



March 19, 2018

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Visit Austin

Attn: Mr. Steve Genovesi, Executive Vice President

111 Congress Avenue, Suite 700

Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Genovesi,

The Friends of the Texas Historical Commission respectfully requests a grant of \$59,000 from Visit Austin to support the Texas Historical Commission's efforts to restore and reopen the French Legation.

In September of 2017, the Texas Legislature transferred jurisdiction and management of the French Legation, its grounds, and its contents to the Texas Historical Commission (THC), making it one of the Commission's twenty-two State Historic Sites. "The oldest house in town," the French Legation is one of Austin's most treasured and utilized historic community assets. Unfortunately, the house and grounds are in a significant state of disrepair, and the property will remain closed to the public while critical structural stabilization and weatherization work is underway.

The THC's vision for the French Legation is as a very active historic site that is as accessible and welcoming to its Austin neighbors as it is to visitors to the city. The site's history as a diplomatic legation of the Republic of Texas will be expressed in its role as a place that connects people and builds community through educational and leisure programs, performing arts, and as a venue for events like SXSW and the Austin Film Festival that draw visitors from across the globe.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this request and look forward to answering any questions you may have about the program or the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission.

Sincerely,

Anjali Zutshi

Executive Director, Friends of the Texas Historical Commission



A PROPOSAL TO
VISIT AUSTIN
for the
FRENCH LEGATION RESTORATION PROJECT

Submitted by the



FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
March 2018

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GRANT APPLICATION

Visit Austin
Attn: Steve Genovesi, Executive Vice President
111 Congress Avenue, Suite 700
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: 512-583-7259 Email: sgenovesi@visitaustin.org

DATE: 3/1/2018

HISTORIC PROPERTY AND ADDRESS: The French Legation, 802 San Marcos St., Austin, Texas 78702

APPLICANT'S NAME: Friends of the Texas Historical Commission

APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: P.O. Box 13497, Austin, Texas 78711

NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER, IF DIFFERENT FROM APPLICANT: State of Texas, Texas Historical
Commission, 1511 Colorado St., Austin, Texas 78701

TAX I.D. NUMBER/TAX STATUS: 74-2773168

PERSON PRESENTING REQUEST/CONTACT PERSON: Anjali Kaul Zutshi

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 13497, Austin, Texas 78711

TELEPHONE NO. 512-936-2241 E-MAIL: Anjali.Zutshi@thc.friends.org

FAX NUMBER: N/A

PROJECT NAME: French Legation Restoration

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT – PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE PROPOSED PROJECT. (IF DESIRED, APPLICANT MAY ALSO ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL SHEET MORE FULLY EXPLAINING THE PROJECT AND THE REASON FOR THE GRANT REQUEST.)
Please see the attached document

Please see attachment #1 for summary of project. _____

PLEASE LIST HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS OF THE PROPERTY, AND IF LOCATED WITHIN A NATIONAL REGISTER OR LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH DISTRICT), AND IF THE PROPERTY IS CONTRIBUTING:

National Register Designation (1969), Registered Texas Historic Landmark (1967), State Archeological
Landmark Designation (1981), City of Austin Historic Landmark Designation

AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED: \$59,000.00

AMOUNT OF MATCH OR VALUE OF IN-KIND MATCH: Current available funding provided by the Texas Facilities Commission is \$1,570,000

DO LIENS EXIST AGAINST THE HISTORIC PROPERTY? () YES (X) NO

IF YES, DESCRIBE THE LIENS AND AMOUNTS:

N/A

(OWNER OR AUTHORIZED AGENT, AND TENANT IF APPLICABLE)

