
Easel and chalkboard with paper scroll	



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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DEED OF GIFT

Donor Name: George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

Street Address: P.O. Box 8586

City, State & Zip: Midland, TX 79708

Phone: 432-685-1112

Email: gwbhome@bushchildhoodhome.org

I the Donor, have delivered, and hereby **unconditionally** and **irrevocably** given, the object(s) described on the attached pages, together with all copyright, trademark, title, and associated rights of the Donor therein, to the Texas Historical Commission (THC). I the Donor(s) affirm that I own the object(s) listed below and to the best of my knowledge I have complete rights, title and interests to give. Further, I warrant that the objects listed below have been legally obtained in compliance with all local, state, federal, and international laws and it has not been imported or exported in violation of any state, federal, or international laws. I warrant that there are not liens placed on the object(s). I acknowledge that upon execution of this Deed of Gift the object(s) irrevocably becomes the property of the Texas Historical Commission and may be used, displayed, stored, and maintained as the Texas Historical Commission sees fit.

Donation Description:

Office Inventory and Commemorative Items used to run the George W. Bush Family Home.

Type of Acquisition: Gift Purchase Bequest Transfer

Is Donor seeking tax deduction? Yes No

Signature of Donor

Date

Signature of Site Representative or Chief Curator

Date



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Deed of Gift

Conditions of Deposit

This Deed of Gift is subject to the following conditions. The Donor is advised to seek legal advice and an appraisal before claiming deductions from any taxable income under laws of the State of Texas and/or the United States. No money, services, or anything of value was exchanged for this donation.

Donor or Depositors, hereinafter called Depositor, should request identification from the person receiving object(s) listed on the reverse and be prepared to show identification.

The THC receives the deposit on the understanding that the Depositor has full authority to make it.

In receiving or surrendering deposits, the THC requires that the Depositor comply with all applicable government regulations. If the Depositor has knowledge of special conditions governing the object(s), such as copyright, lien, and so forth, the Depositor must inform the Commission thereof.

Terms of Acceptance

New acquisitions to the permanent collection will be approved by the Texas Historical Commission. Gifts will be accepted and acknowledged by THC curatorial staff or HSD Site Managers of the Texas Historical Commission. THC curatorial staff or HSD Site Managers will acknowledge the acceptance or the decline of this gift or donation of deposited object(s) within sixty days of deposit. The gift or donation shall be considered conditional until this notification.

If the gift or donation is declined, the Depositor shall reclaim the property within ten days' notice or upon a mutually agreed date. If the property is not reclaimed within ten days on the agreed date, the THC may, at its option, store the property at the Depositor's risk and expense or treat the property as loaned property as provided by Chapter 80, Texas Property Code.

Care and Preservation

While the gift is conditional, the THC will exercise the same care in respect to the object(s) covered by this deed of gift as it does with its own property. Depositor releases and holds harmless the Texas Historical Commission from any liability for damage to or loss of the deposited property.



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Contents of Bush Family Home Public & Storage Spaces (Other than Period Rooms)

Location	Item	Approximate Value
Manager's Office #1	Desk & cabinet set	\$1,200
	3 Filing cabinets	\$900
	phone sytem	\$60
	Shredding machine	\$40
	Portable heater	\$75
	2 Martha Washington chairs	\$300
	lamp	\$40
Office #2	6 shelving units	\$600
	3 filing cabinets	\$900
	Desk	\$300
Office #3	Desk	\$500
	Filing cabinet	\$300
	3 shelving units	\$300
Conference Room	Hitachi Roku TV	\$500
	Conference table	\$250
	14 chairs	\$420
	10 historical pics	\$400
	5 pics of 2006 opening	\$100
	2006 scissors	\$50
	Bust of Laura Bush	\$30
	Bust of George H.W. and Barbara Bush	\$30
	6 decorative plates on wall	\$120
	Books	\$250



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Collections in glass cabinet		
	5 election caps	\$250
	Bumper Sticker	\$15
	License Plate	\$20
	"52 Reasons" playing cards	\$10
	Bush raw crude oil	\$50
	Bush hot sauce	\$25
	Inaugural medallion coin	\$70
	Ribbon	\$5
	\$2000 Bush Bill	\$15
	W Ketchup	\$25
	"Nuts about George" peanuts	\$10
	Inaugural Ball Ticket	\$35
	Midlander inaugural issue	\$10
	Bush Cigarettes	\$15
	5 buttons	\$30
	Pocket knife	\$30
	Coin	\$25
	Bookmark	\$20
	Envelope	\$20
	5 buttons	\$30
	Postcard	\$20
	Presidential Bowl	\$50
	Decoration of Pic of Midland house	\$40
	5 buttons	\$30
	Kennebunkport figurine	\$20
	Eagle Napkin Holder	\$20
	Medal of Merit	\$30
	1992 200 th Anniversary coin	\$40
	Bowl	\$25



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	Bush Country Ketchup	\$25
Kitchen	Stove	\$650
	Microwave (need new one)	\$20
	Coffee pot (Keurig)	\$40
	Refrigerator	\$600
	3 shelving units	\$50
	3 coffee Perculators	\$90
	Igloo cooler for water	\$20
	2 rolling tables	\$150
	Table cloths	\$50
	Various pots, pans, dishes, utensils	\$100
	Speaker	\$75
Robin's Reading Room	8 bookshelves	\$1,000
	2 tables	\$80
	Cabinet	\$400
	USA Bears	\$20
	2 Bush action figures	\$40
	Flag	\$25
	2 USA Dolls	\$25
	2 pics	\$40
	Keystone Camera	\$150
	sanyo 42" tv	\$150
	Lecturn	\$40
	Various toys	\$20
	Children's books for programming and donations	\$700
Garage	5 shelving units	\$500
	Pressure washer	\$200



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	10 tables	\$800
	17 Wine glass boxes of 12	\$850
	Coolers	\$150
	Christmas Decorations	\$200
	TV, vacuum and other collection pieces	\$1,000
	Push mover	\$25
	2 blowers	\$30
	Rakes, shovels, brooms and other lawn equipment	\$50
	Chairs	\$600
	Various TVs	\$300
	Large pics	\$200
	Step ladder	\$25
	Cabinets	\$50
	2 wagons, tricycle	\$750
	Garbage cans	\$20
General	Office supplies except envelopes etc with old logo	\$150
	Tools	<u>\$150</u>
Approximate Value		\$19,260



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DEED OF GIFT

Donor Name: George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc.

Street Address: P.O. Box 8586

City, State & Zip: Midland, TX 79708

Phone: 432-685-1112

Email: gwbhome@bushchildhoodhome.org

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Donation Description:

Inventory from the gift shop associated with the George W. Bush Family Home.

Type of Acquisition: Gift Purchase Bequest Transfer

Is Donor seeking tax deduction? Yes No

Signature of Donor

Date

Signature of Site Representative or Chief Curator

Date



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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If the gift or donation is declined, the Depositor shall reclaim the property within ten days' notice or upon a mutually agreed date. If the property is not reclaimed within ten days on the agreed date, the THC may, at its option, store the property at the Depositor's risk and expense or treat the property as loaned property as provided by Chapter 80, Texas Property Code.

Care and Preservation

While the gift is conditional, the THC will exercise the same care in respect to the object(s) covered by this deed of gift as it does with its own property. Depositor releases and holds harmless the Texas Historical Commission from any liability for damage to or loss of the deposited property.



GREG ABBOTT, GOVERNOR • JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIR • MARK WOLFE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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Store Inventory

Item	Retail Price	Amount
Adult Polo	25.00	
Baseballs	4.50	9
Bats	9.00	0
Bookmarks		62
Button, Vintage	3.00	Many
Caps, Red	12.00	1
Caps, W President	12.00	153
Caps, White	12.00	8
Cards, 1950s Birth Year	2.50	31
Cards, Patriotic Birthday	2.50	10
Cards, Texas Greeting	17.99	5
Cards, Vintage Christmas	2.50	23
Coin, George W. Bush	15.99	125
Flag		2
Flag bandana	5.00	5
Koozies, USA		8
Magnet, George H.W. Bush	4.00	16
Magnet, Laura Bush	4.00	about 295
Magnet, Logo	1.50	168
Mugs, Cobalt Blue	10.00	128
Mugs, White	10.00	51
Ornaments, Various		3 boxes
Pen, Patriotic		49
Pencil, w/ logo	0.99	16 boxes + 15 individual
Pin, Bush-The American Collection		5
Pin, patriotic Ribbon		19



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION*real places telling real stories*

Pin, Various	2.00	about 100
Placemats, Presidents	4.99	47
Postcards	0.50	6 boxes + some in gift shop
Poster, Crawford		22
Ribbon, Inauguration		141
Rulers	12.99	4
Shot Glasses	4.99	53
Sign, God Bless America		15
Socks, Colorful	4.99	13
Souvenir Booklet	5.95	9 boxes + 3
Star Beads	0.75	2
Stationary		2 sets + a few extra
Sticker, 3D	4.50	4
Sticker, W	2.00	314
Toy, Air Force One Sets	14.00	23
Toy, Frisbee	3.50	55
Toy, Golf Balls	13.00	14
Toy, Jacks		57
Toy, Marbles	11.00	37
Toy, Pickup Sticks	10.00	42
Toy, Rubber Duck	1.00	39
Toy, Slinky	9.00	142
Toy, tops	13.00	28
Toy, Yo-yos	12.00	42
T-shirt, Adult (2x-3x)	20.00	
T-shirt, Adult (s-xl)	15.00	
T-shirt, Child	10.00	
T-Shirt, Youth	10.00	
White House 3D Puzzle	14.00	1



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Wine Glass (Pair)	15.00	
Wine Glass (single)	10.00	9
Custom Ornaments		
2006		9
2007		17
2008		1
2009		3
2011		2
2012		1
2013		10
2014		6
2015		3
2016		16
2017		14
2018		21
2019		9
2020		14
2021		8
2022		6



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.6
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider approval to accept the donation of a painting for the Star of the Republic Museum

Background:

The Reading of the Texas Declaration of Independence, Charles and Fanny Normann, 1936, Oil on canvas

Nicknamed “The Signer’s Painting,” the work was started by Charles and Fanny Normann in 1933 as part of the preparation for the Texas Centennial. The Normanns took exceptional care in researching the faces of the founding fathers of Texas to bring this moment in history to brilliant reality with as much historical accuracy as possible. In 1936, the painting was completed and installed in the Hall of State in Dallas as part of the Centennial Exhibition. Later the painting would spend several years at the San Jacinto Battlefield Museum, before finally making its way to the Star of the Republic Museum at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site.

The painting was acquired from the Normanns, by Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Artie Fultz of Navasota, Texas. In 1981, the Fultz family loaned the painting to the Star of the Republic Museum, where it has been a cornerstone of the museum’s exhibits for more than 40 years. Now, in anticipation of the new exhibit, this painting will be conserved and cleaned by Whitten & Proctor, a team from Houston.

The Fultz Family is donating the painting to the THC with the understanding that if the THC stewardship of the museum is changed, their descendants have the right to request its return.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend acceptance of the donation of a painting for the Star of the Republic Museum

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to accept the donation of a painting for the Star of the Republic Museum



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.7
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2023

Consider approval to sell by auction previously deaccessioned items from the Governor's Mansion and other State Historic Sites

Background:

In 2019, the passage of HB 1422 amended Texas Government Code §2175.909 (relating to Sale of Certain Historic Property, Proceeds of Sale) to include provisions related to the sale of deaccessioned historic object collections. Written following the passage of HB 1422, Rule 16.13 was approved in October 2019 and clarifies that if a deaccessioned collections object could not be transferred, it may be sold as a means of disposition, preferably by public auction, in consultation with the Texas Facilities Commission State Surplus Property program. All proceeds from any sale at auction of such deaccessioned objects would benefit the source collections from which the objects were removed.

