**County Historical Commission**

**TIPS & TOOLS**

The following County Historical Commission (CHC) Tips & Tools contain recommendations by Texas Historical Commission (THC) staff to assist preservationists in their efforts to save the real places of Texas. For more information, contact CHC Outreach staff at amy.hammons@thc.state.tx.us or amber.nunez@thc.state.tx.us.

The previous Tips & Tools covered the basics of markers and designations administered by the THC. Though subject markers are very popular among CHCs, they are solely educational, which may or may not appropriately address the needs of the resource.

For this reason, CHCs and preservation groups should consider pursuing a National Register of Historic Places designation. The National Register (NR) is a federal program administered in Texas by the THC in coordination with the National Park Service. Listing in the NR provides national recognition of a property’s historical or architectural significance and denotes it is worthy of preservation.

The NR was developed to recognize historic places and people who contributed to our country’s heritage. It is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect our historic and archeological resources.

These properties — districts, sites, buildings, structures or objects — are architecturally, archeologically or historically significant for their associations with important people or events. Properties are eligible for a NR designation if they are at least 50 years old and meet established criteria.

**Our Mission**

To protect and preserve the state’s historic and prehistoric resources for the use, education, enjoyment and economic benefit of present and future generations.