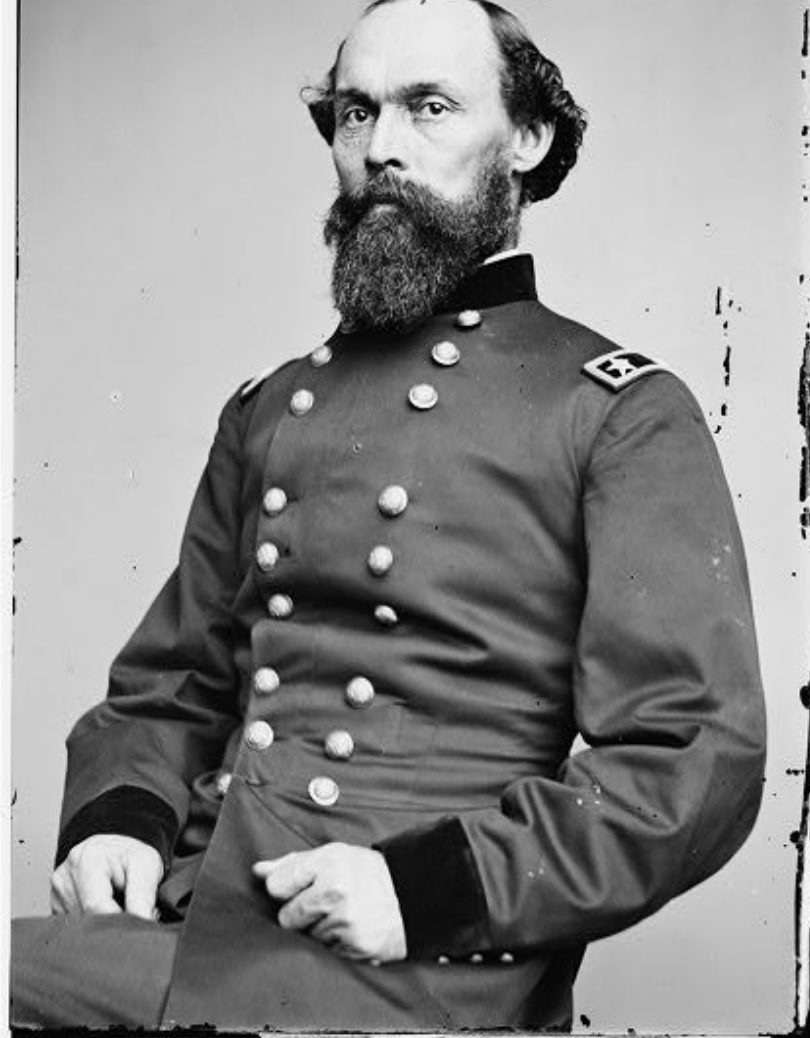


Celebrating Juneteenth: THF Funds Texas' Black History



General Gordon Granger, photo courtesy of the Library of Congress

Juneteenth and General Order No. 3

Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, and Cel-Liberation Day, is an American holiday celebrated on June 19th. It memorializes June 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger read orders in Galveston, Texas, that the Civil War had come to an end, and all previously enslaved people in Texas were free.

The Emancipation Proclamation was originally signed by Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, to help end the Civil War by freeing slaves. However, there were too few Union soldiers to enforce the Proclamation, so slavery in Texas continued until after the Civil War ended in 1865 with Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

Union soldiers finally arrived in Galveston, in June of that year, where General Gordon Granger read "General Order No. 3" that more than 250,000 Texas slaves were free. The order stated:

"The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor."

A historical marker sits on the corner of 22nd and the Strand in front of the Ashton Villa in Galveston, marking the location where "General Order No. 3" was read.

Beginning in 1866, African Americans in Houston and Austin memorialized Juneteenth as a day to celebrate their new freedom. In 1980, Texas became the first state to mark Juneteenth as a state holiday. Ron Goodwin told *Texas Highways* magazine this month:

"By celebrating Juneteenth we celebrate the many black Texans who not only endured, but survived and created a community whose legacy of accomplishments will extend far beyond their lifetimes."



