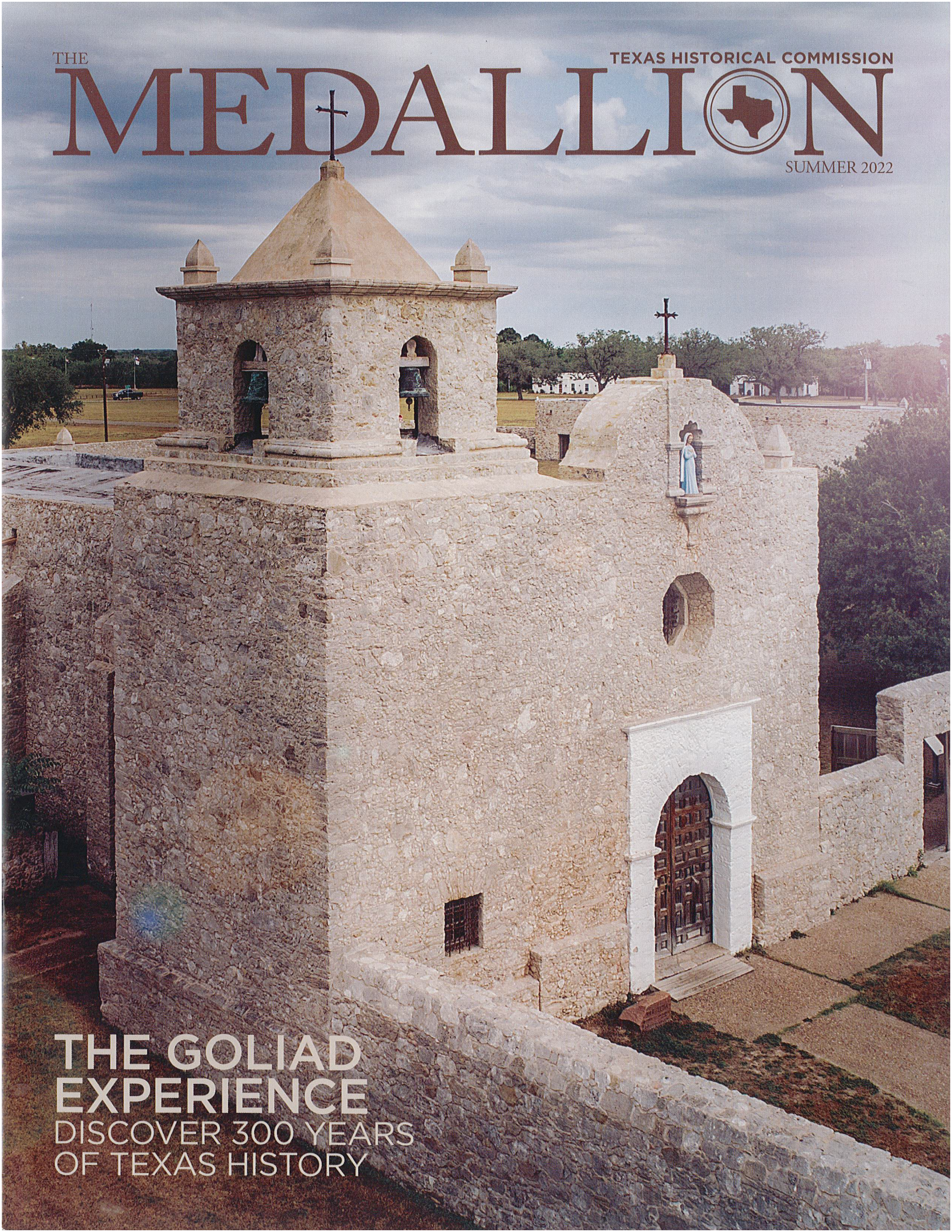
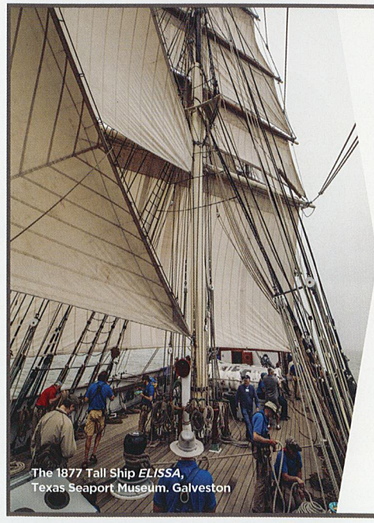
THE
MEDALLION
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
SUMMER 2022



THE GOLIAD EXPERIENCE
DISCOVER 300 YEARS OF TEXAS HISTORY





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The 1877 Tall Ship *ELISSA*, Texas Seaport Museum, Galveston

TOP: A statue of Ignacio Zaragosza, the Father of Cinco de Mayo, stands near the Zaragosza Birthplace in Goliad (story on page 6). ON THE COVER: Presidio la Bahía's chapel dates to 1749. Photo by Patrick Hughey.