Suggested Motion (Committee):

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend approval to sell by auction previously deaccessioned items from the Governor's Mansion and other State Historic Sites.

Suggested Motion (Commission):

Move to approve the sale by auction of previously deaccessioned items from the Governor's Mansion and other State Historic Sites.

List of Select Deaccessioned Objects for Sale at Auction

GM	S09164	Mid-late 19th century American Empire chair, Walnut rails, yellow upholstery, Leg is broken, damaged occurred in 2012 prior to coming to HSD's CFAR	Poor Condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	S09165	Mid-late 19th century American Empire chair, inlaid design upon crest-rail	Poor condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	S07893	Late-19th century American Pier Mirror, rococo revival, Mirror is fragile, carved gesso details are cracked, fragmented	Poor condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	unnumbered	Low gilt pier table w/ marble top	Poor Condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	809-003291	Pier mirror (ballroom), rococo-revival, decorative crest rail is cracked in several places, several fragments have broken off	Poor condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	808-5174	Tall console table with marble top (paired with 809-003291), rococo-revival, Mirror is fragile, carved gesso details are fragile, cracked, fragmented	Poor condition	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
GM	301-0676	Oval Mahogany Dining Table, late 19th-century, mahogany, three pedestal main sections, two leaves, fluted legs	Redundant, there is already a dining room table in place at the Governor's Mansion.	Deaccessioned, 2016 retained at CFAR for consumptive use
WOB	1976.1.336	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.337	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)

WOB	1976.1.338	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.339	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.340	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.341	Side-chair, 1920s (1 of 6)	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.386	Reclining Chair, 1900	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.462	Side-chair, 1920-1940	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.355	Dentist's Cabinet, late 19th century, mahogany	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)
WOB	1976.1.255	Settee, early 20 th century	Not Site - Associated, outside of site's period of significance	Deaccessioned, retained for site's education collection, however, is not needed for this site (or others at HSD)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Item 12.8
Historic Sites Committee
Quarterly Meeting
July 20—21, 2023

Consider Approval of Updated Donor Naming Opportunities for the Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS Capital Campaign

Background

The Washington-on-the-Brazos Historical Foundation (WOBHF) is coordinating a fundraising campaign for the Capital Project at the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. The Friends of the THC is providing guidance and counsel to the WOBHF as a member of the core campaign strategy team.

As part of this fundraising campaign, and consistent with donor recognition guidelines approved by the Commission in January 2017, the Friends of the THC have developed a Donor Naming Opportunities list for this campaign (attachment A). This list will be used by the WOBHF and the Campaign Advisory Committee in its fundraising efforts.

The donor naming opportunities on this list have been curated from the 50% Schematic Design completed by Gallagher & Associates and may be subject to some changes as the design process proceeds (as specified in the list). In the event that happens, the Friends will bring an amended list to the Commission for approval.

On April 28, 2023, the Commission approved the donor naming opportunities list for the Washington-on-the-Brazos capital campaign. This list has been updated with one additional naming opportunity and is presented to the Commission for approval.

Suggested Motion – Committee

Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend approval of the updated Washington-on-the-Brazos Donor Naming Opportunities Plan and authorize the Washington-on-the-Brazos Foundation to use this updated plan in their capital campaign efforts.

Suggested Motion – Commission

Move to approve the updated Washington-on-the-Brazos Donor Naming Opportunities Plan and authorize the Washington-on-the-Brazos Foundation to use this updated plan in their capital campaign efforts.



**THE “WHERE TEXAS BECAME TEXAS” CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
FOR THE
WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS STATE HISTORIC SITE CAPITAL PROJECT**

ATTACHMENT A: DONOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES
Updated and Approved by the Commission on July 21, 2023

The “Where Texas Became Texas” Capital Campaign Donor Naming Opportunities guidelines will be governed by two policies:

- The Texas Historical Commission’s Donor Recognition Policy, specifically as it addresses the “Donor Recognition Wall”, and “Capital Projects and Naming Opportunities” (attached); and
- Rule §16.11 of the Texas Administrative Code, which provides guidelines for the philanthropic naming of a property or a component of a property (attached).

Notes:

1. Naming opportunities detailed in this plan will be presented to the Texas Historical Commission for approval at the April 2023 Quarterly Commission meeting.
2. Once this comprehensive Donor Naming Opportunities list has been approved by the Commission, the WOBHF will share specific opportunities from this list with potential donors, based on the level of the ask and on the donor’s interests.
3. This naming opportunities list is based on the 50% Schematic Exhibit Design details and may be subject to some changes once the 100% Schematic Design is finalized.
4. The placement of the donor naming (donor wall, plaques, wayfinding signs, etc.) will be guided by recommendations from the exhibit designers Gallagher & Associates (G&A).
5. Once this Donor Naming Opportunities list has been approved by the Commission, the exhibit designers will provide a design package for the various donor recognition and naming elements (like the donor wall, large and small plaques, waysides, etc.) for review and approval by the Commission.
6. Individual exhibit items are offered for naming at multiple levels. Items specifics will be provided once the list has been finalized.

Donor Naming Opportunities (By Gift Level)

Gift level	Location	Naming Opportunity	Recommended Naming Element	Recommended Narrative
\$2,500,000	Visitor Center	Visitor Center building <i>(Reserved)</i>	Name at Visitor Center entrance	<i>The [Donor name] Visitor Center (placed per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$2,500,000	Townsite	Washington Townsite <i>(Reserved)</i>	Wayside	<i>The Washington Townsite Exhibit is generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$1,000,000	Conference Center	Conference Center Building <i>(Reserved)</i>	Name on Building	<i>The [Donor name] Conference Center (placed per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$1,000,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Family Gallery <i>(Reserved)</i>	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Children's Gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$1,000,000	Townsite	Independence Hall Reconstruction (existing)	Wayside	<i>[include info about the reconstruction and how and when it was constructed] The Independence Hall Reconstruction is generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Gallery 1: Dawn of the Republic	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Dawn of the Republic gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Gallery 2: Before the Republic	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Before the Republic gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Gallery 3: Independence	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The ____ gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Gallery 4: Conflict and Struggle	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Gallery 5: Life in the Republic Gallery	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Life in the Republic gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Gallery 6: Annexation & Legacy of the Republic	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The Annexation & Legacy of the Republic Gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>

\$500,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Gallery 7: What Became of Washington?	Name at gallery entrance	<i>The What Became of Washington Gallery is generously underwritten by ____ (at the gallery entrance per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$500,000	Townsite	Full Building Reconstructions (6)	Wayside	<i>[include info about the reconstructed building and its significance] The _____ Reconstruction is generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$250,000	Conference Center	Main Conference Hall	Plaque	<i>The [donor name] Conference Hall (placed per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$250,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.1 Timeline of the Revolution	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$250,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.3 Convention of 1836	Plaque	<i>The Convention of 1836 exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the Independence Hall exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$250,000	SOR Museum Level 1	AV 1.0 "Dawn of the Republic" Orientation Immersive Film	Film Credit	<i>The "Dawn of the Republic" film was made possible by a gift/grant from ____ (donor recognition included in the film credits)</i>
\$250,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Republic-era Lone Star Flag	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$250,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Full Gallery Mural	Plaque	<i>The Life in the Republic mural is generously underwritten by ____ (at the mural per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$250,000	Townsite	Partial Building Reconstructions (3)	Wayside	<i>[include info about the reconstructed shell and its significance] The _____ Reconstruction is generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$250,000	Visitor Center	Central Media Experience	Video credit	<i>This media experience is generously underwritten by ____ (donor recognition included in the film credits)</i>
\$250,000	Visitor Center	Gift Shop	Plaque	<i>The _____ Gift Shop (named for the donor, and placed at the gift shop entrance)</i>
\$100,000	Conference Center	The Overlook Room	Plaque	<i>The [donor name] Meeting Room (placed per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	"The Long Road to Independence" Mural	Plaque	<i>This mural was made possible by a gift/grant from ____ (at the mural per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	2.1 The Land	Plaque	<i>The Land exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>

\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	2.2 Indigenous Inhabitants Exhibit	Plaque	<i>The Indigenous Inhabitants exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	2.3 Spanish Rule & Mexican Independence Exhibit	Plaque	<i>The Spanish Rule & Mexican Independence exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	2.4 Arrival of New Immigrants	Plaque	<i>The Arrival of New Immigrants exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.2 Causes of the Revolution	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.4 Final Days of the Revolution	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.1 Building a New Society	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.2 Internal Politics	Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.3 External Relations	Plaque	<i>This External Relations exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.4 News of the Republic	Plaque	<i>This News of the Republic exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.4.1 Printing Press Interactive	Plaque	<i>This Printing Press Interactive exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Document Cases (multiple)	Small plaques	<i>Generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.1 Home & Family	Plaque	<i>The Home and Family exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.2 Society & Community	Plaque	<i>This Society and Community exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.3 Travel & Trade	Plaque	<i>This Travel & Trade exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>

\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.4 Work & Economy	Plaque	<i>This Work & Economy exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.5 Government & Politics	Plaque	<i>This Government & Politics exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	6.1 Map of Texas Mural	Plaque	<i>This Map of Texas Mural is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	6.2 US + Texas Flag Display	Plaque	<i>This US & Texas Flag display is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	SOR Museum Level 2	6.3 Anson Jones Speech (Projection and Audio)	Plaque/Projection	<i>This Anson Jones Speech exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$100,000	Townsite	Building Cover Reconstructions (2)	Wayside	<i>[include info about the reconstructed structure and its significance] The _____ Reconstruction is generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.1.1 Weapons and Uniforms	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.2.1 List of Grievances	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.2.2 Signers' Painting	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.2.3 Where Were the Signers Form?	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	3.2.4 Who Were the 59 Signers?	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.1.1 New Governments & New Challenges	Medium Plaque	<i>The Timeline of the Revolution exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	4.2.1 Personal Stories/Diary Flipbook	Medium Plaque	<i>This Personal Stories/Diary Flipbook exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	AV 2.0 The Growing Tensions Map	Video Credit	<i>The Growing Tensions Map exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (donor recognition included in the video credits)</i>

\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	AV 3.0 The Die is Cast	Film Credit	<i>This The Die is Cast audio-visual Presentation is generously underwritten by ____ (donor recognition included in the film credits)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Family Gallery Interactive Exhibit Zones (5 total)	Medium Plaque	<i>This _____ interactive zone is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Printing Press (1)	Medium Plaque	<i>Generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Signers Painting (1)	Medium Plaque	<i>Generously underwritten by _____</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.1.1 What Did People Eat?	Medium Plaque	<i>This What Did People Eat? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.1.2 What Were Homes Like? (case)	Medium Plaque	<i>This What Were Homes Like? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.1.3 How Did Each Member of the Household Help? (case)	Medium Plaque	<i>This How Did Each Member of the Household Help? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.3.1 What Was Bought and Sold? (case)	Medium Plaque	<i>This What Was Bought And Sold? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.3.2 How Did People and News Travel? (case)	Medium Plaque	<i>This How Did People and News Travel? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.4.1 The Role of Slavery	Medium Plaque	<i>This Role of Slavery exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	6.4 Portraits of Texas	Medium Plaque	<i>This Portraits of Texas exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$50,000	SOR Museum Level 2	AV 5.0 People of the Republic	Video Credit	<i>This People of the Republic AV experience is generously underwritten by ____ (video credits)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Documents (multiple)	Small plaques	<i>Generously underwritten by _____</i>

