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Under The Lone Star

The Official Newsletter of the Texas Historical Foundation

Grants Spotlight

TALES 'N' TRAILS MUSEUM, NOCONA

THF Grant Helps Make a Museum—and a Community—Safer

Protection of its people and collections is one of the most important responsibilities of a museum. With a security system that was more than 10 years old and largely cobbled together, the [Tale 'N' Trails Museum](#) in Nocona, near the Texas-Oklahoma border, knew it needed a complete upgrade, including new cameras, monitors, motion sensors, and alarms.

As the board created a plan to raise funds for the nearly \$20,000 system, it put out a call to local supporters and approached two foundations for assistance, including the Texas Historical Foundation. According to Gale Cochran-Smith, the vice president of the TNT board, [“In 2018, THF had assisted us with a building project, and we knew that the Foundation’s mission was closely aligned with ours.”](#)

While THF approved the grant proposal to help the museum enhance its security in July 2021, the other foundation funding request is still pending. Cochran-Smith said, “Even without further assistance, we are prepared to go forward using our own capital funds, which were earmarked for another future project. We realize the critical nature of this update because enhanced security will protect our staff, our visitors, and our collections.”

When asked about the impact of THF’s gift on the larger community, Cochran-Smith pointed out, “The new system will provide the local police with an effective tool to identify and resolve problems not only at the museum but also on the grounds and in nearby areas. That is good for all the people of Nocona.”



Top: THF board members present grant check to TNT representatives. Bottom: A part of the museum’s agricultural collection is shown.

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Announcements

THF DIRECTOR HONORED

THF Leader and Benefactor Marshall Doke Receives Statewide Preservation Award



Marshall J. Doke, Jr., on left, and his wife Betty, visit with Dick Brown at a THF event.

Texas Historical Foundation Chairman Emeritus Marshall J. Doke, Jr., of Dallas, has been named the winner of the 2022 Ruth Lester Lifetime Achievement Award in Historic Preservation by the Texas Historical Commission, the state agency for preservation.

The award highlights the native Texan's year's-long advocacy on behalf of Lone Star history preservation. He has been a member of the THF board of directors for nearly 30 years, serving as president and chairman.

He single-handedly raised funds to establish two THF endowments, one to ensure the continued publication of the Foundation's Texas history magazine, which educates Texans quarterly about

pertinent projects and research, and the other for the preservation of the legal history of the Republic and the State of Texas. That fund, which now bears Doke's name, helped the [Texas State Library & Archives Commission](#) preserve and index Texas Supreme Court Records from 1840-1870. Access a video on that project at <https://texashistoricalfoundation.org/>.



In addition to his efforts on behalf of the Texas Historical Foundation, Doke was also the statewide chairman of the Scottish Rite History Committee and served on the board of the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco.

The retired attorney will receive the award at a ceremony in Austin on February 3 at the [THC Real Places Conference](#).

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Ghost Signs Featured in Upcoming THF Magazine

A driving trip through small-town Texas is likely to reveal at least one example of an old hand-painted sign advertising businesses or products—many of which may no longer exist. Those faded reminders, called ghost signs, provide a nostalgic look back at long-gone commercial centers. Usually found on the sides of old buildings, the signs were popular between the 1880s and 1950s, when ads were expensive to mass produce.

The barely visible ghost sign seen here is in Granger, a Central Texas community of about 1,500. It advertises Anderbock Brew. This image and other examples of Texas ghost signs are featured in the next issue of Texas HERITAGE magazine, which all members receive quarterly. [Sign up today.](#)



- Lyda Hill Texas Collection of Photographs from Carol M. Highsmith's America Project, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

- Photograph by Dan K. Utley, "Ghost sign, Anderbock Brew. Granger 10," University Archives Online Exhibits, accessed October 25, 2021; online at exhibits.library.txstate.edu/univarchives/exhibits/show/utleyexhibition/introduction/granger."