THE MEDALLION
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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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 STATE REPRESENTATIVE GEANIE W. MORRISON HOUSE DISTRICT 30

LEADERSHIP LETTER

Presidio La Bahía, an historic fortress near present-day Goliad, illustrates the story of New World tensions between Spain and France playing out in 17th-century Texas.

The Presidio is among the many icons of state heritage found in my House district. I remain awed by the significance of so many sites in the area and invite you to visit and revisit these treasures.

Presidio La Bahía will soon take its rightful place among the state historic sites managed by the Texas Historical Commission, in partnership with the Diocese of Victoria. The church will continue longtime ownership while the THC offers visitors its expert interpretation of a complex history.

Reacting to La Salle's 1686 French incursion with the warship *La Belle*, in 1722 New Spain built on the ruins of Fort St. Louis near Matagorda Bay, thus 'Presidio La Bahía.' In ministering to Native Americans, the fort moved to its present location on the San Antonio River south of Goliad by 1749.

The accompanying mission church, Espíritu Santo, is just north across the river and maintained by Texas Parks and Wildlife with a nearby campground.

In March 1836 the Presidio became a site of grim horror—the mass execution of James Fannin and his men who surrendered to Mexican forces a few days earlier at the battle of Coleto Creek.

The Fannin Battleground State Historic Site and my historic hometown of Victoria are within easy driving distance from Presidio La Bahía and Goliad. They are among the places of the coastal plains that enrich the story of Texas' War for Independence.

We invite you to come visit!

Sincerely,

Geanie W. Morrison

Geanie Morrison
State Representative, House District 30

CEMETERY QUESTIONS?

THC CEMETERY PROGRAM COORDINATOR ANSWERS FREQUENT INQUIRIES

By Jenny McWilliams
THC Cemetery Preservation Program Coordinator

Cemeteries are one of the most popular areas of interest in Texas' preservation community. Questions often arise about the number of statewide cemeteries, private property access, and even establishing new family plots. To address these issues, Jenny McWilliams, the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) cemetery preservation program coordinator, recently helped clarify the following common concerns.

How many historic cemeteries are in Texas? The truth is we don't know. No one does! Currently, however, the THC is aware of at least 12,545 cemeteries across the state. That number grows constantly as we work with County Historical Commissions, archeologists, descendants, and other interested parties to include newly documented (and often long-forgotten) cemeteries to the inventory.

Nearly 2,400 of these cemeteries have been documented through the THC's Historic Texas Cemetery (HTC) designation program, which celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2023.

What can Texans do to improve the THC's cemetery inventory? Consider helping us build a more comprehensive statewide inventory. Look for the cemeteries you care about on the THC's Historic Sites Atlas (atlas.thc.texas.gov). If they're not there, file a Notice of Unknown or Abandoned Cemetery form to ensure the cemetery's existence is documented in local and state records. The form is available at thc.texas.gov/cemeterydiscovery.

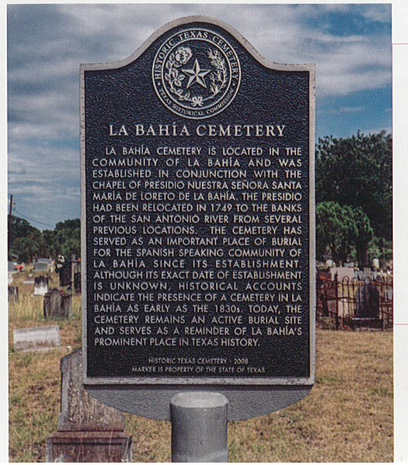
I want to visit a relative's grave in a cemetery that's located on private property—can I do that? Yes. Texas law provides visitors the right to reasonable entry to cemeteries on private property for purposes usually associated with cemetery visits. This is not limited only to those visitors related to the interred.

The statute states that property owners may designate the route of your access across their property and reasonable hours of availability (unless provided a written notification of intent to visit at a reasonable time at least 14 days in advance). Interference with the reasonable right to access a cemetery is a Class C misdemeanor.

Occasionally, property owners aren't aware of these laws and may need a copy of them. If you encounter resistance, work with local law enforcement officials to ensure the laws are enforced. The THC does not have authority in these situations.

Can the THC give me guidance on how to start a new family cemetery on my property? Unfortunately, our agency cannot assist with establishing a new cemetery. We suggest you refer to guidance published by the Texas Cemeteries & Crematories Association, available at txcca.us/faq. The document highlights applicable laws, regulations, and other issues to consider before dedicating a new family cemetery.









