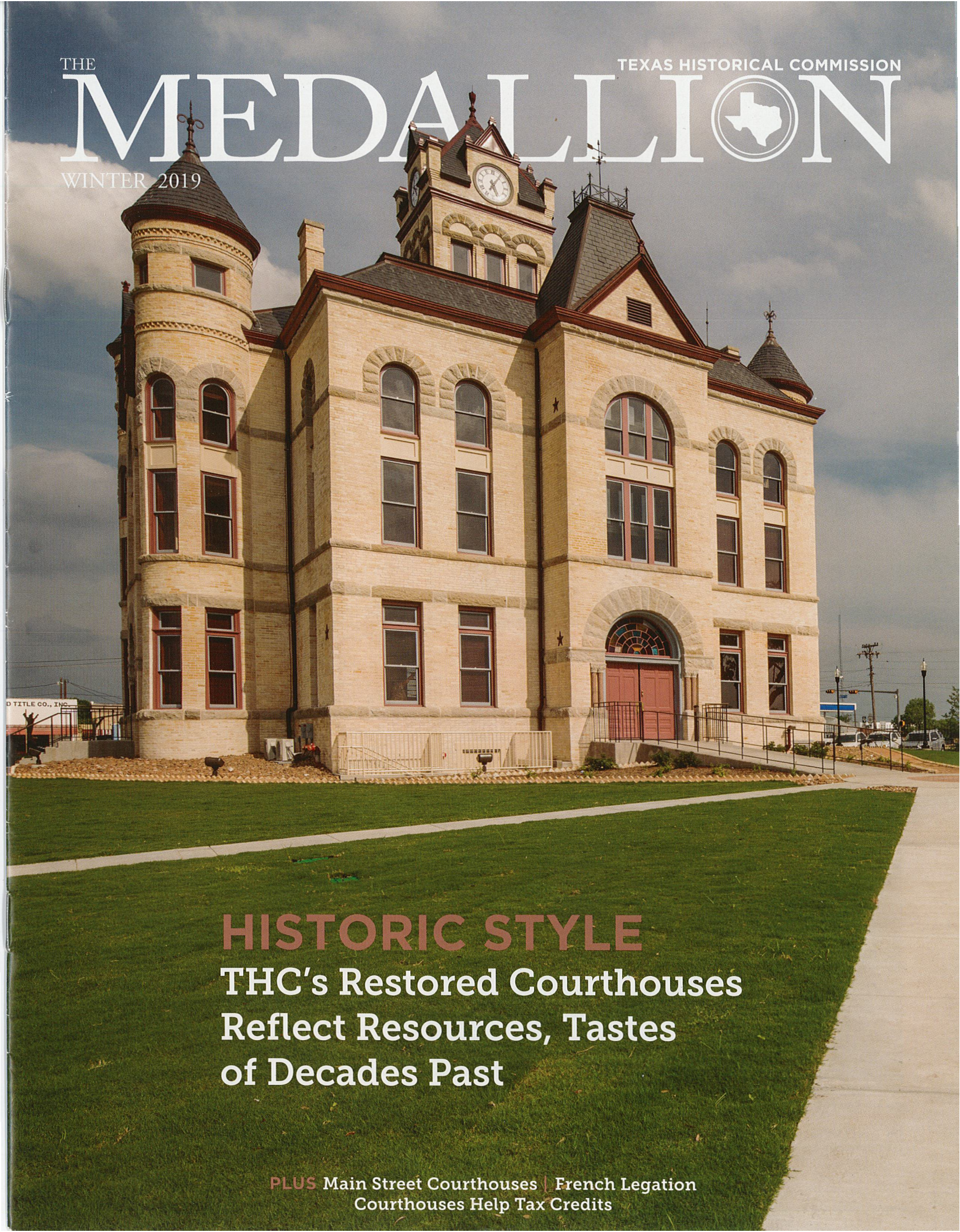
THE MEDALLION
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
WINTER 2019



HISTORIC STYLE

THC's Restored Courthouses Reflect Resources, Tastes of Decades Past

PLUS Main Street Courthouses | French Legation Courthouses Help Tax Credits



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TOP: This double-helix staircase is a distinctive feature of the Hopkins County Courthouse in Sulphur Springs. Photo: Patrick Hughey.

ON THE COVER: The Karnes County Courthouse is the most recent to be rededicated (2017) through the THC's restoration program. Photo: Patrick Hughey.

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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
WINTER 2019

ISSN 0890-7595 Vol. 57, No. 1
thc.texas.gov thc@thc.texas.gov

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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.

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TEXAS SENATOR JANE NELSON

LEADERSHIP LETTER

When I first ran for office I campaigned in a district made up of 13 counties, each with a magnificent county courthouse. I visited each of these courthouses while I was on the campaign trail and appreciated the charm they brought to our community.

North Texas has grown over the past two decades, but those courthouses remain just as beautiful as they were then. Senate District 12 is one of the fastest-growing regions in the state, and because of this growth, the district is now made up of only two counties—Denton and Tarrant. I am still able to regularly visit these impressive courthouses, and I treasure their historical value.

I remember attending the Texas Sesquicentennial celebration. There was a focus at that time on preserving courthouses all over our state, and I know it's something that remains important to our district.

Preserving Texas history has been a long-time priority of mine, and my hope is that together we can preserve our state treasures for future generations to enjoy. We have live music and great restaurants surrounding our Denton County Square. I cast my very first vote in that courthouse when I was a student at North Texas State University, present-day University of North Texas. Today my family enjoys the annual Christmas Lighting Ceremony on the square.

As a Senator, I have sought out more than $290 million in state grants over the years to preserve our Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. Our courthouses are cherished by many, and we must continue the quest to preserve them. I value the work of the Texas Historical Commission and everything they do to support this cause. They are truly a partner with the Legislature in celebrating—and preserving—Texas history, and for that I am grateful.