\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Flags, Currency (multiple)	Small plaques	Generously underwritten by _____
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Indigeneous artifacts, portraits, home goods and furniture (multiple)	Small plaques	Generously underwritten by _____
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 1	Various Individual Exhibits - Weapons and Uniforms (multiple)	Small plaques	Generously underwritten by _____
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.2.1 Body and Mind (case)	Small plaques	<i>This Body & Mind exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.2.2 Role of Religion (case)	Small plaques	<i>This Role of Religion exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.2.3 How did people Gather?	Small plaques	<i>This How Did People Gather? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.4.2 Kinds of Work – Sugar Mill Interactive (Artifact)	Small plaques	<i>This Kinds of Work exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	5.4.3 What Was Farm Life Like? (case)	Small plaques	<i>This What Was Farm Life Like? exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	6.5 Add Your Portrait	Small plaques	<i>This Add Your Portrait exhibit is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	AV 5.1 Home and Family AR Windows	Small plaques	<i>This Home and Family AR Window experience is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	AV 5.2 Phrenology	Small plaques	<i>This Phrenology AV experience is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	AV 5.3 Market Cart Experience	Small plaques	<i>This Market Case Experience is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Terrace Experience 1: Independence Hall View/Bench	Small plaque on bench	<i>This Terrace Experience 1 (View of the Independence Hall) is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>

\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Terrace Experience 2: Townsite View/Bench	Small plaque on bench	<i>This Terrace Experience 2 (View of the Townsite) is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	SOR Museum Level 2	Terrace Experience 3: Barrington Plantation View/Bench	Small plaque on bench	<i>This Terrace Experience 3 (View of the Barrington Plantation) is generously underwritten by ____ (at the exhibit per G&A recommendation)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 1: Ferry Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Ferry Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 2: Main Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Main Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 3: Bonham Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Bonham Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 4: Gay Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Gay Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 5: Austin Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Austin Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$25,000	Townsite	Townsite Street Sign 6: Water Street	Small Wayside	<i>[include info about townsite and Water Street] Generously underwritten by _____ (will need stories about key buildings on this street)</i>
\$10,000	Visitor Center		Donor Wall	Donor name listed by level

Note: All donors of \$10,000 and above will be listed on a Donor Recognition Wall at the site. This wall will be designed per the THC Design Guidelines for State Historic Sites Donor Recognition.

ATTACHMENT 1

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR DONOR RECOGNITION (*Approved 1/27/2017*)



Design Guidelines for State Historic Sites Donor Recognition (Final Approved 1-27-2017)

The design guidelines for donor recognition walls at all of the Texas Historical Commission's sites will be governed by the following administrative policies and procedures:

- i. The Texas Historical Commission's Donor Recognition Policy, specifically as it addresses the "Donor Recognition Wall", and "Capital Projects and Naming Opportunities"; and
- ii. Rule §16.11 of the Texas Administrative Code, which provides guidelines for the philanthropic naming of a property or a component of a property.

General Guidelines

- a. Gifts of money, in-kind contributions, collections, property, or land that have a value of \$10,000 or more, or those deemed worthy of the recognition as determined by the Executive Director and Commission, will be recognized with their name on a "Donor Recognition Wall".
- b. The location of the Donor Recognition Wall will be determined by the THC, as part of the overall design of the facilities on the site. The wall will be placed in a prominent location and designed to enhance the overall visitor experience.
- c. The Donor Recognition Wall will be architecturally and esthetically appropriate to the site, and will be designed to complement the site and meet preservation standards if the site is a historic property.
- d. For new site developments, the Donor Recognition Wall will be designed as part of the overall exhibit design at the site. The size and scale of the design will be coordinated with the HSD Architectural program team, in partnership with the exhibit designers.

Specific Design Guidelines

- a. The designation of the Donor on the wall, and the manner in which this designation is expressed, shall be determined by the Texas Historical Commission in a way that reflects the generosity of the Donor, and is consistent with the design of the facilities at the site.
- b. The design of the Donor Recognition Wall will allow for flexibility and room for expansion, so that new donors may be added to the wall once a year (as applicable).
- c. The order, placement and sequencing of names will be designed to acknowledge the importance of the gift and the scale of its significance to the property's operation and mission. The Donor's gift will be recognized based on the giving levels/steps and gift ranges established for each individual site.
- d. The text design on the donor recognition wall (font/typeface) will be governed by the Texas Historical Commission Brand Identity Guidelines, or will be consistent with the font/typeface used in the exhibits on the site (if these differ from the font/typeface specified in the brand identify guidelines), and on any philanthropic naming features/plaques (as applicable).
- e. The size of the text for each designation will be determined based on the sequencing, and on the space available for the donor recognition wall.
- f. No logos will be included on the donor recognition wall.

Recognition of Capital Campaign/Endowment Donors at Historic Sites Facilities

- a. The listing of donors contributing towards a capital campaign/Fund/endowment for a site (if and as applicable) will be separate and distinguished from annual donors contributing towards the ongoing operations and maintenance of the site.
- b. Barring unique circumstances that require the removal of a donor's name from a listing, the names of donors to a capital campaign or an endowment campaign will be listed permanently on the donor recognition wall, and will be identified as donors to the capital campaign.
- c. The overall design language for the donor wall will be consistent with that for any naming opportunity plaques/features at the new facility.
- d. The list of capital campaign donors, with specific sequencing, will be provided by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission to the HSD Architectural/Exhibits Design team upon the completion of the campaign.
- e. All donors making a gift of \$10,000 or more towards a capital campaign will receive a memento commemorating their gift.

Recognition of Annual Operating Gifts at Historic Sites Facilities

- a. Names of donors making a gift of \$10,000 or more towards the annual operations of a historic site will be listed on an annual donor recognition design element integrated into the donor wall. This will be updated annually to recognize operational support.
- b. The overall design language for the donor wall will be consistent with that for any naming opportunity plaques/features at the new facility.

ATTACHMENT 2

TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 13, PART 2, CHAPTER 16 ADMINISTRATIVE RULES §16.10 & 16.11

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Texas Administrative Code

[TITLE 13](#)

CULTURAL RESOURCES

[PART 2](#)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

[CHAPTER 16](#)

HISTORIC SITES

[RULE §16.10](#)

Commemorative Naming of State Historic Site Facilities

(a) Commemorative naming refers to the naming of a property or some component of a property for an individual or civic or charitable group in recognition of outstanding achievement, distinctive service, or significant community contribution, generally without financial consideration.

(b) The term "civic or charitable group" shall mean a nonprofit entity, family or group that has made a substantial contribution to the state or community, either through civic involvement, through involvement in historic events relevant to a specific State Historic Site, or through an in-kind donation to support a specific State Historic Site. For-profit entities shall not be considered civic or charitable groups for purposes of this section.

(c) Only non-historic features at State Historic Sites may be named pursuant to these rules, such as new visitor centers, meeting rooms, theaters, galleries, plazas, and other similar features designed for public use.

(d) The Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director for Historic Sites shall have the authority to independently review and recommend commemorative naming proposals to the Commission for final approval.

(e) Any proposal for commemorative naming shall be made in writing and shall include sufficient explanation to enable the Commission to make a determination that the request is justified and complies with this policy.

(f) In reaching its decision, the Commission shall consider the proposed name, any contributions the individual or organization has made to the state of Texas, whether or not the local community supports the proposal, and, in the case of individuals, whether or not the person's surviving family supports the proposal.

(g) Commemorative naming may not reference any person not deceased for at least five years.

(h) Commemorative renaming of existing named facilities is discouraged.

(i) The Commission shall have the authority to rescind the naming of any property or component of any property if, in the Commission's opinion, the individual, civic or charitable group is found to have participated in any behavior which would have a negative impact on the site or agency or would discredit the work of the agency in any way.

Source Note: The provisions of this §16.10 adopted to be effective August 31, 2015, 40 TexReg 5457

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CULTURAL RESOURCES

[PART 2](#)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

[CHAPTER 16](#)

HISTORIC SITES

[RULE §16.11](#)

Philanthropic Naming of State Historic Site Facilities

(a) Philanthropic naming refers to the naming of a property or some component of a property for an individual or civic or charitable group in exchange for financial or other consideration.

(b) The term "civic or charitable group" shall mean a nonprofit entity, family or group. For-profit entities shall not be considered civic or charitable groups for purposes of this section.

(c) Only non-historic features at State Historic Sites may be named pursuant to these rules, such as new visitor centers, meeting rooms, theaters, galleries, plazas, and other similar features designed for public use.

(d) Philanthropic naming rights may only be granted as part of a philanthropic naming rights plan developed in support of a particular project at a State Historic Site and approved by the Commission.

(e) Philanthropic naming rights plans shall establish an aggregate campaign goal, taking into consideration capital costs, annual operating and maintenance costs, desirability and marketability, and visibility and prominence of the features to be named.

(f) Subsequent to the approval of a philanthropic naming rights plan by the Commission, the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director for Historic Sites, working with the agency's Development Director, shall have the authority to independently review and approve naming proposals consistent with said plan. In reaching this decision, they shall consider whether the gift is from a potentially controversial source, how the donation is to be acknowledged on the site, and any other relevant factors. If, in the opinion of the staff the gift could be controversial, staff may refer the proposed gift to the Commission for final approval.

(g) All assets for which naming rights will be offered shall be valued as a function of the aggregate campaign goal within the philanthropic naming rights plan.

(h) All naming rights shall be approved for a specific term, which shall not be longer than the useful life of the property or facility, as determined by the Commission, unless otherwise established in the naming rights plan approved by the Commission.

(i) The Commission shall have the authority to rescind the naming of any property or component of any property if, in the Commission's opinion, the individual, civic or charitable group is found to have participated in any behavior which would have a negative impact on the site or agency or would discredit the work of the agency in any way.

Source Note: The provisions of this §16.11 adopted to be effective August 31, 2015, 40 TexReg 5457

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Historic Sites Committee

Agenda Item No. 11

Longhorn Herd Report

Site for Sustaining and Interpreting the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd

Will Craddock, Longhorn Herd Manager
Texas Historical Commission

The Present Challenge

A search for suitable property to house the majority of the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd is being pursued. A Property is needed:

1. For a permanent home for the entire breeding herd and part of the steer herd, totaling about 200 animals, to allow the long-term conservation of the Herd without the uncertainty and cost of short-term grazing leases.
2. To develop a high-quality visitor experience focused primarily on the interpretation of the Herd, this will include a visitor center to develop more engaging programs and easily accessible pastures for public viewing.
3. Dedicated to the interpretation and stewardship of the Herd's long-term stability on land secured for them and celebrates their significance to Texas history, character, and identity.

Background

The mission of the Texas Historical Commission is to protect and preserve the state's historic and prehistoric resources for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations.

The mission of the Herd is to Protect, preserve and perpetuate the Herd, while exhibiting the characteristics of the late 1800s Longhorns during the settlement of Texas' western frontier and trail drive era and sharing the unique legacy of Texas Longhorn cattle with the public at appropriate sites.

These two mission statements run very much in parallel, and the THC mission easily encompasses the Herd mission, while the Herd mission fits a very unique piece of living Texas history and heritage into the overall THC mission.

The Herd is an exceptional living historic resource that represents historic Texas Longhorn cattle and has existed essentially unchanged since the time of the trail drive era. Therefore, the Herd is a unique opportunity for our residents and visitors to view and experience an integral piece of Texas history brought forward into the present time, just as it existed in the late 1800s.