Can the THC provide me with contact information for a particular historic cemetery? In most cases, no. If a cemetery has been designated as an HTC or has an Official Texas Historical Marker, we may be able to provide you with contact information for someone who was affiliated with the cemetery at the time the application was made. Keep in mind that this contact information may no longer be current.

Local sources will be your best bet. We recommend the following:

- County or Central Appraisal District (CAD): Check with the CAD to see if an owner is listed in its records. Cemeteries don't pay taxes, so CAD offices don't always track cemeteries, but it's a good place to start.
- Local funeral homes: If there has been a burial in the recent past, a local funeral home may have a point of contact for the cemetery.
- County Historical Commissions: The CHC may have a point of contact. A downloadable listing of CHC contacts can be found at thc.texas.gov/chcs.
- Other resources: Local historical or genealogical societies or even a local library may have records on cemeteries.

If the options above fail, contact us for advice on conducting advanced research that may help. The difficulty in identifying who to contact about a cemetery is one of the biggest reasons we encourage posting informational signs at cemeteries.

Our office regularly fields phone calls from people who want to volunteer, get more involved, report a potential problem, bury a family member, or even make a donation, but they have no idea how to get in touch with the people who oversee the cemetery. Posting signs at cemeteries can make it easier for people who care about these cemeteries to connect with others who care.

To learn more about the THC's History Programs Division and its programs, visit thc.texas.gov/cemeteries.

OPPOSITE, FROM LEFT: A statue and Historic Texas Cemetery marker at La Bahía Cemetery in Goliad; a historic gravesite at Stanley Chapel in Lampasas County. LEFT: A grave at Oakland Cemetery in Grimes County. BELOW: The aftermath of a storm at Liberty City Cemetery in Liberty County.

ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR CEMETERY PRESERVATION

Navigate to thc.texas.gov/cemeteryresources to access two new educational resources for cemetery preservation. One series of training modules is targeted to County Historical Commissions and provides a recommended framework and strategies for developing and managing a county-wide cemetery preservation program. The other is the compilation of our six-webinar series on disaster preparedness and response in historic cemeteries, focused on helping cemetery caretakers build resilience to adverse impacts such as natural and manmade disasters. While developed for particular audiences in specific situations, each of these training series contains information that will be helpful to anyone interested in protecting historic cemeteries.





Presidio la Bahía in Goliad

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

GOING TO GOLIAD

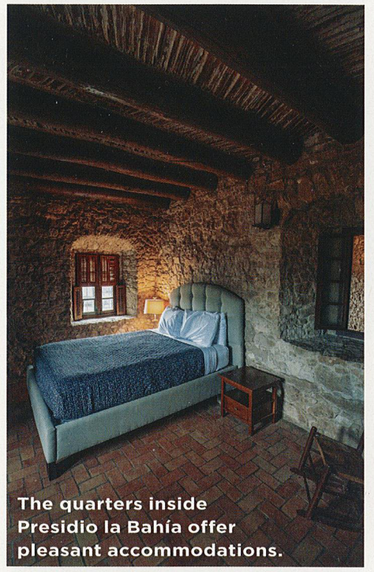
PRESIDIO LA BAHÍA, MISSION ESPÍRITU SANTO SHOWCASE 300 YEARS OF TEXAS HISTORY

The serenity of the lodging quarters at Presidio la Bahía offers a stark contrast to the atrocities that occurred here 186 years ago. The bedrooms are bathed in soft morning light, and peaceful silence drowns out thoughts and rumors of paranormal presences.

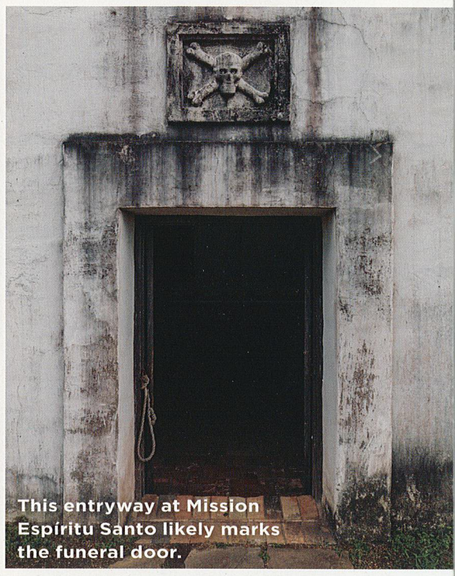
Those ghostly stories emerge from the Presidio's dark history as the site of the infamous Goliad Massacre of March 1836, when nearly 350 Texians were massacred on the order of Mexican Gen. Santa Anna. The incident would ultimately fuel the Texans' resolve to win independence by defeating Mexico's army at the Battle of San Jacinto.