Senator Jane Nelson

Senator Jane Nelson, Chair
Senate Finance Committee

MAIN STREET SQUARED

COURTHOUSE COMMUNITIES BRING TRAVELERS, ECONOMIC GROWTH TO HISTORIC DOWNTOWNS

By Debra Drescher, State Coordinator
Texas Main Street Program

Historically, courthouses served as the central meeting places and architectural anchors for downtowns. In fact, they were often placed first in a community's urban plan.

Today, Texas courthouses continue to anchor downtown activities. In many cases, they provide the primary park space in a historic business district. Their unique designs and central locations contribute to walkable, enjoyable experiences for locals and visitors.

Similarly, the Texas Main Street Program uses preservation-based downtown revitalization to attract shoppers, entice heritage tourists, and create a positive economic impact. Thus, much of Main Street's attention centers on building robust local economies through home-grown businesses that bring new life to historic commercial structures.

In Texas, there are 89 designated Main Street communities; of those, 22 have courthouses restored through the Texas Historical Commission's renowned Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. Many activities are held in and around the courthouses throughout the year, which contributes to a community's quality of life and creates the positive economic impact that is the core of the Main Street mission.

For example, the widespread community effort behind the 2010 restoration of the San Augustine County Courthouse in East Texas spurred the city's application for Main Street designation in 2013.





"We wanted to expand the profound effect of the courthouse restoration on the whole climate of our downtown," says Main Street Manager Tracy Cox. "With the courthouse traffic comes the shoppers. People are drawn to make a one-stop business, shopping, and dining experience."

In Amarillo, a Main Street community since 2002, the grounds of the 1932 Potter County Courthouse are in constant use during the summer months. The courthouse—considered one of the best preserved and exceptional Art Deco buildings in Texas—was restored and rededicated by the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program in 2012. It is especially busy during free lunchtime concerts on the courthouse lawn that attract between 400 and 600 people weekly each summer.



"The Potter County Courthouse is an anchor of downtown revitalization," says Center City Executive Director Beth Duke. "Most of the major Amarillo law firms have located within walking distance of the courthouse. Potter County is a major employer in the downtown area, and that workforce is a ready market for the 37 restaurants in our downtown dining district."

In 2006, the 1911 Beaux Arts style Williamson County Courthouse in Georgetown received a THC courthouse preservation grant for $4 million to assist in the $9 million restoration project. The courthouse serves as an anchor for the "Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas," the brand for downtown. It is frequently used for special events that draw thousands of visitors and shoppers, such as the Lighting of the Square, Georgetown Swirl, Red Poppy Festival, and weddings. The courthouse is open every Saturday for guided walking tours by Williamson Museum volunteers.

"Having a downtown that surrounds an active courthouse brings visitors and residents regularly," says Kim McAuliffe, the city's Downtown Development Manager, noting that Georgetown has participated in the Main Street program since the 1980s. "Following the restoration, Georgetown experienced a reinvestment uptick in buildings, infrastructure, and new business openings."

The 1861 Cass County Courthouse in Linden was restored and rededicated in 2012. It is the only continuously functioning antebellum courthouse in Texas. Linden became a Main Street community in 2017.

"In the nearly seven years since its rededication, Linden has seen a gradual building of momentum in downtown's redevelopment," says Main Street Manager Allie Anderson.

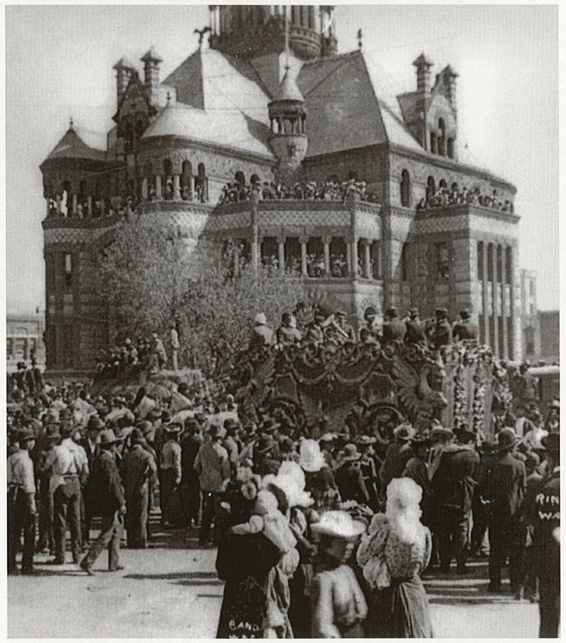
"Often in the revitalization process, an impactful visual display of the public sector's dedication to improving the downtown is all it takes to get the private sector wheels turning. In the last couple of years alone, we've seen the number of downtown retailers increase and the number of downtown restaurants nearly triple."

Historic Waxahachie provides tours of the restored 1897 Ellis County Courthouse throughout the year as part of events like the Texas Country Reporter Festival, held for 23 years around the courthouse. Another popular event was Trucks 'n Tunes, with food trucks and live music on the courthouse square.

"I love these events so much because kids run around making memories of being downtown—memories that will bind them to this community and make them want to protect it," says Waxahachie Main Street Manager Anita Brown.

Go online for more information about historic Texas courthouses: **thc.texas.gov/courthouses.**

Opposite far left: Dancers at the Potter County Courthouse's High Noon event in Amarillo. Opposite left: Georgetown's Williamson County Courthouse is a centerpiece of the Red Poppy Festival. Above: The Cass County Courthouse anchors Linden, a new Main Street City. Below: Waxahachie's Ellis County Courthouse has drawn crowds since 1897.



By Andy Rhodes, Managing Editor *The Medallion*, Photos by Patrick Hughey

HISTORIC STYLE

THC's Restored Courthouses Reflect Resources, Tastes of Decades Past

Ninety-nine Texas counties have received funding from the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program (THCPP). With restored courthouses ranging in age from 158 to 80 years old (Cass and Falls counties, respectively), these iconic structures cover as many architectural styles as Texas' diverse geographical regions.



Wharton County Courthouse, Wharton

While you're on the road exploring Texas' coastal plains, forests, canyons, and mountains, be sure to visit county seats to see Texas' equally distinctive courthouse designs.