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) TOURISM JUSTIFICATION: Include substantiation of contribution to the tourism industry in Austin (i.e., annual summary of out of town visitation, copies of promotional material, list of promotional activities, hours of operations, tours provided, etc.).
- 2) HISTORIC DOCUMENTATION: Historic photograph(s) or other documentation (especially those showing the elevation(s) of the historic property where restoration, alterations, changes, and/or improvements are planned).
- 3) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR CITY DESIGNATED LANDMARKS AND LETTER OF APPROVAL FOR STATE DESIGNATED LANDMARKS: Proof of approval for historic property alterations, if required. *NOTE: If an approval is required, the Preservation Agreement with ACVB will not be executed until such documentation has been issued and provided to ACVB.*
- 4) PROJECT BUDGET: Applicant must include a budget, specifying the major components of the restoration/preservation project with associated costs. Also include evidence of other sources of funding, i.e. your own or others' match, and the corresponding work to be performed with these funds.
- 5) THREE COMPETITIVE BIDS for the proposed work (in excess of \$5,000) must accompany the application.
- 6) PROJECT SCHEDULE: Phasing schedule and amount of funding required for each phase, if applicable.
- 7) PROOF OF OWNERSHIP/LEASE/AUTHORIZATION: Copy of the Deed or Will (if applicant is the owner) or documentation showing authorization from owner and any existing lease between owner and applicant.
- 8) INSURANCE: Proof of casualty, fire and federal flood insurance, if applicable.
- 9) PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF PROPOSED WORK.
- 10) INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

ATTACHMENT 1



FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Description of Project:

The Friends of the Texas Historical Commission (FTHC) respectfully requests a grant of \$59,000 from Visit Austin to support the Texas Historical Commission's efforts to stabilize, restore, and reopen the French Legation.

"The oldest house in town," the French Legation is one of Austin's most treasured and utilized historic community assets. From hosting Petanque matches and live music during SXSW, to serving as an attraction for visitors from across the globe (in February 2018, the French Ambassador to the United States Gerard Araud!) – the Legation is unlike many historic sites in that it is an active part of the community and what makes Austin, Austin. It's a space that both out-of-town visitors and locals value, not just because of its historic significance but because it serves as a place for people to gather and appreciate what's happening in contemporary Austin.

History, Current Status and the Texas Historical Commission's vision:

The French Legation was built in 1841 as a private home for French chargé d'affaires (diplomat) to the Republic of Texas, Alphonse Dubois, after the French monarch officially recognized the Republic of Texas as a sovereign nation. The house briefly served as the official legation in Texas. By December 1841, the capital moved from Austin back to Houston. Dr. Joseph W. Robertson bought the property in 1848, and he, his wife, and their 11 children and nine enslaved workers lived at the site. The Robertsons' daughter, Lillie, lived in the home her entire life, and in her later years opened the building to the public, offering tours of what she called the "Old French Embassy." Following her death, the state of Texas acquired the house, and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT) were appointed as the property's custodian. Under management of the DRT, the house was opened to the public beginning in 1956.

In September of 2017, the Texas Legislature transferred jurisdiction and management of the French Legation, its grounds, and its contents to the Texas Historical Commission (THC), making it one of the Commission's twenty-two State Historic Sites. Recognizing the building's significant state of disrepair, the legislature also approved emergency funding in the amount of \$1,570,000 from the Texas Facilities Commission to support emergency structural stabilization of the Legation.

The THC's vision for the French Legation is as a very active historic site that is as accessible and welcoming to its Austin neighbors as it is to visitors to the city. The site's history as a diplomatic legation of the Republic of Texas will be expressed in its role as a place that connects people and builds community through educational and leisure programs, performing arts, and as a venue for events like SXSW and the Austin Film Festival that draw visitors from across the globe. The French Legation building, one of Austin's oldest structures, will be preserved and made accessible for tours, intimate gatherings, and small programs. The Texas Historical Commission aims to provide the ability for guests to enjoy the building in ways that are immersive, interactive, memorable, and gives them reason to return time and time again.

Proposed Restoration:

The primary focus of the THC's preservation project at the French Legation State Historic Site will be the preservation of the 1841 Legation structure, the only historic building on the site. The scope of work



Attachment 5) will include full exterior “envelope” preservation, addressing deterioration conditions affecting the building frame, siding, roofing, doors, window and shutters. Special attention will be given to the foundation, crawlspace and basement, where persistent moisture issues have contributed to a variety of problems including wood rot, termite activity, elevated indoor relative humidity and compromised indoor air quality.