Nearly two centuries later, the Presidio's role in the Texas Revolution remains integral to Texas' legacy; for this reason, it's slated to become one of the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) newest state historic sites. While the final details of the transfer are ironed out, heritage travelers can still visit this significant historic property and even spend a quiet weekend in the spacious quarters.

"I'm real excited about the future of the Presidio," says Scott McMahon, site director (currently under the Diocese of Victoria). "We have such a great story to tell, so it'll be nice to have more resources to preserve and interpret it for Texans to enjoy." The property's ownership would remain with the Diocese.



The quarters inside Presidio la Bahía offer pleasant accommodations.



This entryway at Mission Espíritu Santo likely marks the funeral door.

McMahon adds that the site draws a wide range of visitors, from curious coast-bound vacationers to history students to Texas Revolution buffs, who consider it part of the independence story's holy trinity (along with the Alamo and the THC's San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site).

"What sets us apart is that everything looks almost exactly as it did hundreds of years ago," he says. "There aren't buildings around here or too many other signs of modern life. It's a historical escape."

300 YEARS OF HISTORY

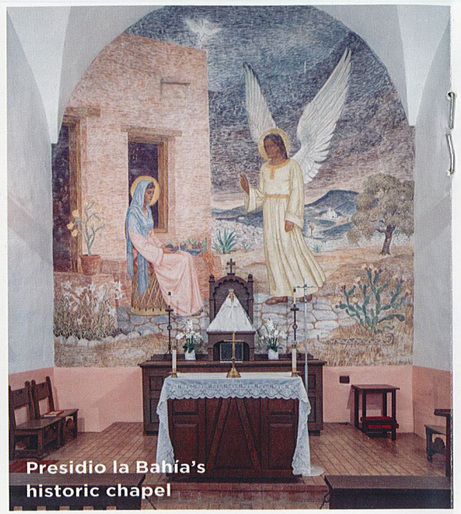
Remarkably, 2022 marks the 300th anniversary of Presidio la Bahía's origins. A THC marker notes that the Spanish built a fort in 1722 on the former site of Robert le Cavelier, sieur de La Salle's Fort Saint Louis near Matagorda Bay. The fort—named Presidio la Bahía (*bahía* is Spanish for bay)—protected nearby Mission Espíritu Santo de Zúñiga.

In 1726, Spain moved operations about 20 miles inland to the Guadalupe River in present-day Victoria County; 26 years later, the fort and mission relocated to their current positions on the San Antonio River near modern Goliad.

The Spanish and their Native American subjects continued successful farming and livestock operations, which,


The Goliad Massacre centennial monument


Inside Mission Espíritu Santo's sanctuary


Presidio la Bahía's historic chapel



Exhibits inside the Presidio feature authentic artifacts.

according to the National Park Service (NPS), helped form the foundation of the Texas cattle industry. In 1749, the Presidio's commander directed the construction of several structures on the site, including the chapel, which remains largely intact today.

During the Texas Revolution, Texians captured the Presidio from Mexican forces and used it as a regional military base, including for the Lipantitlán expedition (now commemorated as a THC historic site). Col. James W. Fannin, Jr. rebuilt the fort and renamed it Fort Defiance during the Goliad Campaign of 1836.

Following his fateful defeat at the Battle of Coleto Creek (now the THC's Fannin Battleground historic site), Fannin and his men were marched to the presidio and imprisoned in the chapel. At sunrise on Palm Sunday, March 27, Mexican guards fired upon the prisoners—nearly 350 were killed.

The deceased soldiers' common grave remained unmarked until about 1858, when a local resident placed a pile of rocks on what was believed to be the site. In celebration of the Texas Centennial, money was appropriated to build a massive pink granite monument at the site, which remains a popular attraction. The Presidio's chapel was restored as a New Deal public-works project in 1935, and three decades later, the stone fort was completely reconstructed of limestone.

PRESIDIO PLANNING

According to McMahon, the Presidio's artifacts make it a distinctive experience for visitors.

"We have objects on display that were actually from here, not just borrowed items representing the location and era," he says. "It's a real tangible connection."


Mission Espíritu Santo de Zúñiga

Also unique among Spanish Colonial sites is the option to spend the night. McMahon says the quarters are becoming increasingly popular and are booked many weekends. Previously serving as a rectory for priests, the quarters accommodate up to four people and feature a large living room, kitchenette, and bathroom.

Down the road is Mission Espíritu Santo, part of Goliad State Park, which draws a similar crowd as the Presidio. Its history also reaches back three centuries, with occupants including Indigenous People from groups including the Manos de Perro, Tamique, Tawakoni, and Tonkawa. Over time, the mission became one of the first large ranches in the region, with over 15,000 head of cattle by 1788.

By the 1790s, raids, desertion, and disease contributed to the native population's decline at the mission. In the mid-1800s, the mission fell into disrepair and its stones were used by residents to build their own structures. The new Texas State Park system took control of the site in 1931 and began reconstruction efforts.