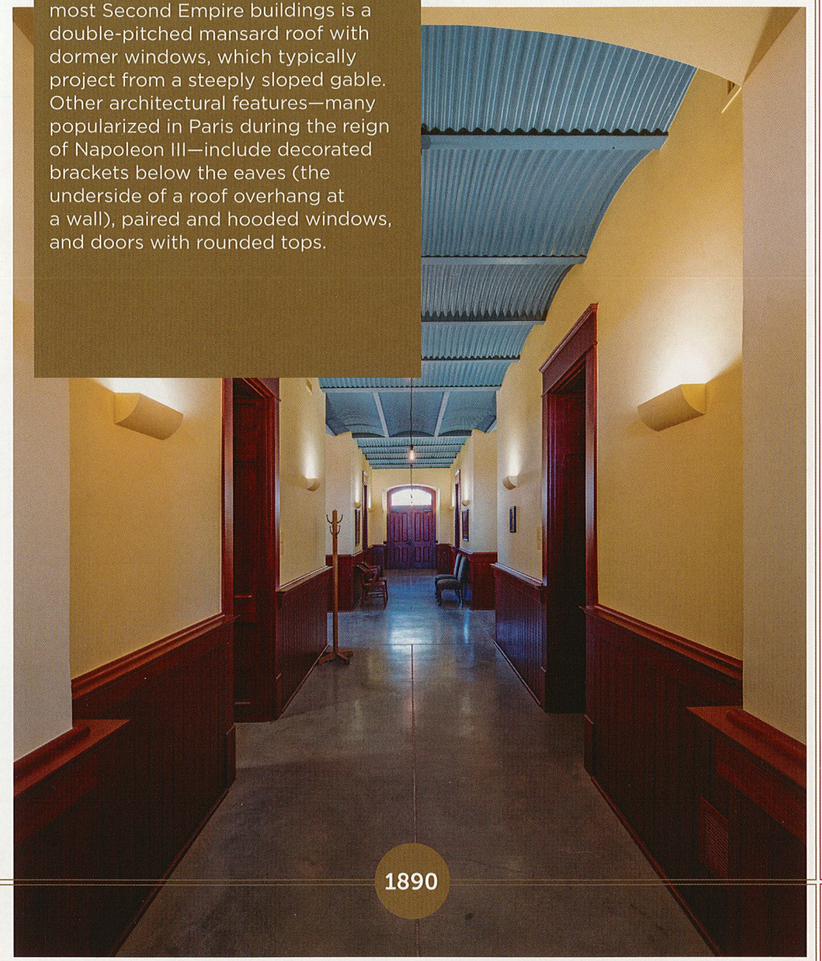
For every Classical Revival structure in West Texas, there's a Romanesque Revival counterpart in the eastern part of the state. From Beaux Arts in the Panhandle to Second Empire in the Valley, the THC's restored courthouses reflect the material resources and aesthetic tastes of Texans from decades past.

But why were certain designs and approaches popular at different times? And why is it important to recognize newer architectural styles as much as the "beauty queens" of the 19th century?

The following pages offer an overview of several architectural styles and representative structures across the Lone Star State.

For more information about the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, visit thc.texas.gov/courthouses.

SECOND EMPIRE (1860–90)
The defining characteristic of most Second Empire buildings is a double-pitched mansard roof with dormer windows, which typically project from a steeply sloped gable. Other architectural features—many popularized in Paris during the reign of Napoleon III—include decorated brackets below the eaves (the underside of a roof overhang at a wall), paired and hooded windows, and doors with rounded tops.



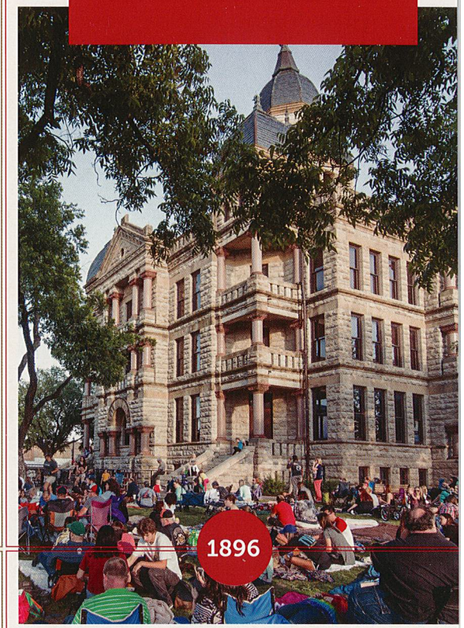
Wharton County Courthouse, Wharton, OPPOSITE PAGE
Located about 60 miles southwest of Houston, the Wharton County Courthouse was completed in 1889 by noted Texas architect Eugene Thomas Heiner, considered one of Texas' most prominent courthouse architects.

The THCPP's restoration of the Wharton County Courthouse is notable as one of the program's most dramatic undertakings. The project included demolishing the 1940s additions that had surrounded the building, resulting in a fully restored exterior, complete with a replicated clock tower. Legislative funding helped restore the building's interior to its appearance before the devastating hurricane of 1900. The courthouse was rededicated in August 2007.

Throckmorton County Courthouse, Throckmorton, ABOVE
Nearly 20 years after its establishment, Throckmorton County gained steam with plans for constructing a civic structure. In 1890, architects Martin, Byrne & Johnston designed the courthouse that stands today.

Restoration work included removing a 1930s addition, restoring windows and doors, and reconstructing the roof and wooden cupola. Interior elements such as original flooring, ceilings, and stairs were restored to their 1890 appearance. Modern amenities were incorporated, including a new elevator and bathrooms to address accessibility needs. The THC joined the county in rededicating the courthouse in March 2015.