As such, the cattle are as useful and resilient for minimal input beef production as they were in the 1800s, allowing ranchers to utilize unique genetics that lower inputs and maintenance costs in their modern operations.

Education opportunities are practically endless, as students of all ages can experience first-hand the characteristics, behavior, and interaction with their environment of cattle that helped to build and shape the early fabric of Texas and its exceptional ranching heritage.

And of course, the cattle are fun to look at and watch! Observing their intelligence, social structure, unique diet, and horn display are just a very few of their characteristics that add to the enjoyment of experiencing this historic herd.

The economic impact of the herd is two-pronged. It continues to preserve and provide unique genetics that continue to be used in the state's extensive cattle production. The herd also provides an amazing tourist opportunity for residents and visitors alike, promoting a positive economic impact of visitors to our state, communities and sites.

As briefly described here, the Herd meets the mission of the THC exceptionally well. So what historic value does it bring to THC?

The Herd brings a unique value that it is an integral part of Texas, tracing its existence up a trail through Texas history from early Spanish influences to the present time.

Everywhere we peer into Texas history, we see the influence of longhorn cattle, or Texas cattle, as they were historically named. From early introductions via Spanish missions and settlements, to widespread growth exceeding the Plains bison, to boundless sources of beef for early ranchers, the longhorns made their mark. And then continuing to the large-scale cattle drives relocating 20-30 million cattle to other states and territories and their large economic benefits, the longhorns cemented their place in Texas history.

From this point forward history records the widespread development of frontier communities and ranches with these cattle drive proceeds and shaping of the modern Texas (and US) ranching industry. The breed then continued surviving in reduced numbers with the introduction of railroads, barbed wire, and other breeds. The present status of the breed is as a preserved and unique breed gaining in popularity. The Texas Longhorn breed is an integral part of Texas history.

The Herd therefore is of exceptional historic value for the state and THC. THC holds the unique and prestigious position of managing and utilizing the Herd to communicate to the public the importance and integral influence of Texas Longhorn cattle on the growth and unfolding of the State of Texas!

What does Historic Sites stewardship of the Herd bring that no other organization can? The THC is uniquely suited to recognize, preserve, and communicate the importance of the Herd as a living representation of the Texas Longhorn's place in Texas history.

Other stewards will likely, sooner or later, bow to the pressures to introduce impure modern longhorn bloodlines affected by preferential trait selection, thereby diluting the historically correct and genetically pure State Herd. This has been attempted in the past as evidenced by Herd records under management by another state agency, but thankfully these impure genetics were diverted out of the herd with no lasting effect.

The THC has an intrinsic understanding of the importance of careful preservation, which is exceptionally important in conserving the historic genetics represented in the Herd. The THC also currently has at its disposal and is utilizing the benefits and extensive expertise of a number of universities, breed

conservancies, and breed associations through the Herd Manager. And as stated before, the THC has both the unique position and the communication expertise to share the history of the Herd and the Texas Longhorn breed with the public!

A Beginning

This plan would first include keeping a group of 15-20 very visually appealing, historically correct steers at Fort Griffin State Historic Site (Fort Griffin) for interpretive purposes and to continue the existing Herd interpretive programs there.



The plan would also include maintaining the existing steer groups at Palo Duro Canyon, Copper Breaks, San Angelo and LBJ State Parks. These excellent locations are all meaningful for interpretive purposes, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) covers all the costs for the cattle and interpretation at their parks.

The largest part of the plan would include relocating the part of the Herd that is on the Jones grazing lease, numbering about 200 head. This includes the entire breeding herd plus about 30 steers. These cattle would be moved to a new location that is more accessible to the public for interpretation, and more permanent for the herd to preserve its existence in perpetuity and to develop public programming to educate the public and actively engage the public hands-on in the herd's stewardship and care.



In detail, the current interpretive program contacts about 10,500 people annually through on-site and travelling programs. It is a great program, but the limits have been reached in these two parts of the program. The on-site programs are limited by the small sample of the herd visible at Fort Griffin, and interpretive program development at the grazing lease is greatly restricted due to the remote nature of the lease and lack of facilities such as public restrooms. The travelling programs are limited by the staff time it takes to prepare for and conduct these programs at distant locations.



This plan would include continuing the existing interpretive programs of the Herd at Fort Griffin and on the road. It would also include development of an extensive on-site interpretive program at a new location, showcasing the full breadth of the Herd at a new permanent home. This would allow expansion of the existing interpretive program to include viewing experiences of most of the Herd. The site would be optimized to allow a variety of programs related to the Herd, including immersive experiences such as early ranching life in Texas, and life on a cattle trail or roundup with longhorn cattle.

This new permanent home will provide a stable home for much of the Herd for many years, to preserve it for many generations of Texans to come. This property would be owned and managed solely by the

THC and would provide an immense opportunity for optimal management, preservation, and interpretive programming for the Herd.



Current Grazing Lease Challenges

The current grazing lease consists of 4680.26 acres in northeast Shackelford and northwest Stephens counties. The annual cost is \$60,843.38. Fort Griffin can only support 15-20 head, so additional grazing is essential to the herd. The existing grazing lease has high quality grazing, but it falls short in many respects.

For interpretive programming, the grazing lease is too remote and does not have facilities such as public restrooms and refreshments, therefore it is of little use for interpretation. With adequate facilities nearby, this property would not be too remote for reasonable interpretation.

Additional reasons the current lease is not ideal include that it has inadequate pens and poor fences in several pastures, and marginal water in many pastures in dry years. Currently portable panels and pens are used to make up for the lack of permanent pens which are, at best, temporary solutions to address operational needs. Pastures with inadequate water cannot be grazed in dry years, so cattle are rotated to other pastures. With proper planning this usually works but it is not ideal for grazing management. The pens and water need to be improved, but the cost would not be applied to this property since it is not owned by THC and without a long-term lease there is no assurance that THC would make use of the improvements and regain the investment.

The existing lease is a 24-mile drive from Fort Griffin to the grazing lease at the nearest point, so it is not close or convenient for cattle management or interpretive programs. A typical trip to check cattle includes 18 miles on pavement to Woodson, then 6 miles on gravel to the north gate. Then it is 6-10 miles through the lease checking the cattle, depending on their location. Finally, leaving the south gate it is 12 miles of gravel and then 13 miles of pavement back to Fort Griffin. This is 55 to 59 miles, of which only 31 are on pavement. It usually takes 4.5 hours to check the cattle at the lease on a good day in good weather. In case of bad weather, or if anything is out of the ordinary such as damaged fences or cattle that have escaped to a different pasture, it takes considerably longer. Roads are not all passable in rainy weather. In short, reasonable access is very limited. If herd management facilities could be located nearby, many of these challenges would be eliminated.

At the grazing lease there are also some restrictions on which pastures can be used during deer season, to allow the owners the best hunting possible. This can usually be included in grazing plans, but it is also not ideal. In addition to these items, we have only been able to secure a lease one year at a time. The owners suggest that they would like to continue the lease for a long term, but they have not indicated the commitment to do so through a longer lease contract and a decision to terminate can occur at any moment.

So, an ideal site is needed for the Herd, both for expanding the existing interpretive programming and for maintaining a dependable, well-managed ranch to secure long-term conservation of the Herd, and to be able to have state funds available to invest into improvements.

A Permanent Home and a Showcase

Two primary challenges to finding a permanent home for the Herd exist. The first is locating an available property that fits the unique needs of the herd, and the second is locating sufficient funds to secure such a property.

To address the first of these two challenges, an ideal property would be adjacent or very near Fort Griffin to allow continued use of the Herd pens, barn, and office as headquarters for the Herd. Unfortunately, no suitable properties have been available in this area in the past 10 years, as the Herd Manager has been searching for an improved location. Properties that meet the specifications of the Herd are quite rare here, as most of the land is owned by large ranches that are very rarely offered for sale or lease, and if they are sold it is usually to a business partner or leaseholder and are never publicly listed. The specifications for a site for the herd are detailed in Addendum A. As no viable properties near Fort Griffin have been identified in recent years, and the likelihood of this happening appears to be essentially zero, the search has been expanded to surrounding areas and the plan modified to include a site that would house most of the herd operations and interpretation.

Several current options for a Herd Site are listed in the following table, with links to more information on each. All these properties are viable options for a Herd site, but the details vary greatly with each one.



Table 1. Site for Housing and Interpreting the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd Properties currently for sale, that closely match the specifications for the Herd

Property and Link	Acreage	Map	Price	Broker and Link	Location	Nearest Town	Miles to Albany
T-Diamond Ranch	5870	T-Diamond	\$14,675,000	Ekdahl Nelson	Stonewall County	Hamlin	61
Padgitt Ranch	5900	Padgitt map	\$24,750,000	Dullnig Ranches	Coleman/Runnels	Ballinger, Coleman	107
Gage Ranch	4100	Gage map	\$20,000,000	Texas Landmark Realtors	Clay County	Henrietta	108
Blue Goose River Ranch	7750	Blue G. map	\$13,562,500	Campbell Farm and Ranch	NW Knox County	Benjamin, Crowell	110
Swanson Ranch	7086	Swanson map	\$13,430,000	Turner Country Properties	Wichita	Electra	110
D Bar Ranch	7656	D Bar map	\$9,570,000	Republic Ranches	N Coke County	Blackwell	95



As these options are each viewed and considered, many share similar aspects of typical cattle ranches. All could be adapted to the needs of the Herd. But as details relevant to the Herd are examined, one option is more promising than the rest, the T-Diamond.

Perspective

As we consider properties that are suitable for the Herd, it is important to mention that there are at least a couple of other properties that would completely meet the needs of the Herd with no development needed, allow the future expansion of the Herd as appropriate for genetic preservation, and allow for exceptional additional interpretive opportunities. The first of these is the [Turkey Track Ranch](#) in the eastern Texas panhandle. It encompasses 80,000 acres under one fence, including the Adobe Walls battle sites. It is currently listed at \$200 million. The second of these is the [Silverbrook-Pecan Bayou Ranch](#) near Coleman. It encompasses 19,729 acres directly on the Great Western Cattle Trail and includes the interpretive opportunity of a family that was key to the development of modern ranching in Texas. It is listed for \$57.3 million.

A Unique Option

The T-Diamond Ranch has several aspects that set it apart from the others, and from the Jones Lease. These aspects are detailed in the table below for the existing grazing lease (Jones Lease) and all 6 properties. The checklist highlights important differences but does not tell the whole story for each location.

As Table 2 below is examined, it should be noted that the T-Diamond checks off all the boxes for specifications for a Herd Site, which was not accomplished by any other location. The T-Diamond Ranch is a unique opportunity since this quality of Ranch does not come to the market regularly. If securing the property is passed, it may be a once in a lifetime moment lost that may never be duplicated with a property that is meeting so many needs and objectives.

It is important to note that the T-Diamond is turn-key now and could be used immediately to begin to build additional interpretive programming around the Herd. It can also be used to house the Herd starting almost immediately, with a few changes needed to be operational. It has a central lodge with a large portion that can be converted into a visitor/education center, and rooms that could be used for multi-day interpretive programs. It has public restrooms at the lodge, and it could be opened as-is for a visitor center while plans progress for interpretive development.

The T-Diamond is also unique as it is adjacent to US-83, and more than 1000 vehicles pass by every day, providing an adequate visitor base. It is exceptionally well-developed in terms of livestock water, with triple redundancy from wells, municipal water, and earthen tanks. Storage and distribution are also excellent. It is also very important to note that the T-Diamond is not currently listed to the public and will remain unlisted until sometime in June 2023. The other 5 properties are currently listed for sale.