Emily Byrd, the site's lead interpreter, says that some visitors have a misconception of what mission life was like. For example, they often believe the Spanish attempted to civilize the "cannibalistic Karankawa," noting that the 1936 Centennial Marker at the entrance includes this reference.

"I actually use the marker as a teaching moment by resetting the story to the facts we now know," she says. "They were not giants or cannibals. I want to make sure people know that historical research and storytelling advance over time."

The park also oversees the nearby Zaragosza Birthplace, honoring Ignacio Zaragosza who helped defeat French forces in the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. Zaragoza was born in the village now known as Goliad, and the Birthplace commemorates him with a statue and period reconstruction of his home.

Ten miles east is the THC's Fannin Battleground State Historic Site. Visitors can walk through an octagonal exhibit dedicated to the Battle of Coleto Creek, view an obelisk monument, and enjoy the rolling countryside while sitting under a historic 1930s pavilion.

A few miles away is historic downtown Goliad, a Texas Main Street city. The charming commercial square is anchored by the 1894 Second Empire-style Goliad County Courthouse. Restored through the THC's Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, the magnificent structure is capped by a domed, mansard roof with a reconstructed tower that was originally destroyed in a 1942 hurricane.

To discover more heritage tourism destinations in the Texas Independence Trail Region, visit texastimetravel.com.


The Goliad County Courthouse was completed in 1894.

TEXAS TREASURE TUNE-UP

THC BUSINESS AWARD'S UPGRADES RESULT IN SMOOTHER OPERATION

By Andy Rhodes
Managing Editor, *The Medallion*

The Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Texas Treasure Business Award (TTBA) program is receiving a necessary tune-up this year. And much like maintaining a vehicle, program staff expect these upgrades will make the process of nominating a business run much smoother. The improvements will also help collect comprehensive information, providing a meaningful glimpse into the labor involved with keeping a business in operation for 50-plus years.

Starting this year, TTBA staff has added new questions to the nomination form, such as, "How has the industry changed since you first opened?" "Does your building have a personality of its own?" and "How does your business reflect your community's values?" These companies' stories will also be shared in THC newsletters and on social media, along with digital mapping and interactive storytelling.

Another update: The program will now accept nominations four times a year to guarantee faster processing behind the scenes. In addition, TTBA staff will be engaging more with agency partners. Since it can be difficult to source the necessary archival documentation that proves a business' founding date, staff will connect Texans with regional THC partners and community members who can help find missing information.

So, what prompted the TTBA program to get a tune-up this year? According to program coordinator Mallory Laurel, one of her first assignments upon joining the THC last year was to interview several TTBA businesses to help promote them as travel destinations.

"Once I started looking into the program I realized its untapped potential, not just as a tourism initiative, but also as a community heritage project," Laurel says. "Most people don't think of businesses as figuring into capital-H History. But when they've witnessed the community change to the extent they have, and are records of that change, it's hard to deny these businesses are indeed sites of historical significance."

Laurel adds that, in many cases, these companies are testaments to sweeping changes across entire industries. Talking to the original owner or even the second- or third-generation owners presents a tremendous opportunity to preserve hyper-local history before it's lost.

According to Laurel, the TTBA has already noticed an uptick in applications (about 20 as of June 2022, more than last year's total), and she anticipates it will grow once the program's profile increases and people adapt to the quarterly schedule. She notes that a recent success story has been a partnership with *Texas Monthly* and its Barbecue Editor Daniel Vaughn to honor around 60 of the oldest barbecue joints across the state. Program staff are processing nominations and plan to honor businesses this fall at *Texas Monthly*'s annual BBQ Fest in Lockhart. Next up, staff plans to tackle a similar project related to historic *taquerias* and *tortillerias* around the state.

Laurel says it's important for Texans to nominate and support these historic businesses because the appeal of the TTBA program is as emotional as it is practical.

"Can participation in this program help raise the profile of your community as a historic destination? Yes," she says. "Is it important to document local business history and enter it into the historical record? Absolutely."

Laurel recalls that she spent a long time trying to find the right literary quote to capture the magic of a historic business for the program's brochure. She finally came across one from *The Wind in the Willows*: "But it was good to think he had this to come back to, this place which was all his own, these things which were so glad to see him again and could always be counted upon for the same simple welcome."

She elaborates, "We often have to learn the hard way how important a place is to the community. We learned this lesson too many times during COVID when businesses were shuttered left and right, and all that remained was the sinking feeling that we had lost something more than a good or service. When we talk about the character of a place or a community's identity, these businesses, the ones we grew up with, are what come to mind."

In other words, these places are home.