Interior work will be guided by both physical and interpretive needs, and will include replacement of the mechanical and electrical systems, structural reinforcement of the staircase and new, historically accurate wall and ceiling finishes and colors.

Accessibility improvements will be implemented throughout the site, beginning with the vehicular and pedestrian visitor arrival points and linking the three buildings on the site with TAS compliant pathways. At the Legation, the existing access ramp will be replaced in order to provide access to the front door rather than the back. The single, non-compliant restroom will be brought into compliance, and additional accessible restrooms will be constructed.

The 1967 Kitchen and 1974 Carriage House reconstructions will be renovated as needed to better serve their supporting roles as office, assembly, exhibit, and activity spaces.

Request for Funding

Estimates of the scope of work needed to stabilize, restore, and reopen the Legation exceed the current available funding of \$1.57 million from the Texas Facilities Commission (TFC). Ensuring full accessibility to the building and the grounds to all visitors is vital to the reopening of the historic site. In an effort to open the doors to the public by the earliest possible date, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission is requesting a grant in the amount of \$59,000 to support the THC’s vision for the French Legation. While the funding THC has received from the TFC supports the implementation of a significant portion of this vision, a “Heritage Austin” grant of \$59,000 will allow the THC to address the critical accessibility issues at the site, especially the design and addition of ADA accessible restrooms to the Carriage House. The addition of these restrooms will accelerate the overall restoration of the historic site, and allow for more immediate public use by visiting tourists and other history enthusiasts.

By preserving the *“real places telling real stories,”* the Texas Historical Commission is committed to protecting and authentically telling the stories of our state’s history. In order to do so, the Historic Sites Division of the THC has determined that the scope of work included in Phase I as described above is essential to ensuring the future integrity of the site, and to accurately and authentically sharing this piece of Texas history with present and future generations of visitors.

ATTACHMENT 2



FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Tourism Justification

Visitation:

At the time of the Texas Legislature's transfer of property to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) in September 2017, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, then custodians of the French Legation, estimated that the site welcomed 17,000 visitors annually. Additionally, they estimated that 26% of annual visitors were from Austin, 32% were out-of-state visitors, 40% were from elsewhere in Texas, and the remaining 2% were unidentified.

Since the site has been closed to the public since the transfer to the THC, we are unable to provide updated summaries of total annual visitation and out-of-town visitation. While the site will not reopen until the fall of 2019, the THC's goal is to keep the French Legation active and accessible to tourists and visitors, hosting small community events on the grounds, and "active restoration" learning opportunities on the site while Phase I of restoration is underway. While Phase I is ongoing, and once the French Legation State Historic Site is completely open to the public with active and ongoing programming, the THC expects these visitation numbers to increase significantly. As the only state historic site in the Capitol City, the Legation will serve as a location for gatherings, meetings, and events that will include participants from across the state as well as the nation.

Promotional Activities

All public activities at the French Legation will be promoted through the Texas Historical Commission's social media channels, newsletter, website, community event calendars, and print materials. The THC will also promote the site through development of partnerships with other museums, cultural institutions, community groups, and businesses in the city of Austin and throughout the state. Additionally, by leveraging the reach of each of our 22 state historic sites, the THC has created a statewide network and broad regional reach outside of local communities and the state.

The Texas Historical Commission has three Divisions that contribute to the promotion of the state's 22 state historic sites. The **Historic Sites Division** oversees and manages site staff responsible for welcoming tourists and visitors, offering tours, providing educational opportunities, and working with partner organizations in the community. Historic site managers coordinate classes and events related to the site's history, and coordinate the site's participation in community-wide events and celebrations. Each historic site has its own website and social media outlets (Facebook, Instagram) that promote the site and its historical significance, as well as events and visitation details. Historic site managers work in partnership with the THC's **Public Information and Education Division (PIE)**, developing marketing and promotional strategies for the site to increase awareness, support, and visitation. In addition to handling the agency's public and media relations, PIE designs and produces promotional materials such as brochures, site-branded merchandise for state historic site stores, and assists with development and implementation of heritage tourism promotions.