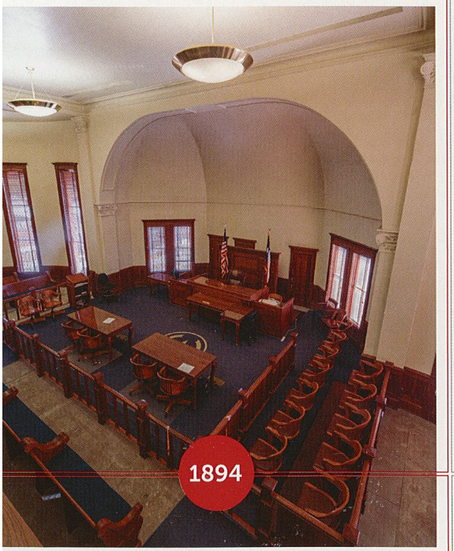
ROMANESQUE REVIVAL (1840–1900)
Unlike some architectural styles that were incorporated into commercial and residential structures, the Romanesque Revival approach was predominantly favored for churches and public buildings. Romanesque Revival details include square towers, arches over doors, semicircular arched openings, rusticated stone, and squat porch columns.



Denton County Courthouse, Denton, ABOVE
The 1896 Denton County Courthouse was designed by Waco architect W.C. Dodson, who helped build eight Texas courthouses. The building in Denton is constructed of granite, sandstone, and locally quarried limestone.

The THCPP's project focused on restoring the courthouse's exterior masonry and repairing its slate roof. New replica wood windows were installed to match the original design, and the building's public corridors—originally floored with patterned, unglazed ceramic tiles—were restored. The courthouse was rededicated in November 2004.

ROMANESQUE REVIVIAL
(1840–1900)



Hopkins County Courthouse, Sulphur Springs, ABOVE

In 1895, noted Texas architect J. Riely Gordon designed the Hopkins County Courthouse. Its entrances are uniquely positioned on the northwest and southwest corners, compared to the more-common quadrilateral entrance symmetry.

Sulphur Springs was developed above a series of springs, resulting in groundwater infiltration becoming a persistent problem. The courthouse also experienced severe sandstone and window deterioration. The THC's preservation project helped restore exterior and interior elements—including a distinctive double-helix staircase—as well as systems upgrades and accessibility modifications. It was completed in December 2002.



NEOCLASSICAL
(1900–40)

In the early 20th century, many cities across Texas and the U.S. demolished ornamental public buildings and replaced them with classically designed structures. These buildings recalled the Classical style of ancient Greeks and Romans, with pedimented porticos and colossal columns dominating the symmetrical facades. Unlike the Beaux Arts style—known for its grandiose compositions—neoclassical buildings typically did not include exuberant details.

Navarro County Courthouse, Corsicana, ABOVE

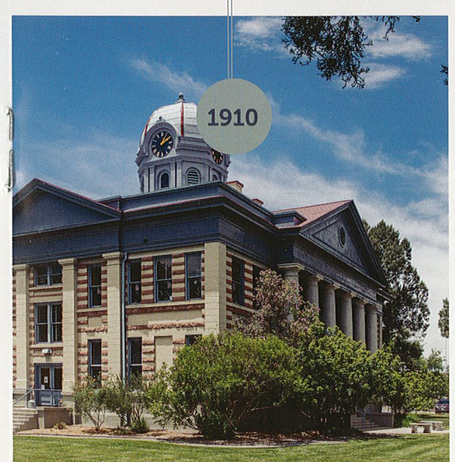
The Navarro County Courthouse was designed in the Neoclassical style with Beaux Arts influences by Dallas-based architect James Edward Flanders in 1905. This courthouse is the fifth to serve Navarro County. The building features Red Burnet granite, a French clay tile roof, open clock tower, and a pedimented entryway (a triangular gable) with free-standing ionic columns.

Restoration work included replacing a Lady Justice figure above the entrance, returning the district courtroom to its original two-story height, and significant restoration of gilded ornamental plaster, which frames the judge's bench and adorns the balconies. The courthouse was rededicated in July 2016.

Jeff Davis County Courthouse, Fort Davis, RIGHT

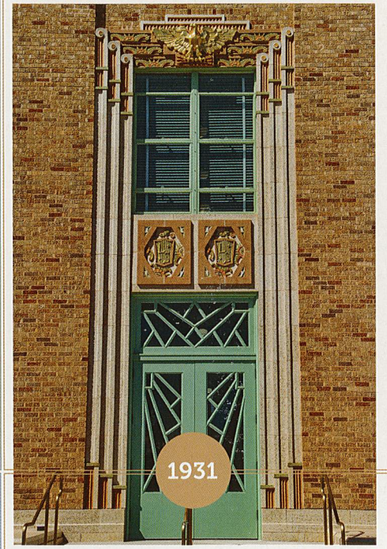
This 1910 Classical Revival courthouse with a Beaux Arts clock tower is considered unique for its early use of concrete combined with native stone. The architectural firm L.L. Thurmon & Company of Dallas designed the building.

Interior work included upgrades to electrical, plumbing, and mechanical systems and the installation of an elevator. Restoration of unique faux wood and metal ceiling finishes and the district courtroom's original furnishings were included, along with the reconstruction of the 1910 balcony. Repairs to the clock tower and windows completed the exterior work. Restoration was finished in September 2003.



ART DECO
(1925–45)

Art Deco style broke revivalist traditions, often featuring hard-edged geometric compositions with a vertical emphasis. Courthouses in this style often included open floor plans, flat or very low-pitched roofs with low-profile parapets (a short wall hiding the edge of a roof), smooth stucco walls, and horizontal groupings of metal casement windows. Other hallmarks of the Art Deco style include stepped facades, linear motifs, and stylized ornamentation.



La Salle County Courthouse, Cotulla, ABOVE

In 1905, Texas architect Henry Truman Phelps designed the lackluster and structurally poor La Salle County Courthouse. Twenty-six years later he designed the present 1931 courthouse, his most imaginative courthouse design. The courthouse is a four-story building constructed of tan brick with terra cotta decorative elements.

The restoration project preserved and repaired original historic features such as gold-leaf terra cotta eagles that adorn the facade, and many of the olive-green steel office units are original. A new system of underground energy-efficient heat pumps replaced the former window-mounted air conditioners. A rededication ceremony was held in January 2013.