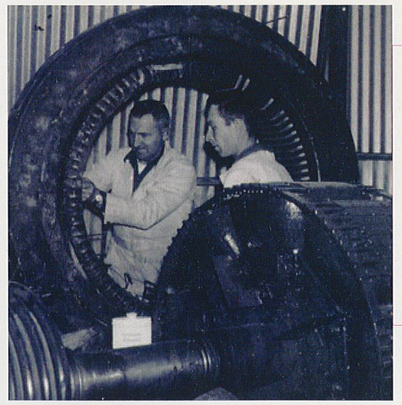
"That's why we should be doing everything we can to uplift these businesses, preserve their history, express our gratitude for their place in our lives, and keep them around for as long as we can!" Laurel says.

To learn more about the TTBA, visit thc.texas.gov/ttba.













ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Lubbock Electric Co., founded in 1944, is an industrial equipment services company and an electric motor repair company. Since its inception, cotton gins have been its primary customer. Over the years, the company has added service departments and products, including power transmission supplies, air compressor repair, and hydraulic repair.

Company representatives noted that Lubbock has the amenities of a city and the familiar warmth of a small town. These 1950s photos, included in the TTBA nomination form, reflect the sense of community that endures at the company.

TOP, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Pug Hamman helping a customer at the parts counter. Original 1108 34th St. building in 1954. MIDDLE: Lubbock Electric Co. cotton-gin controls. Gene Christian and Roland Ralston rewinding a motor. Lubbock Electric Co. employees. LEFT: Lubbock Electric Co. in 2018.



LEFT: Andrea De León, Undergraduate, Texas A&M. Kaitlyn Falke, Undergraduate, The 2022 Larry Oaks Preservation Scholar, Trinity University.

SUMMER SCHOOL

MEET THE 2022 PRESERVATION SCHOLARS

By Isabel Ray
THC Preservation Scholars Committee Member

For 10 weeks this summer, emerging professionals in history, anthropology, museums, education, and more will receive an education in preservation from the Texas Historical Commission (THC). The Preservation Scholars Program, an initiative of the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission (FTHC), has helped increase the diversity of those working in the field of historic preservation since 2007.

This year's Scholars—a cohort of seven—join the THC from the breadth of Texas. This is the third year to include a remote option, allowing more Scholars to participate from distant locations, while others work onsite at the agency's Austin headquarters.

At the THC's Archeology Division lab, Andrea De León will work with artifacts, field records, and imagery from over 300 sites representing the full span of Texas' human occupation. She'll re-inventory and reassess the collections, practicing skills in curation and artifact analysis that expand on her experience as an anthropology major.

"It's amazing how the new information and discoveries being made are still adding to our understanding, and how that understanding will continue to grow yet never reach one hundred percent," she says.

De León's career goal is to be a curator at a museum that shares the stories of underrepresented groups.

Daniele Dixon will be specifically researching historically black colleges and universities in Texas and looking into post-Civil War black education in the state.

Dixon will research Texas communities with listed resources, looking for photographs, advertisements, city directories, and other materials to represent this period visually.

"The importance of studying the past and how its legacies are deeply rooted in the present is inescapable," Dixon says. "History has transformed my personal and professional life profoundly."

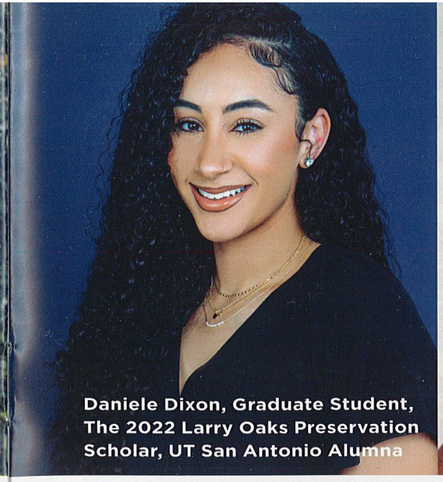
Kaitlyn Falke recalls a college course that touched on the history of the Texas Rangers—a topic that neither she nor her classmates had encountered before.



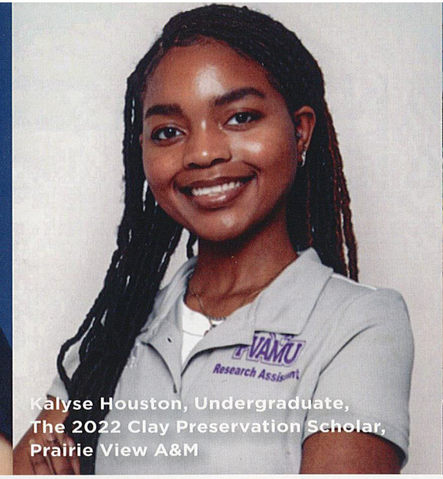
Deborah Hill, Undergraduate, UT Austin



Nati Roman, Undergraduate, San Antonio College



Daniele Dixon, Graduate Student, The 2022 Larry Oaks Preservation Scholar, UT San Antonio Alumna



Kalyse Houston, Undergraduate, The 2022 Clay Preservation Scholar, Prairie View A&M



Leslie Torres, Graduate Student, The 2022 Jose Contreras II Preservation Scholar, UTRGV Alumna

"This experience revealed to me that the average person may not know as much about history as they think," she says. "Historic preservation allows lessons in history to be accessible to a wider variety of audiences."

