THF Grant Cycle Suspended Due to National Health Emergency

The spring meeting of the Texas Historical Foundation board of directors was cancelled due to the Covid-19 outbreak sweeping the country. All those who submitted preservation grant proposals during the quarter were notified that awards were suspended but would be voted on at the next scheduled board meeting in mid-July.

Since 1990, almost $2 million has been awarded to help preservationists around the state. Upcoming Texas HERITAGE Magazine Will Spotlight Houston

Photo caption: An overall view of the consoles used in historic Mission Control. The consoles used by multiple flight directors contained no computing elements; they displayed only different information channels coming in from the mainframe. On the left side of the console is a pneumatic tube station through which controllers passed papers between consoles. Courtesy of Space Center Houston.

The oil industry and the National Aeronautics Space Administration have both played a large role in the development of the largest city in Texas and both will be featured in the second quarter issue of THF’s quarterly publication.

On July 20, 1969, the United States won its race with the Soviet Union when the Apollo 11 spacecraft Eagle landed on the Moon and Astronaut Neil Armstrong set foot on the lunar surface. As events unfolded that day, Apollo’s Mission Control Center took center stage. The world watched as MCC personnel controlled the flight from launch to splashdown. Recognizing the Mission Control Center’s unique role in world history, the National Park Service added the property to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

However, during the years following the Apollo 11 mission, the area was converted, upgraded, and repainted. In short, its historical integrity was compromised. Recognizing this, NPS listed MCC as “threatened,” and a $5 million restoration plan was begun. Learn more about the award-winning project in the next issue of Texas HERITAGE by joining THF today. Every membership comes with a subscription to the magazine.

Learn Texas History During The Quarantine

Like the people you’re staying close to, Texas history has been kept safe during this difficult time, but that doesn’t mean we can’t still learn and share stories. The Texas Historical Commission has put together a great video about the Battle at San Jacinto—the final conflict of the Texas Revolution that took place on April 21, 1836. During that clash, Sam Houston and his army defeated Santa Anna’s 1,400 soldiers—in 18 minutes. Watch the video by clicking below.

San Jacinto Day video

Grants Deadlines Announced

Since 1990, more than 300 historic preservation projects have received funding from the Texas Historical Foundation, including more than $25 million in grants. Proposals are reviewed quarterly; upcoming deadlines for THF grant consideration are:

- **JUNE 1** ANNOUNCED MID-JULY
- **SEPTEMBER 1** ANNOUNCED MID-OCTOBER
- **DECEMBER 1** ANNOUNCED MID-JANUARY
- **MARCH 1** ANNOUNCED MID-APRIL

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