Potter County Courthouse, Amarillo, ABOVE

The eight-story "diminutive skyscraper," designed by local architects Townes, Lightfoot & Funk, was built with a simple geometric design and stylized ornamentation to achieve a grandiose effect.

From 2009 to 2012, the courthouse underwent a major restoration through the THCPP. The exterior terra cotta facade containing bas-relief sculptural details of the region's history was restored, and a new cooling and insulation system was installed to help reduce energy use and costs. Many of the original design elements remained intact, including aluminum doors, hardware, and light fixtures. The building was rededicated in August 2012.

Architectural style sources: National Trust for Historic Preservation and the U.S. General Services Administration.

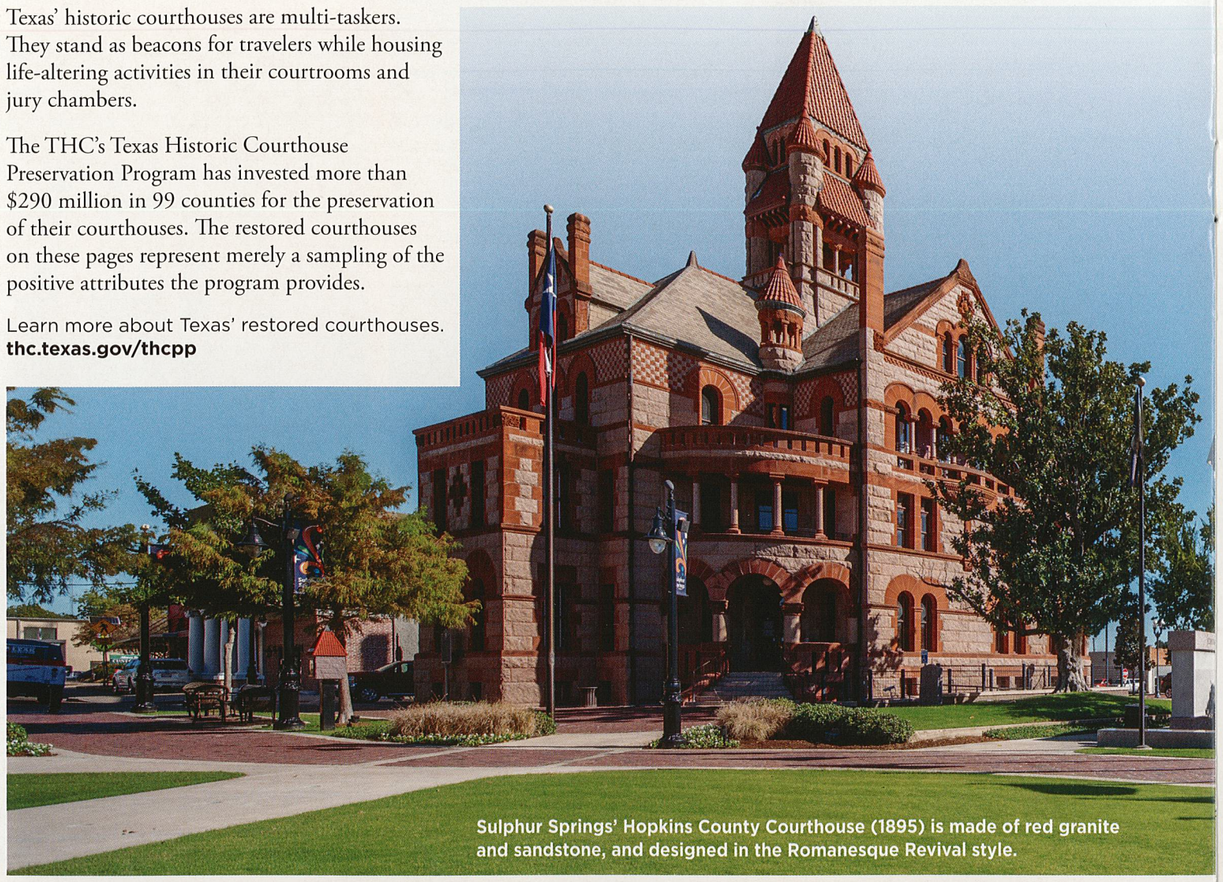
HONORABLE ARCHITECTURE

VERDICT: TEXAS' RESTORED COURTHOUSES HIGHLIGHT FORM AND FUNCTION

Texas' historic courthouses are multi-taskers. They stand as beacons for travelers while housing life-altering activities in their courtrooms and jury chambers.

The THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program has invested more than $290 million in 99 counties for the preservation of their courthouses. The restored courthouses on these pages represent merely a sampling of the positive attributes the program provides.

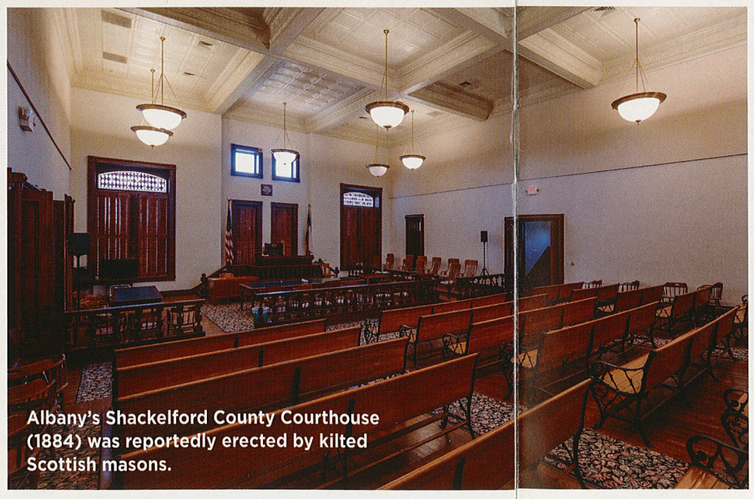
Learn more about Texas' restored courthouses.
thc.texas.gov/thcpp



Sulphur Springs' Hopkins County Courthouse (1895) is made of red granite and sandstone, and designed in the Romanesque Revival style.