Falke will do just that for homeschooling families who visit San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. She'll develop educational programming that's targeted to meet the needs of groups with learners of all ages. Falke will also perform donor outreach and research with the FTHC.

Similarly, Leslie Torres' work this summer will improve visitors' experiences at Fannin Battleground State Historic Site. She'll create a self-guided tour for this Texas Revolution-era battlefield, which is often unnoticed by travelers.

Torres will strategize to present the site's history in a compelling way—a familiar challenge for public historians. Torres previously saw this work being done by a nonprofit called Refusing to Forget, which focuses on early 20th century racial violence on the Texas–Mexico border and helps make overlooked history more accessible.

"That organization really inspired me to reach beyond my academic studies and learn what bridges can exist between the realms of public and academic history," she says.

One way the public may unknowingly engage with historic places is through commercial districts and downtowns. Deborah Hill's project with the Community Heritage Development (CHD) Division will create online mapped narratives of Texas legacy businesses. She reflects that her hometown provided lots of examples while she was growing up.

"El Paso thrives on mom-and-pop shops—places that were built through hard work and sustained by their connection to the community," she says. "That experience developed my appreciation for the people brave enough to follow their dreams, and I look forward to amplifying those stories."

Like Hill, Nati Roman will also be working with CHD to capture the stories of businesses. She'll use a method—oral history—that influenced her own path via the stories passed down in her family.

"These oral histories about the lives of Mexican Americans in the South Texas valley left a big impact on me," she says. "Realizing that these stories were nothing like what I was learning in school, I began to appreciate the complexity of history and how what's recorded and preserved—and what's forgotten—shapes the cultural and political landscape today."

Stories that Roman records, including a focus on *taquerías*, will enrich the Texas Treasure Business Award program.

Although Kalyse Houston isn't working directly with historic businesses during her internship, she appreciates their role in a community, such as the Third Ward in Houston, a favorite place for her to explore Black-owned restaurants and boutiques. It's near the city's museum district, a field that captured Houston's heart as a child.

"All of history is just someone's story and whatever is preserved from those stories are like props. These help take you to a different time and place," she reflects. "History and preservation bring the world and its stories from years and civilizations ago to here and now."

Houston will help develop a new exhibit at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. She'll also spend time with the Communications Division, writing stories for print and digital publications.

To learn more or support the Preservation Scholars program, visit the Friends' website at thcfriends.org/programs.

A GIFT MANY YEARS IN THE MAKING

THC FRIENDS CELEBRATE LEGACY OF LANA HUGHES NELSON

By Anjali Zutshi
Executive Director, Friends of the THC





> "One day, Honi Hame'agel was walking along the road when he saw an old man planting a carob tree. Honi said to him: This tree, after how many years will it bear fruit? The man said to him: It will not produce fruit until 70 years have passed. Honi said to him: Is it obvious to you that you will live 70 years? So how do you expect to benefit from this tree? He said to him: I found a fruitful world because others had planted it. Just as my ancestors planted for me, I, too, am planting for my descendants."
>
> —Parable from the Talmud (Ta'anit 23a)

The Friends of the Texas Historical Commission's (FTHC) mission is to partner with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to preserve and protect the cultural heritage of Texas, securing private philanthropic resources to ensure a lasting legacy for future generations. In building these resources, the FTHC is privileged to work with donors who value, and help preserve, Texas history as well as the unique, varied, and complex stories of the real places and real people that the THC preserves for our current and future generations. While many donors support ongoing programs and projects, there are those who believe deeply in building sustainability and leaving a legacy of preservation for the future. We celebrate these visionaries.

In January 2022, following 18 months of working with representatives of the Neely Hughes Trust, the FTHC received an incredibly generous endowment gift of $525,000 from the Trust. It was set up following the passing of Ms. Lana Hughes Nelson in April 2012.

It was Lana's wish to support the preservation, in perpetuity, of cemeteries in and around Henderson County. To that end, and to secure the lasting legacy of Lana Hughes Nelson, the gift from the Neely Hughes Trust is directed toward the creation of the Lana Hughes Nelson Endowment Fund for Cemetery Preservation, and the establishment of the Lana Hughes Nelson Cemetery Preservation Education Program Fund.