T-Diamond Historical Links

Included here are a few unique facts about the T-Diamond Ranch not detailed below. Several points of history tie the T-Diamond to Fort Griffin.

The ranch is known and documented as a historic cattle ranch, and cattle from the T-Diamond were part of some of the latter cattle drives up the Great Western Cattle Trail that passes through Fort Griffin. The

ranch has been recognized by the Texas Department of Agriculture as a Family Land Heritage Property. It has been operated as a cattle ranch by the same family for over 100 years, since 1895, and was instrumental in establishing cattle ranching in the area.

The property is also within about 2 miles of the historic buffalo hunter town site of Rath City to the west. The Mackenzie Trail from Fort Griffin and the mail route between Fort Griffin and Rath City cross the property. The Mackenzie Trail was a military road used for campaigns against the Plains Indians, and as a supply route during the Red River Wars. The mail route ran twice weekly by horseback between Fort Griffin and Rath City, about 58 miles "as the crow flies". The town adjacent to Fort Griffin known as The Flat was also primarily a buffalo hunter town. As entertainment was scarce at Rath City and on the open range, cowboys from the T-Diamond Ranch were known to frequent the establishments in The Flat, and occasionally get into quite a bit of trouble there.

Interpretive Potential of the Great Western Cattle Trail

It is important to note that while the Great Western Cattle Trail passed through Fort Griffin, but not the T-Diamond, the ranch did supply cattle to the market trail. An example of similar interpretation is:

- *Interpretation at Fort Griffin:*

"We are standing right on the Great Western Cattle Trail, that supplied 8-10 million head of Texas Longhorns from this area to northern markets including Dodge City and ranches throughout the Great Plains."

- *Interpretation at the T-Diamond:*

"We are standing right on one of the ranches that supplied cattle to the nearby Great Western Cattle Trail. This trail supplied 8-10 million head of Texas Longhorns to northern markets including Dodge City and ranches throughout the Great Plains."



Travelling Program Portability

It is estimated that the travelling interpretive programs for the Herd that currently operate from Fort Griffin would not see a significant increase in miles travelled or hours accumulated while operating the same programs from the T-Diamond. These numbers are illustrated below and are based on the differences in map miles from each location to the program location. In fact, if a few of the existing travelling programs continue to operate from Fort Griffin, and a few other travelling programs are added in the local communities near the T-Diamond, these numbers might not change at all.

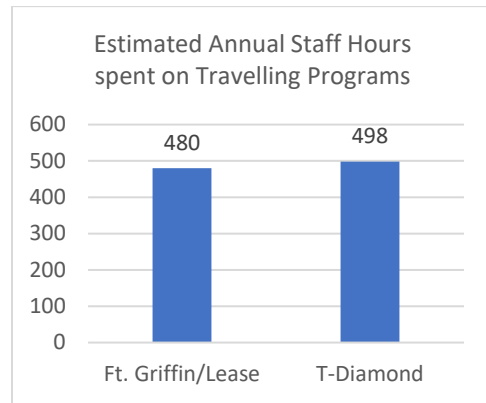
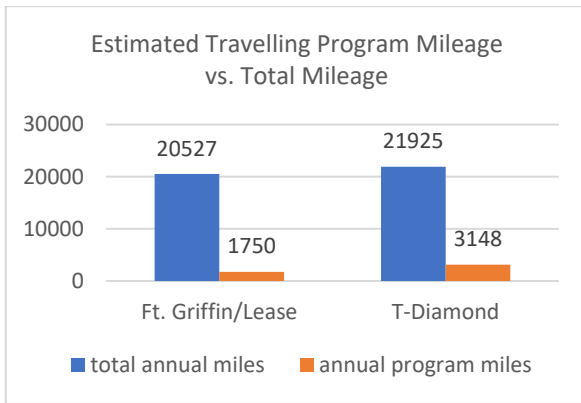


Table 2. Site for Housing and Interpreting the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd
Property Comparisons (Jones Lease is the current property)

Specification	Jones Lease	T-Diamond Ranch	Padgitt Ranch	Gage Ranch	Blue Goose Ranch	Swanson Ranch	D-Bar Ranch
<i>State Herd Functionality</i>							
Is a turnkey cattle operation		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can house 200 head of the Herd successfully	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provides additional grazing flexibility in drought	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can reliably house the Herd perpetually		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Is within the native range of the Texas Longhorn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has native vegetation as the primary forages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has adequate trees for shade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has adequate topography to allow shelter from extreme weather	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Well-drained and <5% acreage in a flood zone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Primarily contiguous, or adjacent enough for livestock movement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can support 200 animal units reliably with only minimal supplementation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support one animal unit on no more than 30 acres in an average year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Soils support a minimum of 2500 lbs./acre average biomass production	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Has a minimum 120 acres for hay or supplemental forage cropping		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Precipitation minimum of an average 20 inches/year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Surface tanks and drainageways adequate for reliable livestock water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has reliable surface water in drought conditions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has municipal water access		✓		✓	✓		
Has well water adequate in quality and quantity for 250 animal units		✓	✓				✓
Has an adequate livestock water distribution system		✓					✓
Has adequate exterior fencing and cross-fencing in good condition		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has adequate pens accessible from most pastures		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Has easily accessible pastures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has electricity to critical areas		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has a residence for herd staff		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Has equipment storage for herd needs		✓	✓			✓	
Allow surface development for specific herd needs (water, pens)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

<i>Interpretive Functionality</i>							
Within an area of historic ranching	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adjacent to active ranches for comparison/relevance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has historic significance related to Texas Longhorns	✓	✓	✓				
Exists on or near a historic cattle trail	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Has historic ties to early ranching/settlement	✓	✓	✓				
Setting is similar to native range in the 1860s-1880s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Location visually appealing to visitors	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can house public programs/events		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide small tours 10-15 people	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can be used for short tours of 15-20 animals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can provide short term tours up to 1.5 hours	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Can be used for 4+ hour tours to the public		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Facilities to host large groups > 100 people		✓					
Can host extended educational events for multiple days		✓					✓
Can be used for tours of the entire breeding herd + steers (200+ head)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Capable of housing a short trail drive	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has a structure suitable for use/conversion to a visitor/education center		✓	✓				
Public restrooms at visitor/education center structure		✓					
Has offices							
Has a building suitable for conversion to office space		✓	✓				
Is adjacent to a highway with traffic >350,000 vehicles annually		✓					
<i>General Operational Functionality</i>							
Adequate interior roads with only minor improvements needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Has paved road access		✓		✓	✓	✓	
Does not have intrusive oil and gas development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Does not have wind or solar energy development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Is not near a major city, airport, or highway interchange	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reasonably central to the State	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Appropriate property rights included for control of surface		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Allow and promote partnerships with conservation groups		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Host cattle/wildlife/rangeland conservation group activities		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Demonstrates sponsorship possibilities		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

T-Diamond Location

Detailed here is an illustration of the relative distances of the T-Diamond Ranch from local population centers and supply points, to illustrate the T-Diamond location. Many distances are similar to those of Fort Griffin. In these rural areas, 1 mile is approximately one minute travel time.

The T-Diamond is:

- 7 miles from Hamlin (nearest town with fuel and groceries)
- 27 miles from Stamford (nearest town with a Walmart)
- 49 miles from Abilene (nearest town with a commercial airport)
- 61 miles from Albany
- 76 miles from Fort Griffin

Fort Griffin is:

- 15 miles from Albany (nearest town with fuel and groceries)
- 32 miles from Breckenridge (nearest town with a Walmart)
- 50 miles from Abilene (nearest town with a commercial airport)
- 24 miles from the existing grazing lease, including 6 miles of unpaved gravel roads

Operational Costs and Capital Expenditures

Below is another table outlining current herd expenditures and expected expenses for making a site operational for the Herd.

As a site is brought online for the Herd, operational costs will be significantly higher as herd operations are expanded from 2 staff to 5 and the entire operation of a site is tied to the Herd budget. Estimated operational costs will increase by about \$203,000, an 86% increase. However, Fort Griffin operational costs will drop by about \$150,000, so net increase to the THC is only about \$53,000. A large part of the savings is that a lease payment is no longer required.

A much larger expenditure will be the funds required to purchase a property and outfit it initially. Estimated costs for the T-Diamond come in just under \$16 million. The next most useful location to the Herd is the Padgitt Ranch, of similar acreage. However, its total purchase and outfitting costs are nearly 28 million for a property that will take significantly more improvement. Next in line of relative usefulness is the Gage Ranch. It also will take significant expense and time to be fully operational and comes in at a total price tag of a little over 24 million.

Finding the Funds

The next step beyond justifying and identifying a viable option for a Herd site will be to put together a plan to acquire funds to purchase a property. There are a few options to include a lease/purchase, state funding support, capital campaign, grants and developed capital campaign.

Another Potential Option

Another potential option is being constructed that will not require the purchase of property, but will retain the goals of an accessible, immersive interpretation experience with the herd and ensuring a long-term, stable home for the herd.

Conversations have begun with landowners in the area to see if any are agreeable to a unique type of agreement to house the herd and herd interpretation operations.

This concept starts with a long-term lease or easement of 20 years or more with the option to escalate payments over time and/or renegotiate price periodically. Related to this, one variation could be that the landowner could donate the escalated portion or the entire payment to the THC. This could also be set up as a variable donation to remain more flexible for the landowner. In addition, terms similar to a conservation easement could be included to ensure the property conditions are preserved to meet the goals of the landowner.

Other property maintenance projects such as water systems and fences could be more readily accomplished as the terms would guarantee enough years of use to recoup the maintenance costs through regular use.

This agreement would include an easement or other arrangement for herd operations, a visitor center location, and herd interpretive functionality. This may be a big hurdle for landowners as it would allow the placement of structures on the land to support the essential herd operations. This arrangement would need to allow for constant, unrestricted herd operations and interpretation of the herd throughout the property, possibly excluding hunting. This may impose an additional cost to the THC as hunting is a major land use in the Shackelford County area.

Upon renewal, the agreement would include a first right of refusal for the THC for renewal, for a lease purchase, or for outright purchase. The lease-purchase and purchase options would include 2-to-4-year extensions, allowing the THC additional time to secure funds to exercise these options. This type of arrangement would allow future herd operators and managers several options to ensure continued preservation of the Herd and continued Herd operations.

Summary

In all, there are two likely options to consider that meet the goals of having in place an enhanced, immersive interpretive experience with the Herd and long-term preservation of the Herd.

One is a purchase and development of a suitable property such as the T-Diamond. The T-Diamond is less expensive and more useful than any of the other ranches for sale in the area and has historic ties to early ranching and longhorn cattle, as well as ties to Fort Griffin. It is by far the best immediate option for a Herd site, and many of its aspects make it uniquely suited to the role.

The second option is acquiring a suitable long-term lease agreement on a suitable property. Landowners are being contacted by THC personnel, but a viable option is yet to be identified.



Addendum A

Property for Housing and Interpreting the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd Property Specifications

Will Craddock, Longhorn Herd Manager
Texas Historical Commission

Introduction

A search for a suitable property to house the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd has commenced. The primary objectives are to identify an available property that:

1. Has the capability to be a permanent home for the entire breeding herd and part of the steer herd, totaling about 200 animal units, to allow the long-term conservation of the Herd without the uncertainty and cost of short-term grazing leases.
2. Has the potential to be developed to be the primary location for interpretation of the Herd to the public, including a good visitor center location and easily accessible pastures.

General Region

Primarily land for the Herd should be considered within the native range of the Texas Longhorn. This is a wide area, generally from the Red to the Rio Grande rivers, and from the piney woods in the east to the staked plains in the west. This is important for several reasons.