Groveton's Trinity County Courthouse (1914) hosted its largest gatherings following World War I and World War II.



Albany's Shackelford County Courthouse (1884) was reportedly erected by kilted Scottish masons.



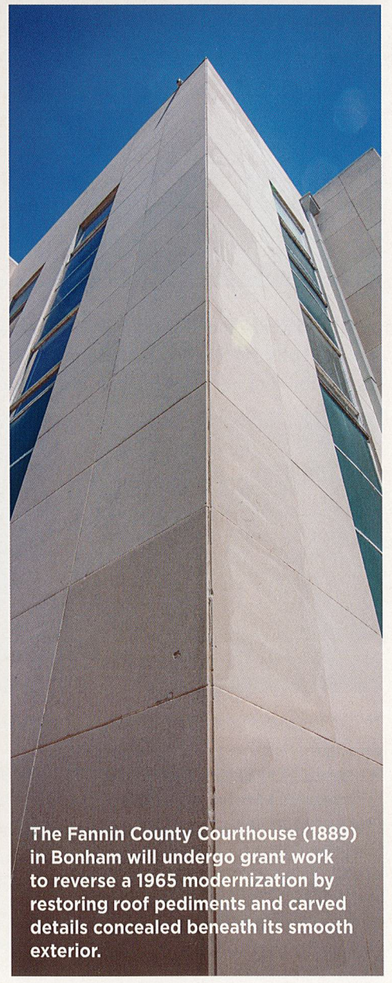
The Lampasas County Courthouse (1884) is designed in the Second Empire style.



Goldthwaite's Mills County Courthouse (1913) district courtroom restoration revealed a handsome terrazzo floor under the carpet.



Paris' Lamar County Courthouse (1917) was reconstructed from salvaged granite after a fire destroyed most of downtown.



The Fannin County Courthouse (1889) in Bonham will undergo grant work to reverse a 1965 modernization by restoring roof pediments and carved details concealed beneath its smooth exterior.

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT PROJECTS ENHANCE TEXAS' HISTORIC COURTHOUSE COMMUNITIES

By Andy Rhodes, Managing Editor, *The Medallion*

While exploring the Lone Star State's historic downtowns, many travelers are understandably drawn to the architectural beacons of courthouse towers. Some visitors may continue strolling through a historic business district in search of cafes and boutiques without noticing the buildings in between. Even fewer will realize that many of these historic structures on courthouse squares, housing private companies or nonprofit organizations, were preserved and enhanced thanks to tax credits.



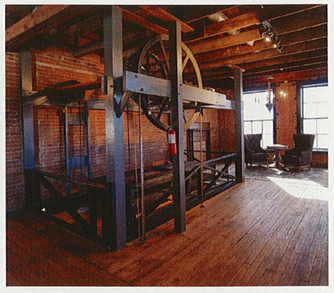
In Stephenville, the 1889 First National Bank building, the town's first financial institution, sits adjacent to the downtown Erath County Courthouse, restored in 2002 through the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program.

Nearly 15 years later, local developers initiated a comprehensive but conservative rehabilitation of the property, including restoration and repair of interior historic elements, exterior stone masonry, and the decorative copper turret roof. The original raised plaster frieze—a broad horizontal band of sculpted or painted decoration—was discovered above a dropped ceiling, although it was crumbling and partially removed. As a crowning touch, the owners restored a section of the plaster frieze and used decorative painting techniques to interpret its missing portions.

In Mount Vernon, the 1916 M.L. Edwards & Co. Building is prominently located near the restored Franklin County Courthouse. The building is an excellent example of an early 20th-century commercial structure, but is most notable for having been owned by members of the Edwards family for 100 years. The building was constructed by M.L. Edwards after his general store outgrew its smaller building. The new building provided him the opportunity to expand retail offerings and add an undertaker service on the second floor.

Tax credit assistance allowed the new owners to reimagine the building as a retail shop, restaurant, and events venue. They removed a non-historic storefront from the 1980s and restored the original storefront, which features transom windows painted to advertise wares. Inside the building, the expansive tin ceiling was selectively repaired, and a new lift was added to make the second floor accessible. The original freight elevator that carried coffins to the second floor was also restored.





Additional tax credit information is available. **thc.texas.gov/taxcredits**

Above: The 1889 First National Bank, Stephenville. Left: M.L. Edwards Co. Building, Mount Vernon.



The Texas Historical Commission's Preservation Tax Credit Program administers the Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit and the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit. The federal program has been in existence since 1976, while the state program was established by the Texas Legislature in 2013 and officially went into effect in January 2015.

The federal program provides a credit on federal income taxes equal to 20 percent of qualified project expenses for rehabilitating a historic building used for income-producing purposes. The state program provides a credit equal to 25 percent of qualified project expenses for the rehabilitation of a historic building used for income-producing purposes.

Projects must be certified, and there are requirements for historic designations that vary between the federal and state programs. Many projects that utilize both historic tax credit programs are large, but developers are increasingly using the programs to revitalize small-scale buildings on courthouse squares and in Texas Main Street cities.

FRIENDS INDEED

THC'S NONPROFIT PARTNER PLANS MAJOR PRESERVATION PROJECTS IN 2019

By Katie Cukerbaum, Friends of the Texas Historical Commission Development Manager

For over 22 years, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission (FTHC) has been an ever-present partner to the Texas Historical Commission, playing an essential role in discovering, preserving, and sharing Texas history. As a Texas history supporter, we are excited to share a few of the exciting projects we have planned for 2019.



SPIRIT OF TEXAS PROGRAM

Be a part of preserving Texas history by supporting the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission's Spirit of Texas Program.

We are delighted to show our appreciation with a variety of thank you gifts! Show off your pride in being a Texas history supporter with a tote bag, a yearly pass to the THC's historic sites, bumper stickers, and more.