The THC's **Community Heritage Development (CHD)** division is focused on stimulating tourism regionally through a number of initiatives, including the award-winning Texas Heritage Trails program. Each state historic site is part of a "Heritage Trail Region," and THC partners with the independent Trails



FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Regions and local communities to promote the sites within the regions. As part of the Central Texas Hill Country Trail Region, the French Legation will benefit from the statewide marketing of the region as a heritage tourism destination.

It is also THC's policy, through its Historic Sites Division, to encourage stewardship and promotion of the site by a local "Friends" group. THC staff is working on revitalizing the incredible volunteer support that the Legation has enjoyed through the years, through the formation of a "Friends of the French Legation State Historic Site." This group, when formed, will continue to support and promote the French Legation through volunteerism, community outreach, and partnership building.

ATTACHMENT 3



Entrance to French Legation Property, March 9, 2018



Front of French Legation House, March 9, 2018



Entrance Gate to French Legation Property, March 9th, 2018



Pathway between Carriage House and French Legation House, March 9, 2018



Pathways to front of French Legation House, March 9, 2018



Pathway between French Legation House and Carriage House, March 9, 2018



Carriage House, date March 9, 2018



Pathway to Carriage House, date March 9, 2018



Side View of Carriage House, March 9, 2018



View of east wall of Carriage House, March 9, 2018



Carriage House Bathroom, March 9, 2018



View of bathroom at the Carriage House, date March 9, 2018



PH. A. V. 1907 Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

Photo courtesy of Austin History Center, Austin Public Library,
Exterior of French Legation, date unknown



Photo courtesy of Texas Historical Commission, date unknown



Photo courtesy of Austin History Center, Austin Public Library,
eastern side of house, porch, and sculpted gardens, date 1970-
1980



Photo by Robert M. Utley courtesy of Texas Historical Commission,
front entrance of house, date October 26, 1958



Photo by Robert M. Utley courtesy of Texas Historical
Commission, French Legation lawn, date October 26,
1958



Eleanor Thomson Hutchinson Memorial Steps, Old French Legation, Austin, Texas

Postcard image courtesy of the Texas Historical Commission, date unknown

ATTACHMENT 4

**APPLICATION
THE TEXAS HISTORICAL BUILDING MEDALLION**

County Travis Town Austin Date of Application: May 31, 1962

Address: (If the Building is not in town indicate number of miles and direction from center of town and number or name of highway or road.)

East 8th and San Marcos Streets

Present Owner: State of Texas

General Designation: Old French Legation

Date Built: 1840

Present Condition: excellent

Interest:
Architectural Creole architecture and furnishings

Historical French Legation

Organization or Individual Assuming Responsibility of Building:

Daughters Republic of Texas

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX	
Date Received:	
Date Approved, Rejected:	
Committee Ruling:	
Area Representatives:	
Committee Members:	
No. Assigned	<u>53</u>
Date Mailed	

Additional Remarks: Built by the only foreign government to send a minister to the Republic of Texas, Comte Alphonse Debois de Saligny. Purchased by Dr. Joseph W. Robertson 1848, Purchased by State 1945.

Sources of Information:

Austin Travis County Collection -- Austin Public Library

Mr. Roy J. Marshall
Signature Owner or Authorized Representative

Address

UNLESS THE FOLLOWING IS SUPPLIED, THE BUILDING MEDALLION COMMITTEE CANNOT ACT UPON THIS APPLICATION:

1. Complete information asked for above
2. Kodak picture of building attached to application
3. Check for \$14.75 made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

I hereby certify the above application has been approved by the _____ County Historical Survey Committee:

County Chairman

Address

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
George W. Hill, Executive Director
112 East 18th Street
Austin, Texas

approved by 11/11/66.
E.L. Carson via
phone

1510

James A. Wills III, 4/7/67; DP, 4/13/67

16" x 12" Official Texas Historical Building
Medallion Plate
Travis County

RUSH

FRENCH LEGATION*

RUSH

ERECTED IN THE YEAR 1841 BY
CONTE ALPHONSE DUBOIS de SALIGNY,
CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES FOR KING LOUIS
PHILIPPE OF FRANCE, TO THE TEXAS
REPUBLIC. HE LIVED HERE 1841-1842.