The Herd should be allowed to forage and roam in as natural a setting and environment as possible, within their native range. Grazing land within the historic range of the breed will allow many of the selection pressures that created the Texas Longhorn cattle from early Spanish introductions to remain in place. This helps to ensure that the Herd remains as historically correct as possible, in line with the Herd Management Agreement.

In Spain prior to the 1500s cattle ranching used the native cattle of the country, maintaining excellent historic genetic diversity in their cattle. Cattle were not developed into “breeds”. In the early 1500s Spanish exploration introduced these cattle to current northern Mexico and southern Texas. These genetically diverse cattle began their spread, and their environment began to shape them into what became known as Texas cattle. By the mid-1800s the cattle were well established into their native range. As they spread and multiplied into the millions, the cattle were developed by their environment into a genetic, physical, and physiological ecotype that we know and value today as Texas Longhorn cattle. Forces that forged these Texas cattle included extreme temperatures, periodic scarcity of water, a variety of forages varying by time and location from abundant and easily digestible to toxic and of low quality, hungry pressures from a variety of predators and parasites, and a widely varying landscape. What resulted from these pressures was the development of a highly resilient and adaptable ecotype of cattle now known as the Texas Longhorn breed. The Texas Longhorn is commonly referred to as the only breed in the world formed by nature.

The native range of the Texas Longhorn is a blueprint for the environmental conditions that the breed is well-adapted to handle, but it is more than that. It is the forge and anvil on which the Texas Longhorn

was formed, and it is an integral part of maintaining the ecotype that is the Texas Longhorn breed. As such, it is important to maintain the State Herd in a natural environment within the native range of the Texas Longhorn.

Specific Area

A location for the Herd should be located centrally in Texas and reasonably accessible to visitors from the entire state.

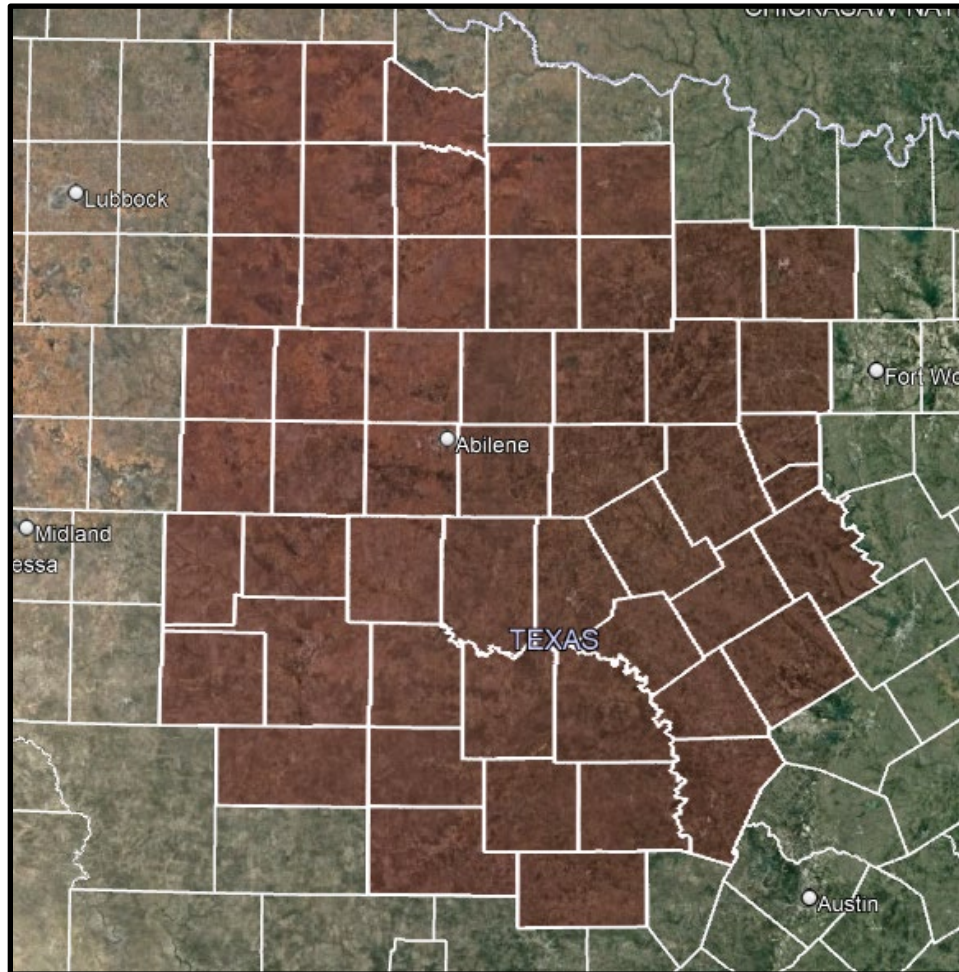
Areas that contain contiguous properties of adequate size for the Herd are generally shifted north and west from a central location in Texas. This should be considered for a Herd location, while remaining in the native range of the Texas Longhorn.

An ideal location would be in an area with active ranching that has had a contiguous timeline of ranching from the time of the wild longhorns. This type of property has enhanced interpretive potential to demonstrate the similarities and differences between cattle and ranching through the years.

Ideally a property would have historic significance related to Texas Longhorns or early ranching in Texas. Historic cattle trails originated and passed through many areas of Texas, such as the Great Western Trail, Goodnight-Loving Trail, and Chisholm Trail. Locating a property on or near one of these trails or on a historic ranch could provide a significantly enhanced interpretive opportunity.

The map on the following page illustrates the specifics outlined above and shows where an ideal location for the herd would be located. [Press Ctrl and click for an interactive version of the map.](#)

Ideal location of a property for the Longhorn Herd.



[Ctrl + Click for interactive map.](#)

Vegetation and Water

The property should support an animal unit of a maximum of 30 acres in an average year, for adequate available forage production. This is to keep animals near each other for breeding purposes, viewing purposes for the public, and convenience in checking, feeding, and managing cattle.

Major Soil types of the property should support a minimum of 2500 pounds per acre average biomass production capacity in an average year. This is to ensure cattle can graze rather than eat purchased hay and feed, for the health of the Herd and efficient nutritional management.

Rainfall should be a minimum of 20 inches per year on average to support sufficient forage production.

An ideal location must possess some significant tree-cover to afford reasonable shade for the longhorns through the summer months to ensure their survival. Longhorns depend upon adequate shade to regulate their body temperature. Tree and brush cover should not be overly thick and restrictive to viewing of the Herd.

The property should be well drained and have significant topographical variation to allow the Herd some cover from winter and other storms, and for the enjoyment of the viewing public.

This property should contain drainageways and earthen thanks developed for adequate livestock water or have soil and topography adequate for development. This is to ensure adequate water in all weather conditions, and without dependence on wells or municipal water systems. Well or municipal water may provide secondary water sources for livestock.

Setting

To preserve the ambience of a natural, historical setting for visitors to the Herd, a location should be selected that is not near any extensive development such as major highways, airports, cities and wind farms.

The property should be one contiguous piece of land for practical care and management of the herd and to facilitate public tours.

Infrastructure

The property must have topography consistent with the ability to build and/or maintain perimeter and interior fencing as well as a complete interior road system. Infrastructure including roads, perimeter and interior fences and cattle pens will be essential so it will be ideal to acquire a property with these components in place.

The property should possess minimal oil, gas, and wind production and similar, and no solar production so as to provide as natural an environment as possible for both the use of the Herd and enjoyment of visitors.

Appropriate property rights should be acquired to control future development of the property that might hinder herd operations, and so that any needed development and improvements for the Herd may be completed as needed.

This location should have paved road access to at least one point to allow for ease of public access. Visibility of livestock from a public road is of little importance since the cattle will rarely be in close enough proximity to be viewed at highway speeds. Access for the public would be focused on an interpretive program/viewing combination for an ideal opportunity of interpretation of the Herd. An ideal home for the Herd must have in place or the capacity to be developed with a visitor center and restrooms, a manager residence, and a maintenance and equipment shop. Additional outbuildings such as livestock and equipment sheds will be needed as well.

Summary

These specifications describe the ideal home for the Official State of Texas Longhorn Herd. Those specifications most important for the continued conservation of the Herd are adequate grazing on native pasture within the native range of the Texas Longhorn, and a location easily accessible and visually appealing to visitors.

Historic Sites Committee

Agenda Item No. 12

Star of the Republic Museum Exhibit Update

STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM

Level 1 | The Long Road to Independence

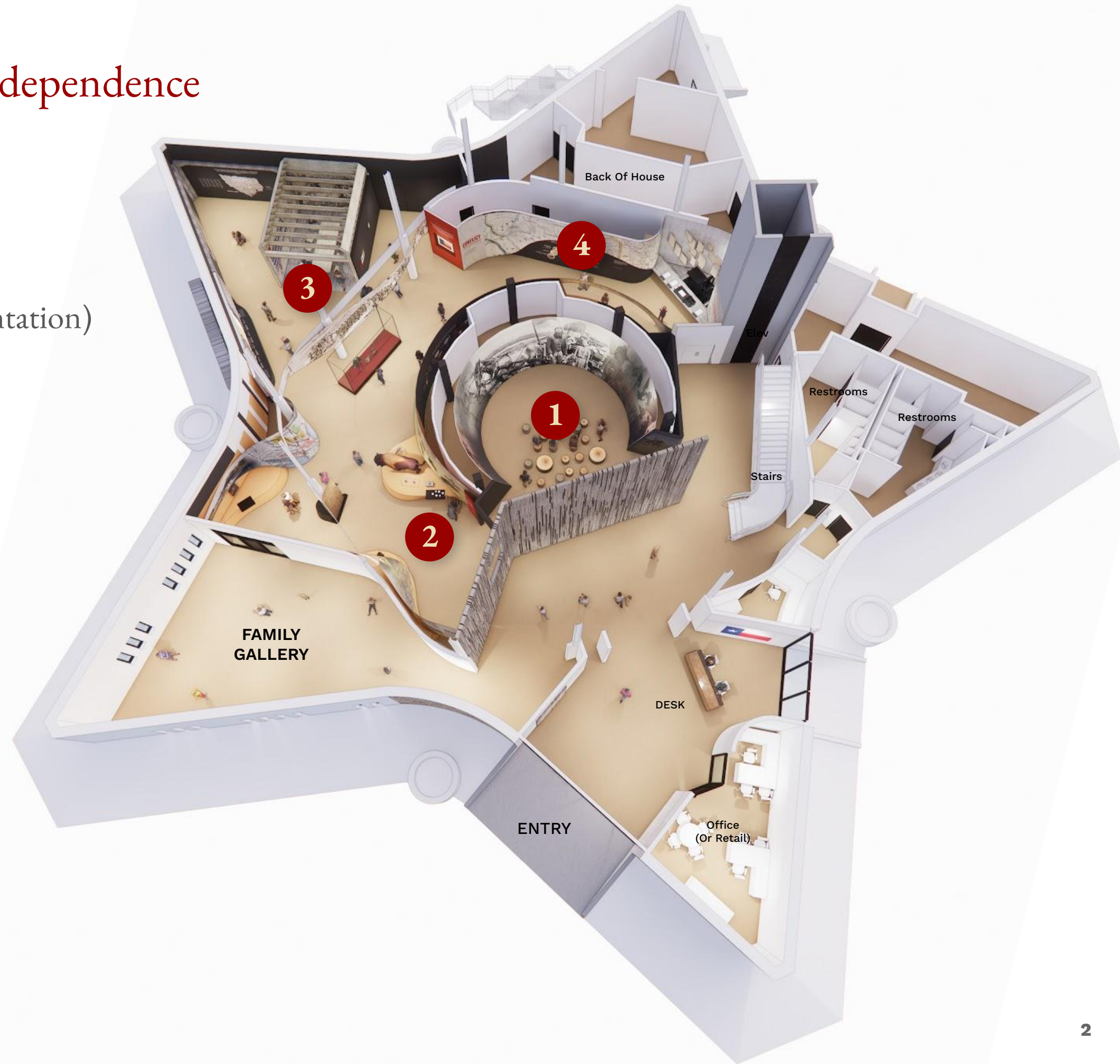
Family Gallery

Gallery 1: Dawn of the Republic (Orientation)