Learn more online. **thcfriends.org**

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The THC's State Historic Sites tell the story of Texas through interpretation and place-based education. The FTHC supports capital projects that enhance visitors' experiences.

Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site: In planning improvements at Eisenhower Birthplace, it is the THC's goal to fully and accurately represent the site in context, both physically and historically. Toward that end, the FTHC will focus on funding support for capital improvements that tell the story of President Eisenhower's childhood and his family's working-class neighborhood.

French Legation State Historic Site: In September 2017, the Texas Legislature transferred the French Legation to the THC, becoming its first historic site in Austin. The vision for the French Legation is to develop an active site that welcomes Austin residents and visitors alike. The site's history as a diplomatic legation of the Republic of Texas will be reflected in its role as a place that connects people and builds community.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Preservation Scholars Program: The program was created to build interest in, and awareness of, careers in historic preservation, specifically among students from underrepresented cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. Working with THC staff, Preservation Scholars complete a summer placement at the THC in Austin or at a historic site, and execute a special project based on the student's primary interest.

Doing History Summer Camp: The camp is aimed at rising 4th-8th grade students and offers children the opportunity to explore Texas history and historic preservation principles and practices. This is accomplished through field trips, hands-on activities, and structured learning experiences designed to grow the next generation of engaged, invested, and history-aware citizens. In 2019, the FTHC will support efforts to expand the camp to a growing number of students.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

Building support, capacity, and expertise in local communities is key to effectively caring for Texas' cultural resources. The FTHC supports programs coordinated by THC staff.

Courthouse Stewardship Program: The program provides support to county courthouse staff and volunteers to help preserve these architectural jewels. Since 2006, the FTHC has partnered with the Texas Land Trust Council to raise over $300,000 in philanthropic support that has provided over 700 hours of courthouse steward training.

Texas Archeological Stewardship Network: The network is dedicated to developing a group of highly trained avocational archeologists across the state through ongoing training and education. Archeological Stewards are volunteers, assisting the THC in finding, recording, and monitoring archeological sites, a job of increasing importance as land-use changes and rural property is developed across Texas.

BIENVENUE TO THE FRENCH LEGATION

THC WELCOMES 1841 DIPLOMATIC BUILDING IN AUSTIN TO ITS FAMILY OF HISTORIC SITES

By Heather McBride,
THC Senior Communications Specialist

One of the oldest original buildings in Austin is undergoing essential restoration and will open later this year as the Texas Historical Commission's newest state historic site.

The French Legation was built in 1841 as a private home and diplomatic office for French chargé d'affaires during the Republic of Texas, Alphonse Dubois, after the French monarch officially recognized the Republic of Texas as a sovereign nation. As chargé d'affaires, Dubois was appointed to oversee the French diplomatic post in Texas.



Dubois was unable to find a suitable house, so he hired builders to construct the historic Legation home outside the city's eastern downtown area as he pursued trade agreements between the two nations. By December 1841, the capital moved from Austin back to Houston and Dubois left as well.

A few years after Texas' annexation to the United States, Dr. Joseph W. Robertson bought the property in 1848, and he, his wife, their 11 children and nine enslaved workers lived at the site. The Robertsons' daughter, Lillie, lived in the home her entire life, and in her later years opened the house to the public, offering tours of what she called the "Old French Embassy."

By this time, most of the original 21.5 acres had been sold to freedmen, immigrants, and others who built the East Austin neighborhood. Following Lillie's death, the state of Texas acquired the house, and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) were appointed as the property's custodian. The DRT opened the French Legation as a museum in 1956.

In September 2017, the historic French Legation became a THC state historic site after Gov. Greg Abbott signed House Bill 3810.

Since the site's transfer to the THC, it has been closed pending much-needed restoration. The project is twofold, focusing on the preservation of the historic French Legation building while upgrading facilities to improve the visitor experience.

"The process of restoring this house is telling us more about its history." —Ellen Cone Busch, THC Director of Historic Sites Operations.

For more information, call 512-463-7948 or learn more online.
visitfrenchlegation.com

The bulk of the work includes the conservation of original materials and restoration of interior finishes and original building features that were modified after Dubois sold it, such as the windows.

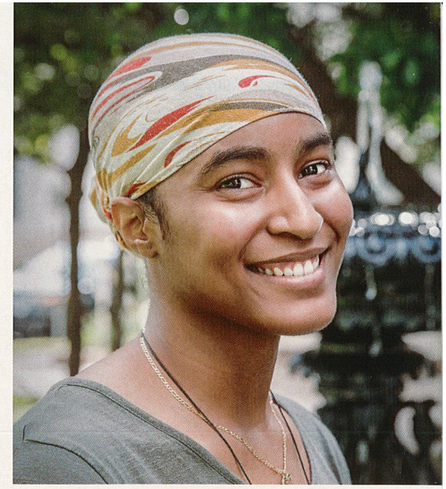
The Robertsons replaced the original four-light casement windows with double-hung windows. To accommodate new sashes, the window openings were narrowed by a few inches.

"When removing some of the woodwork around the windows, we found newspaper jammed into slots that may have originally been cut for the hardware," said Ellen Cone Busch, the THC's Director of Historic Sites Operations. "The cotton rag newspaper contained the date of April 12, 1851. A little research showed it was from an edition of the *Texas State Gazette*, a newspaper printed in Austin. Before this, we didn't know when the Robertsons changed the windows, so the process of restoring this house is telling us more about its history."

The site's reopening to the public is anticipated in late 2019.

French Legation State Historic Site
802 San Marcos St.
Austin, TX 78702





NEWS BRIEFS

PRESERVATION SCHOLARS INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM THE THC

Applications are open now through March 22 for the THC's Preservation Scholars Program, supported by funding from the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission.

The Preservation Scholars Program builds interest and awareness in historic preservation, specifically among students from underrepresented cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. THC Preservation Scholars will work with THC staff and programs, gaining valuable professional experience related to historic preservation, historic sites, community development programs, heritage tourism, and communications.