Lana was a native of Athens, Texas, and grew up attending Athens High School and Henderson County Junior College. She subsequently graduated from The University of Texas at Austin and served a long tenure with Amoco Oil Company, first in New Orleans and then later in Houston. However, every now and then, her roots in Henderson County brought her back to Athens, where she was finally laid to rest at the Davis Cemetery.

The FTHC is very grateful for the opportunity, through the Lana Hughes Nelson Endowment Fund for Cemetery Preservation, to provide ongoing maintenance and restoration support for qualifying cemeteries in Henderson County. Lana loved learning new things, and it is only fitting that a portion of this gift will help set up the Cemetery Preservation Education Program Fund. This fund will allow the THC's Cemetery Preservation Program staff to offer trainings and workshops to cemetery preservation organizations and volunteer groups, building capacity within local communities to preserve the tens of thousands of cemeteries that currently exist across the state.

Lana's legacy, through the Endowment and the Education Program Fund, will endure forever. The FTHC is grateful to have played a part in ensuring that this gift, made by the Neely Hughes Trust, will positively impact cemetery preservation efforts not just in Henderson County, but across the state.

To learn more about legacy preservation, visit thcfriends.org/how-to-give.

PLEASE CALL US!
The FTHC would love an opportunity to discuss your legacy-giving goals. While we do not provide legal or financial advice, we will be happy to provide information about gift-planning tools that you can discuss with your legal and financial advisors to explore the right options for you and your family. Contact us at 512-936-2241 or thcfriends.org/how-to-give.

NEWS BRIEFS

LEVI JORDAN PLANTATION HOSTS OPENING CEREMONY

On June 11, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) hosted a grand opening ceremony for the Levi Jordan Plantation State Historic Site's archeology lab and visitors center.

The event included a ribbon cutting and speeches from prominent regional residents. Sam Collins III and Rodney Ellis both spoke about the significance of the site to African American history and the ongoing efforts to preserve this heritage via its archeological research. Collins, a regional preservationist and businessman, has family connections to the area; Ellis is a former state senator and current Harris County commissioner.

The site highlights the multiple perspectives and evolving relationships of those who lived and worked on the land during the 19th century. Today, the Levi Jordan Plantation provides an opportunity to understand the evolving agricultural history of the South and the early African American experience in Texas.

For more information about Levi Jordan Plantation and other THC historic sites, visit texashistoricsites.com.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at Levi Jordan State Historic Site on June 11 to celebrate the new archeology lab and visitors center.

THC ACCEPTING EVENTS FOR TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH CALENDAR

Every October, Texas Archeology Month (TAM) celebrates the spirit of discovery and promotes awareness of archeological programs throughout the state. The Texas Historical Commission is accepting event submissions from the public for the annual TAM Calendar of Events. The THC invites anyone hosting an archeology or history-related event in conjunction with TAM to submit information online at thc.texas.gov/tam. The deadline for submissions is September 15.

The THC sponsors TAM in association with the Texas Archeological Society and the Council of Texas Archeologists.

For more information, contact the THC's Archeology Division at 512-463-5915 or visit thc.texas.gov/tam.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS and BLUE STAR FAMILIES present
arts.gov/bluestarmuseums
BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

FREE ADMISSION CONTINUES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL AT THC'S HISTORIC SITES

This summer, the THC's state historic sites are participating in the Blue Star Museums program that gives active military personnel and their families free admission to museums and historic sites. The program, coordinated by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), lasts through Labor Day (September 5, 2022).

A number of the THC's historic sites are dedicated to preserving the memory of military service in Texas, such as the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg and Fannin Battleground in Fannin.

For more information, and to learn which museums are participating, visit arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. For more information about the THC's historic sites, visit texashistoricsites.com or contact 512-463-7948.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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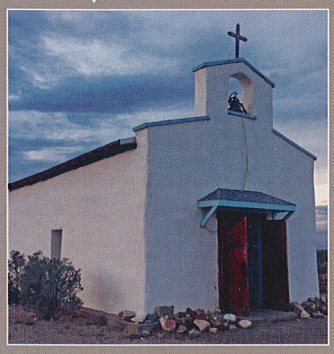
WHERE ON EARTH...IN TEXAS

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? Considered one of this metropolitan city's finest remaining examples of Modern "Googie" architecture, this building dates to 1964 and reportedly once served as the first establishment of an accomplished restauranteur.



ANSWER TO THE PHOTO FROM THE LAST ISSUE: The photo below is the Calera Chapel (aka Mission Mary), established near Balmorhea in 1902. Many readers correctly identified this charming adobe West Texas landmark, which was restored a decade ago and remains publicly accessible.



Congratulations and eventual prizes go to the first readers who correctly identified the site: Michael Gross of Austin, Trent Lesikar of Austin, and Raynell Wilke of Fredericksburg. Thanks to all who participated!