Gallery 2: Before the Republic

Gallery 3: Independence

Gallery 4: Conflict & Struggle



Historic Sites Committee






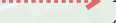




Agenda Item No. 13

San Jacinto Cultural Landscape Update

Site Plan

Circulation & Site Improvements

Symbol Legend

-  Architectural landmarks
-  Battleground gateway entrances
-  One-way vehicular route
-  Two-way vehicular route
-  Texian regiment advancement lines
-  Mexican retreat lines
-  Camp experience trails
-  Elevated boardwalk
-  Breastwork
-  Tree clusters

Existing Natural Marsh with
Birding Areas and Nature
Trails

San Jacinto
Monument

Mexican
Camp

Prairie

New Washington Road

Vista Road

Independence Parkway

Almonte
Site

Proposed Sequence of Events

- A. Create arrival for Vista Road entry
- B. Install clusters of trees / fence along Vista Road approach
- C. Create gateway to battlefield
- D. Re-establish native prairie / relocate trees to perimeter
- E. Monument / museum experience
- F. Establish Battlefield road loop
- G. Fill in berth
- H. Simplify Texian camp
- I. Remove existing reflection pool and regrade to restore historic battlefield condition
- J. Indicate advancement path
- K. Improve Mexican camp interpretation
- L. Indicate lines of retreat
- M. Create a boardwalk across marsh to overlook Greatest Carnage of Battle
- N. Indicate Almonte's retreat
- O. Highlight Almonte's surrender site
- P. RV parking area
- Q. Fill site to designate property for administration and/or back of house functions

Parking Areas

P.1 Main museum parking	300 spaces
P.2 Texian Camp pull off parking	50 spaces
P.3 Texian Camp pull off parking	15 spaces
P.4 Battlefield view pull off parking	10 spaces
P.5 Pull off parking (gateway entry)	10 spaces
P.6 Mexican Camp pull off parking	50 spaces
P.7 Mexican Camp pull off parking	15 spaces
P.8 Almonte memorial parking	10 spaces
P.9 Almonte site trail parking	15 spaces

Total Potential Parking Spaces 475 spaces

Vehicular Wayfinding to be added to help visitors navigate key decision-making points and identify parking.



Arrival

Vista Road Entry

Cedar fence at procession
along Vista Road



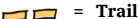
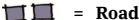


Arrival Gate

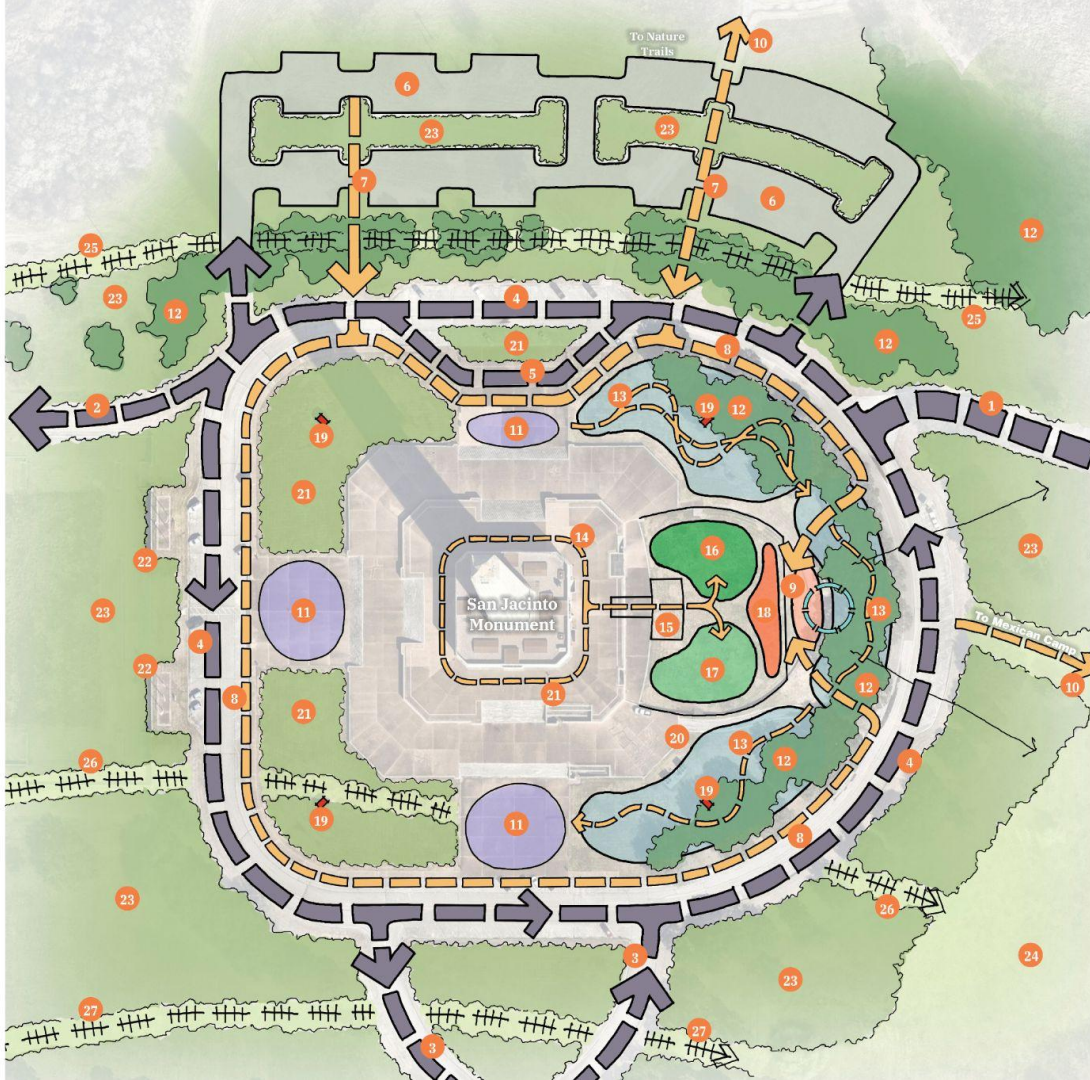
Entrance gateway
with naming wall



Site Plan Museum

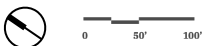
Key

-  = Trail
-  = Road
-  = Mowed Path
-  = Existing monuments



Legend

1. Proposed Battlefield Road (two-way traffic)
2. Proposed Battlefield Road (one-way traffic)
3. Vista Road
4. Monument Circle
5. Proposed drop-off
6. Proposed parking lot (as drawn: 190 spaces; total possible: 300 spaces)
7. Proposed pedestrian access from parking lot
8. Proposed perimeter walk
9. Proposed entry arrival plaza
10. Proposed pedestrian trail leading to other site features
11. Existing plaza space
12. Existing heritage trees to remain
13. Proposed interpretive garden trail
14. Existing plaza and walkway around monument highlighting the carvings and historical references on the monument
15. Proposed bridge and connection to visitor's center
16. Proposed rooftop coastal prairie garden
17. Proposed rooftop event lawn and outdoor classroom with views to Mexican camp
18. Proposed observation area
19. Existing monument lighting
20. Existing service access
21. Proposed wildflower meadow
22. Existing flag poles and retaining walls to remain
23. Proposed prairie restoration to be accurate to 1836 landscape
24. Proposed lower native planting to allow views to breastworks and trails in the Mexican camp
25. Sherman regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
26. Burleson regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
27. Hockley regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
- 28.







Site Plan

Texian

Camp Detail

Key

-  = Trail
-  = Road
-  = Mowed Path
-  = Existing monuments



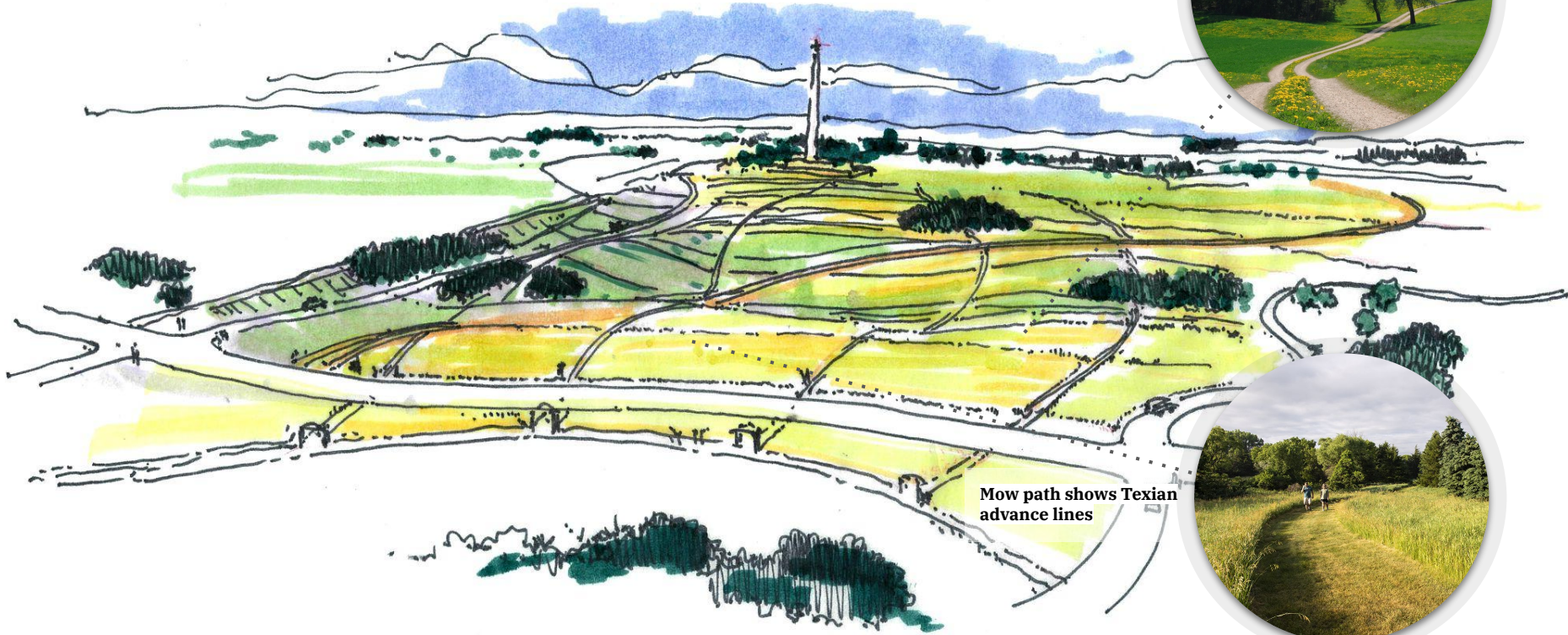
Legend

1. Proposed Battlefield Road (one-way traffic)
2. Proposed parking lot (50 spaces)
3. Sherman regiment advancement line (12' wide mowed path)
4. Proposed Texian camp experience trail
5. Burleson regiment advancement line (12' wide mowed path)
6. Proposed reestablishment of New Washington Road
7. Hockley regiment advancement line (12' wide mowed path)
8. Millard regiment advancement line (12' wide mowed path)
9. Lamar regiment advancement line (12' wide mowed path)
10. Proposed reestablishment of vegetation to be accurate to 1836
11. Existing Surrender Tree marker
12. Pull-off parking (10-12 spaces)
13. Freemason Park (create separate experience; keep existing monument and restroom building)
14. Existing overlook pier (to remain)
15. Proposed breakwater reef to promote re-wilding of berth
16. Proposed reestablishment of habitat within existing berth / remove existing bulkhead where possible
17. Proposed additional parking (up to 150 spaces)
18. Proposed RV parking area
19. Proposed caretaker's area (walk contains many of the relocated monuments)
20. Proposed cemetery area (relocation of existing graves and markers)