Preservation Scholars will complete a rotation among all divisions headquartered in Austin and then complete a special project in a division of their choice. Interns will receive a $5,000 stipend provided by the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission for a full-time, eight-week internship.

Undergraduate and graduate students interested in history, preservation, architecture, landscape architecture, archeology, downtown revitalization, and heritage tourism can apply. Preference may be given to a candidate from a disadvantaged socioeconomic background.

Apply for an internship or learn more online.
thcfriends.org/preservation-scholars-program

HONOR TEXAS' HEROINES DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

From an influential stateswoman to a fearless West Texas rancher, the women who helped shape the Lone Star State's stories are recognized during Women's History Month in March. Free THC publications highlight the contributions and sacrifice of women to Texas history.

Women such as Houston's Barbara Jordan, an African American politician and educator who altered the political landscape in Texas, and Atlanta's Bessie Coleman, who challenged boundaries by becoming the world's first licensed African American pilot, are featured in the THC's booklet *African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy*.

Other innovative Texas women include Alpine's Hallie Stillwell, highlighted in the THC's *Texas Mountain Trail Region* travel guide. Stillwell rode with the cowboys and fought to preserve West Texas' ranching life. The THC's *Texas in World War II* guide features Killeen native Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, who became the first commanding officer of the Women's Army corps.

To request a free travel guide, call 866-276-6219 or download the guides and the Texas Time Travel Tours app.
TexasTimeTravel.com

APPLICATIONS FOR TEXAS MAIN STREET DESIGNATION NOW AVAILABLE

The application process for becoming designated as an official Texas Main Street Program (TMSP) community will soon be open. The application and timelines are available on the Texas Historical Commission's website at thc.texas.gov/becoming-main-street-community. The application includes complete information about the process, optional Intent to Apply notification, selection criteria, and sample budgets. The Intent to Apply notification is due April 27.

Applications are considered based upon five primary criteria: historic commercial fabric and historic character; community and private sector support and organizational capacity; support and financial capacity; physical capacity and business environment; and demonstrated need.

Additional information about the TMSP can be found on the THC website. Application questions can be directed to TMSP State Coordinator Debra Drescher at 512-463-5758 or debra.drescher@thc.texas.gov.
thc.texas.gov/mainstreet

Top, from left: Previous Preservation Scholars include Halee Robinson and Calvin Blair (2018), and Zoe Simien (2017).

The Medallion
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

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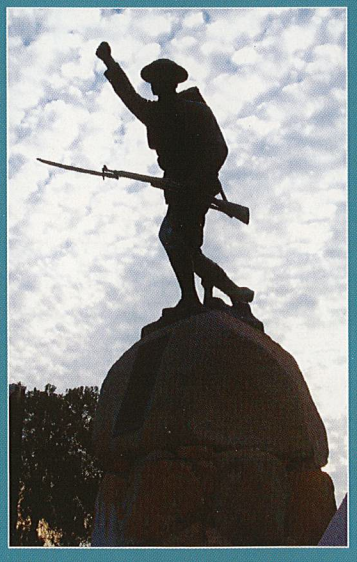
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thc.texas.gov

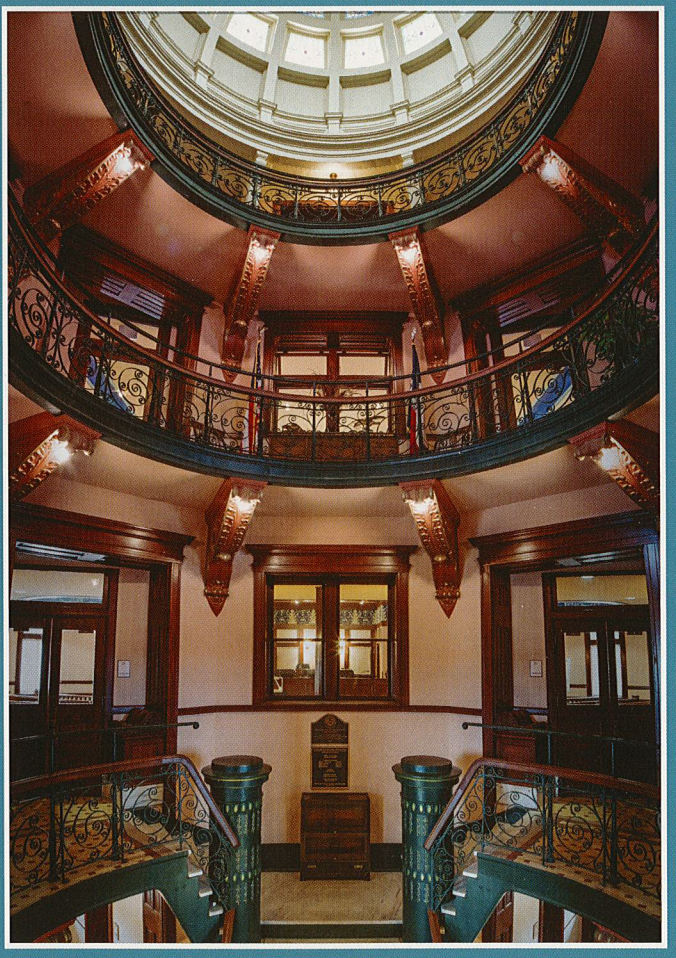
WHERE ON EARTH...IN TEXAS

Know Your Texas History? Put your skills to the test by identifying the pictured site! The first three people who correctly identify the location will receive a prize and be named in the next issue of *The Medallion*. Send your answer to: *The Medallion*, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276 or email to medallion @thc.texas.gov. Limit one prize annually per contestant.

Need a clue? This courthouse in the Texas Forest Trail region was restored via the THC's courthouse preservation program in 2009.



Answer to the photo from the last issue: The photo at left is a doughboy statue in downtown Llano. Nearly a dozen similar statues are prominently placed throughout Texas to honor World War I soldiers. Congratulations and prizes go to the first three readers who correctly identified the site: Randy Hartman of San Antonio, Jerilynn Millican of Brownwood, and Johna Childers of Lufkin. Thanks to all who participated!



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