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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.

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.

Some of the best partnerships a CHC can initiate are with colleges and universities. The staff and professors of these institutions of higher learning have expertise that may not be readily available within your CHC. Involving these specialists can begin with requesting speakers for your meetings or for a preservation event, but these partnerships can ultimately provide an even more substantial offering to your CHC.

Many CHCs have projects that require an increased level of experience. Others may have projects that require certain materials not accessible to the county or that are beyond the CHC's budget. Colleges and universities may be able to provide assistance in these situations.

Many of these educational institutions have the facilities and technology to help CHCs improve their ability to care and provide access to their archives and other collections. These schools may have students that can provide proper care for collections and artifacts, and your involvement could provide them with a fulfilling educational experience.

Your CHC may be able to provide the appropriate level of care for various resources but the cost



Scurry CHC Chair Paula Hatfield participates in the recent World War II Oral History Training workshop in Midland.

required detracts from other worthy projects. Partnerships often afford an exchange of services that is less costly than other means available to you (this is only advisable when they have the training necessary for best practices).

One CHC recently drafted a Memorandum of Agreement with its local community college to digitize county archives. This partnership has enabled access to state-of-the-art equipment for digitization along with trained technicians to operate it and handle the fragile documents.

As stewards of historic resources, it is the responsibility of a CHC to provide the appropriate level of care required by those resources. Partnerships with specialists and experienced professionals can help you fulfill your preservation goals. ★