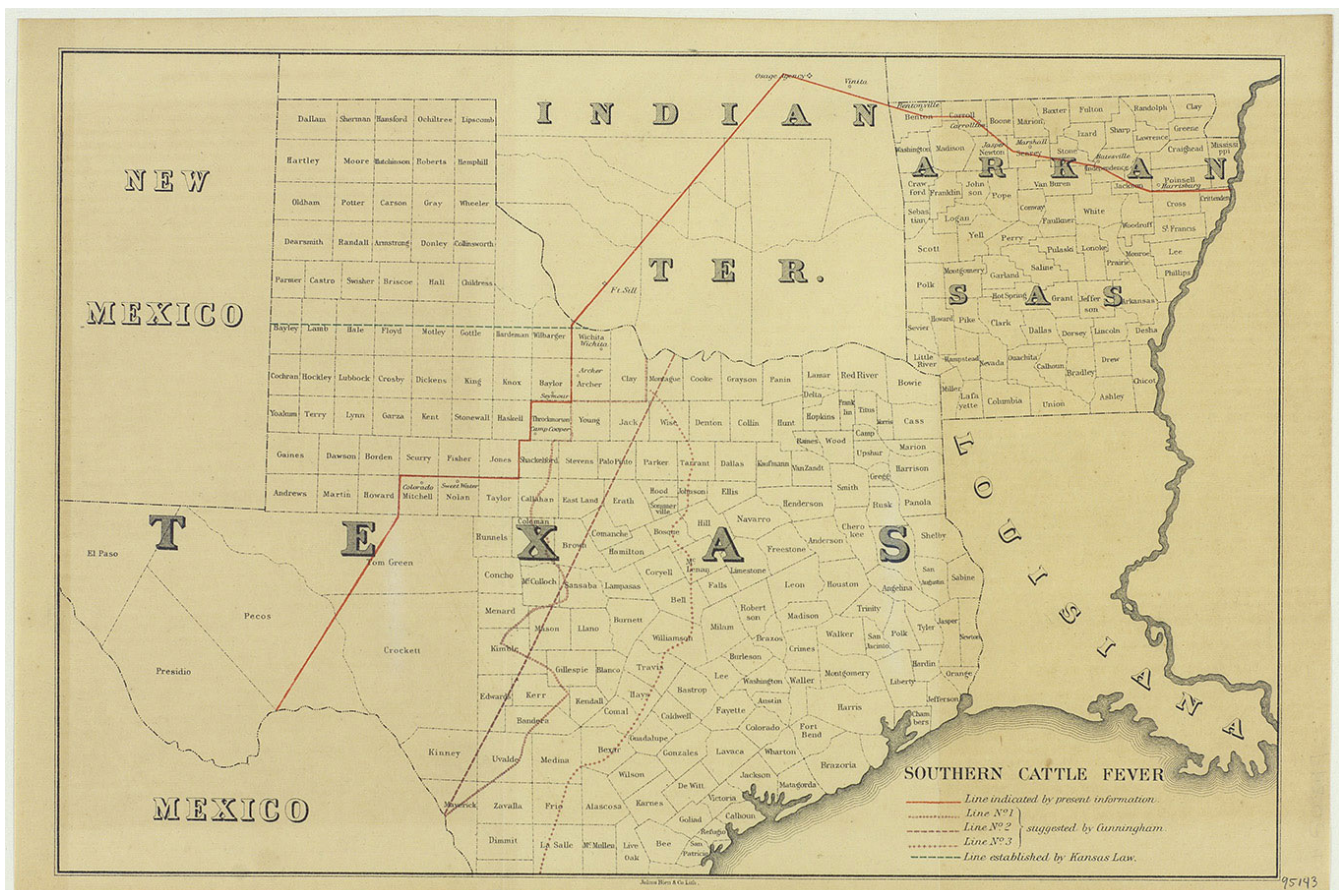
Southern Cattle Fever Map Featured in THF's Next Blog Post

A tick-borne disease known as southern cattle fever didn't originate in Texas, but by 1868 it was prevalent among the state's longhorns. When those infected cattle were driven north to market and allowed to mix with unexposed herds, the result was catastrophic.

Quarantine laws were imposed on Texas' herds, and later, the federal government stepped in to prevent further infections and safeguard the nation's food source.

In 1885, Colonel S. P. Cunningham, working with the Bureau of Animal Industry under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, documented possible trail routes that would allow passage and arrest the spread of the southern fever.

Watch THF's [blog page](#) for a post, written by the [Texas General Land Office Archives Staff](#), about this cattle map.



Julius Bien & Co. Lith., New York, [1885], Lithograph. | Courtesy of the Texas General Land Office

