

# Under The Lone Star

The Official Newsletter of the Texas Historical Foundation

## Dell Motley Leather Artwork Restoration in Progress



*The Victoria Lupia works on a Dell Motley piece, photo courtesy of the Tales 'N' Trails Museum*

Earlier this week Nell Ann McBroom, the Executive Director of the Tales 'N' Trails Museum in Nacona, gave us an update on the project to restore two large-scale leather art pieces by famed local artist and leatherworker Dell Motley. Texas Historical Foundation provided a grant to the North Texas Society for History and Culture for this work earlier this year.

Dell Motley was an innovative leather artist who began her career in Gainesville in 1949. She moved to Nacona in 1953 to work as a designer for the Justin Leather Goods Company where she designed thousands of purses, belts, and wallets. Nacona has long been considered the leather goods

manufacturing center of the Southwest, and Motley chose the Tales 'N' Trails Museum as the home for her artwork shortly before her death in 1996. Altogether she completed four large leather murals and was in the process of finishing a fifth at the time of her death. All are now part of the museum's permanent collection.

*Read more about this fascinating project in our August blog post.*

[READ MORE](#)

## New THF Office

The Texas Historical Foundation has a new home! We officially completed the move to Dallas and have settled into our new office space. THF was given a grant of office space from the Meadows Foundation in their headquarters building located just east of downtown Dallas and close to Deep Ellum and Baylor Hospital. We are very excited to be associated with such a prestigious foundation as Meadows and to have office space for our Dallas staff.



*New home of THF in the Meadows Foundation headquarters building in Dallas*

Now that we have a new physical office, we have closed out the P.O. Box in Austin. All correspondence may now be sent to the following address:

Texas Historical Foundation  
3003 Swiss Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75204

The THF phone number will remain the same.



## THF Presents Grants to Two Organizations in August

THF presented two grants from the Summer 2023 grant cycle to Texas organizations this past month.

On August 3rd THF Director Bill Sibley presented our grant to the San Antonio Conservation Society for repairs to the Yturri-Edmunds House. The repairs are essential to re-opening the house to the public as an historic house museum. Built

between 1840 and 1860, the Yturri-Edmunds House is one of the last surviving adobe block structures in the region. The home was originally constructed as the family dwelling of Manual Yturri Y Castillo, a Spanish born merchant and prominent fixture in San Antonio's civic life in the mid-19th century.

On August 22nd THF Executive Director David Preziosi presented our grant to Preservation Austin in support of the group's efforts to preserve Austin's beloved 1947 McFarland House. Often compared to a modernist ocean liner, the house is one of only a handful of historic Austin builds in this late iteration of Art Deco. Preservation Austin fought to have the house preserved as an historic landmark to save it from demolition in 2014, and then purchased the property in 2019 for use as their new office building. The group's target move-in date is 2025.

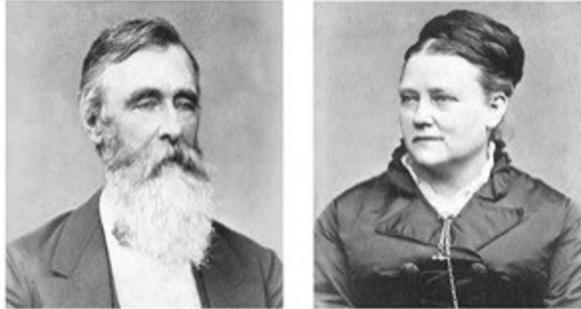


San Antonio Conservation Society



# George and Harriet Fulton Featured in Upcoming Texas HERITAGE Magazine Issue

Following their marriage in 1840, George and Harriet Fulton became a power couple after she inherited her father's vast land holdings on the Texas Gulf Coast and in the southern part of the state. The pair's business interests included shipping, cattle processing, and dry goods, but their legacy also includes a Coastal Bend town and a Victorian-era mansion, one with innovations like gas heating and running water, that bear their name.



*Learn more about the couple, their large South Texas ranch, and the Fulton Mansion in the upcoming issue of Texas HERITAGE magazine, when you [join as a Texas Historical Foundation member](#).*



## 2023 Save Texas History Symposium



This year's Save Texas History Symposium is scheduled for September 22-23, 2023. It will be held at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio, and the title of the conference is "From San Fernando de Béxar to 'The Alamo City': San Antonio and its History." THF Director Frank de la Teja will be giving a talk about Erasmo Seguín, San Antonio's postmaster in the lead up to the Mexican War of Independence. Seguín was accused of treason during the occupation of San Antonio in 1813, exonerated, and later became alcalde of San Antonio in 1820.

[More Info and Register Here](#)



## Preservation Texas Regional Summits

Preservation Texas will be hosting two regional preservation summits in September. These are great ways to learn more about different preservation topics and to network with fellow preservationists in those regions.

### Northeast Texas Regional Preservation Summit

Thursday, September 7, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m

Tyler Rose Garden Center (420 Rose Park Drive)

The program will draw on the experience of a diverse group of people and organizations across the Northeast Texas region. Attendees will learn about some of the fundamental processes and tools deployed to identify, promote, fundraise, and save the historic buildings significant to their communities. Lunch will be provided.

[More Info and Register Here](#)

### Central Texas Regional Preservation Summit

Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m

Dunbar Recreation Center in San Marcos (801 Martin Luther King Dr.)

The program will focus on serving an audience of local preservation professionals, commission volunteers, and community advocates. Topics will include protecting long-term property owners in the face of gentrification, local funding and incentives for preservation, balancing preservation and growth, the merits of the Certified Local Government program, and more. Breakfast tacos and a box lunch will be provided.



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