Advancement Paths

New Washington Road
as trail across battlefield



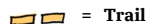
Mow path shows Texian
advance lines

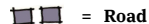


Site Plan

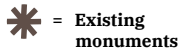
Mexican Camp Detail

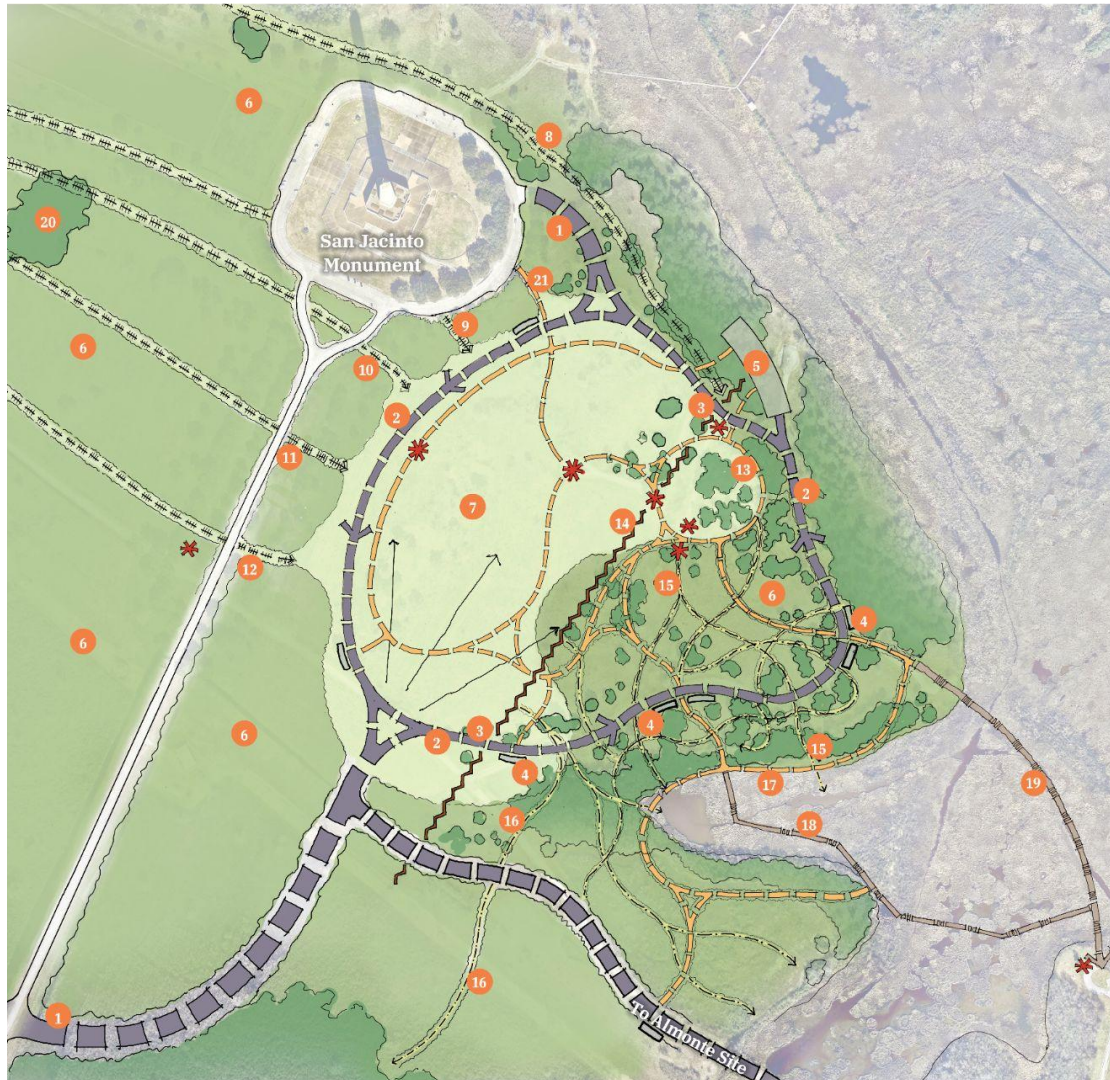
Key

 = Trail

 = Road

 = Mowed Path

 = Existing monuments



Legend

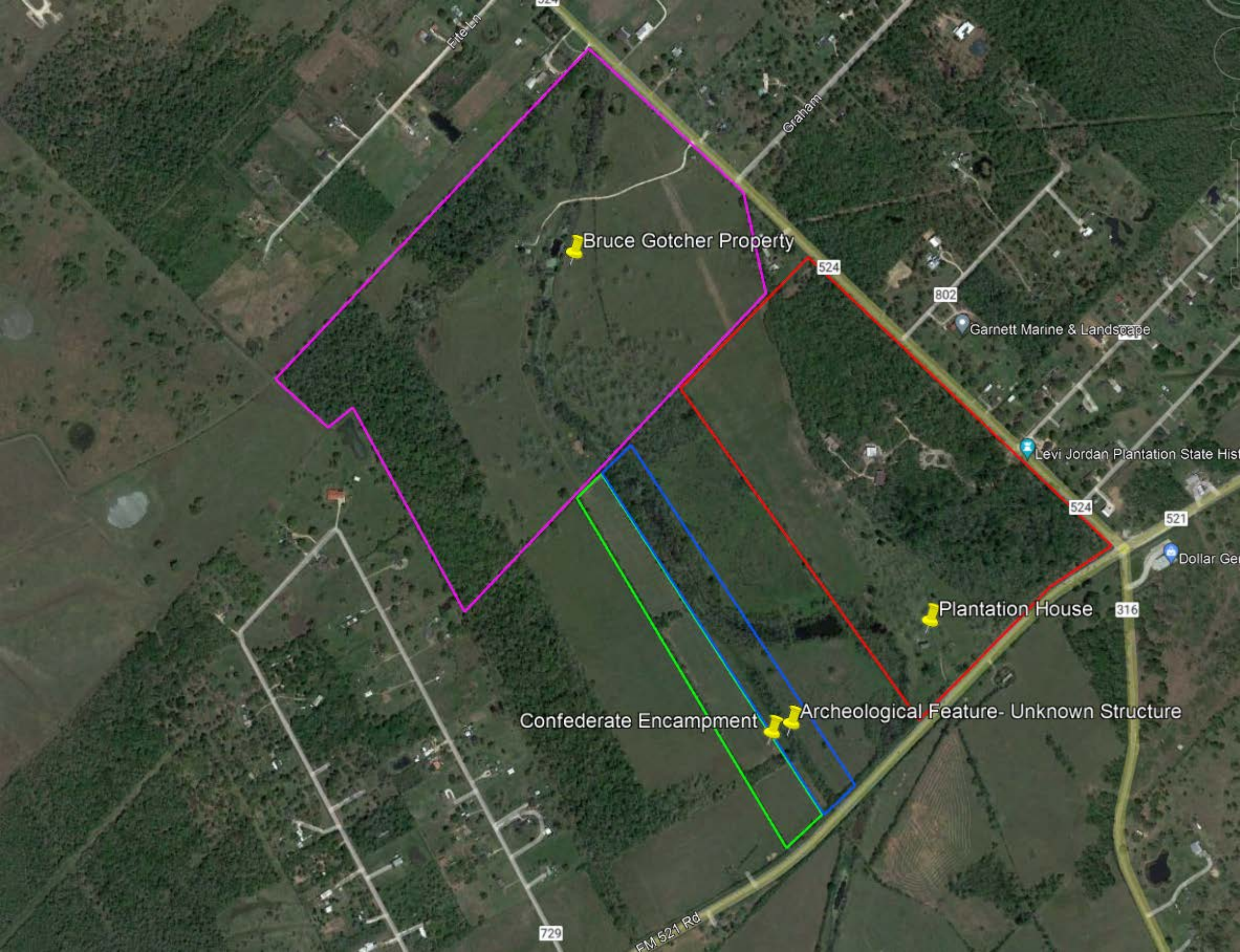
1. Proposed Battlefield Road (two-way traffic)
2. Proposed Battlefield Road (one-way traffic)
3. Proposed gateway moment through breastworks
4. Proposed pull-off parking (6-8 spaces)
5. Proposed parking lot (50 spaces)
6. Proposed reestablishment of vegetation to be accurate to 1836
7. Proposed lower native planting to allow views to breastwork and trails
8. Sherman regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
9. Burleson regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
10. Hockley regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
11. Millard regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
12. Lamar regiment advancement lines (12' wide mowed path)
13. Proposed Mexican camp experience trail
14. Proposed interpretive re-creation of breastworks
15. Proposed Mexican retreat lines (small mowed path)
16. Santa Anna's escape path
17. Proposed walkway along edge of marsh
18. Proposed low boardwalk over marsh as interpretation of retreat
19. Proposed elevated boardwalk over marsh to give overhead view of marsh and retreat lines
20. Retain tree mott at existing Habermehl cemetery
21. Proposed pedestrian access from museum



Historic Sites Committee

Agenda Item No. 14

Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites
Update



Fife Ln

Graham

Bruce Gotcher Property

524

802

Garnett Marine & Landscape

Levi Jordan Plantation State Hist

524

521

Dollar Ge

Plantation House

316

Confederate Encampment

Archeological Feature- Unknown Structure

729

FM 521 Rd

Historic Sites Capital Appropriations

General Appropriation Act HB 1 88th Legislature (GAA)

- \$2,200,000 Rider 2 Deferred Maintenance
- \$1,000,000 Rider 28 National Museum of the Pacific War

GAA Article IX Sec 17.21 Additional Funding:

- \$800,000 For Mission Dolores Historic Site
- \$7,350,000 For Washington-on-the-Brazos Historic Site
- \$15,000,000 For Iwo Jima Monument and Museum

Supplemental Appropriations SB 30

- \$1,634,962 Historic Sites Portion of Vehicle Replacement Funds
- \$500,000 for Fort Velasco Maintenance and Improvement
- \$300,000,000 Historic Sites Endowment Fund
- \$102,700,000 San Jacinto Historic Site Improvements
- \$40,000,000 San Jacinto Battleship Slip Demolition and Battlefield Restoration
- \$4,144,000 Magoffin Home Stabilization
- \$825,000 Varner-Hogg Foundation Stabilization
- \$2,875,000 Historic Sites Maintenance and Repairs
- \$5,000,000 Levi Jordan Land Acquisition and Visitor Center
- \$7,500,000 National Museum of the Pacific War Bush Gallery Improvements
- \$3,401,000 Eisenhower Birthplace Visitor Center and Site Improvements
- \$4,300,000 Monument Hill Visitor Center and Pavilion

Total Capital and Supplemental Funding Totals \$499,229,962