A Juneteenth celebration in 1900 in Austin, Texas. By Mrs. Charles Stephenson (Grace Murray) - The Portal to Texas History, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library. Public Domain

In celebration of Juneteenth, the Texas Historical Foundation (THF) remembers the numerous grants the organization has awarded to African American history preservation projects during its 66-year history. Here are a few outstanding grant recipients.

Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church (ZHMBC) and Mt. Zion Cemetery, Colmesneil: THF awarded ZHMBC a grant in 1992 to restore the steeple of one of the area's earliest African American churches. A second award funded a Texas State Historical Marker for the cemetery, established circa 1850.

The R. F. Hardin Museum, Brownwood: In 2002, THF awarded a grant to the former Rufus F. Hardin High School to restore the school as a museum honoring the history of its African American students, teachers, and founders. Another grant was given in 2006 to weatherproof and stabilize the museum, including work on the shell of the building, floors, wall, roof, and windows.

Rice University, Department of Earth Science, Houston: THF granted funds in 2009 for radiocarbon dating and grain-size analysis at the Wyatt Chapel Cemetery, on the edge of Prairie View A&M University. This area had been a burial ground for slaves from the Liendo and Alta Vista plantations. The Wyatt Chapel Cemetery project is a great example of THF's support for archeological projects.

Read more about the African American Texas history projects THF has supported through the years [here!](#)



The Texas Historical Foundation Awards a Grant to Historic Fort Worth, Inc.

THF Vice President Michael Marchant, Secretary Carol Lipscomb, and directors John & Debbie Auginbaugh were on hand to present a check to Jerre Tracy with HFWI at the organization's McFarland House. Everyone wore their face masks for safety! THF is proud to support Historic Ft. Worth's mission focusing on ensuring the "future for Fort Worth's irreplaceable architectural heritage."

Texas HERITAGE Magazine Preview

From round barns to early 20th-century jail structures and historic dance halls, Lone Star architecture is interesting and diverse. The upcoming issue of [THF's Texas HERITAGE](#) magazine will take a look at the state's built environment, including four structures located here that were designed by famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Those include the John Gillin Home and the Kalista Humphreys Theater, both in Dallas; the William Thaxton residence in Houston; and the Sterling Kinney House in Amarillo.

Another article in the forthcoming issue will feature small historic jails, known as *calabooses*. As many as 238 calabooses could once be found in the state, and most counties likely had their own.

Learn about these important and interesting buildings by [joining THF now](#). All memberships come with a subscription to the award-winning Foundation publication.

Grants Deadlines Announced

Since 1990, more than 300 historic preservation projects have received funding from the Texas Historical Foundation. [Proposals are reviewed quarterly](#); upcoming deadlines for THF grant consideration are:

SEPTEMBER 1
ANNOUNCED MID-OCTOBER

DECEMBER 1
ANNOUNCED MID-JANUARY

MARCH 1
ANNOUNCED MID-APRIL

JUNE 1
ANNOUNCED MID-JULY

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PARTNER MEMBER:

Deborah Cartwright, Austin

INSTITUTION MEMBERS:

Columbia Heritage Foundation, West Columbia; Museum of Hardin County, Kountze;

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CONTRIBUTING MEMBER:

Joseph Sledge, Lubbock



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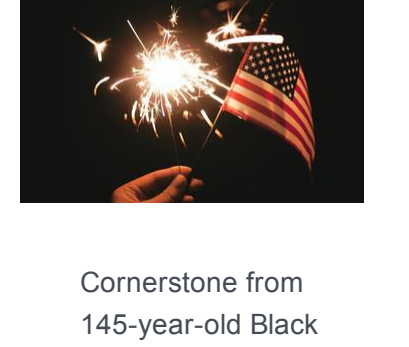
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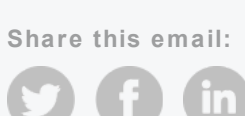
Alamo Plans Virtual Celebration for the Fourth

The Alamo has been closed to visitors since March, but you can visit virtually to celebrate Independence Day. Check out their [Facebook](#) page for more details, and happy Fourth of July!



Cornerstone from 145-year-old Black Church Unearthed in San Antonio. [Read more at Rivard Report.](#)

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