HOUSE CONSTRUCTED OF BASTROP
PINE, IN LOUISIANA BAYOU STYLE.

FURNISHINGS INCLUDE SEVERAL
PIECES ONCE OWNED BY SALIGNY.

PURCHASED BY STATE OF TEXAS
IN 1945. PLACED IN CUSTODY OF
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF TEXAS, WHO RESTORED THE HOUSE
AND MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY.**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK, 1967***

RUSH

*1/2" lettering
**3/8" lettering
***1/4" lettering

FILE COPY TO [illegible]

11/11/66

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

Tr 2
A 12
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: TEXAS	
COUNTY: Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69111-42-0011	DATE 11/25/69

1. NAME	
COMMON: French Legation	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

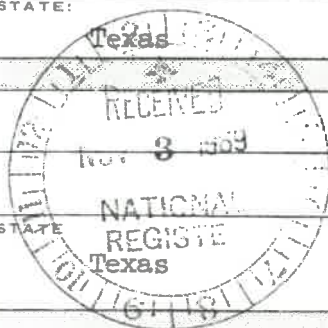
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 802 San Marcos			
CITY OR TOWN: Austin			
STATE Texas	CODE 42	COUNTY: Travis	CODE 453

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: State of Texas, Board of Control	
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Land Office, 112 East 11th Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Austin	STATE: Texas CODE 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Travis County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER: 10th and Guadalupe	
CITY OR TOWN: Austin	STATE: Texas CODE 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey	
DATE OF SURVEY: Feb. 15, 1934	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia CODE 08



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Alphonse de Saligny had the French Legation built between December 29, 1840 and April 1, 1842 on a twenty-one acre hill site in East Austin. The small wood framed square-shaped building originally had four rooms, an attic, a cellar and a porch. Approximately forty years later, possibly 1880, a frame addition, 20'x30' consisting of a dining room, kitchen and porch were added to the rear of the original house. At the same time a bathroom which opened into the northeast bedroom was added to the rear of the house. A stone house, used as a kitchen was erected west of the house and was not connected. The unfinished attic was used originally as a servants quarters. When the building underwent renovation the attic was converted to an upstairs bedroom. Its unusual rafters were built of 3"x4" boards. Saligny also had a wine cellar with a dirt floor which is now restored for exhibition.

Renovation took place at the same time as expansion. The original casement windows and shutters were removed and double hung windows and new shutters were substituted. The original walls and partitions were covered with canvas and heavy muslin painted. All casings, base, mantles, doors and stairways are made of yellow pine. Its wood shingles and tin-roofed porch are characteristic of the original while the brick dentil detail on the chimneys are alterations. Between 1945 and 1954 the Legation was restored by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the 1880 additions were removed. Now the principle structure and the beautifully restored kitchen with its period utensils remain.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>historical</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1836 Texas declared and won her independence from Mexico and established a republic. Foreign countries were invited to establish diplomatic relations and send ministers to Texas. In 1840 France established a legation in Austin and sent Alphonse de Saligny as Charge d'Affairs of France in Texas. Saligny had been a minor official at the French Embassy in Washington, D. C. It is probable that France's action in opening the embassy was not entirely one of good will, but closely associated with a scheme that later became the Franco-Texienne bill in the Texas Congress. By 1840 the new republic, never on the solidest of financial ground, was in serious economic difficulty. The idea was for France to lend Texas seven million dollars in return for three million acres of land which would be occupied with as many as twenty forts and a large number of French settlers. Had the bill not been defeated by the Texas Congress it would have made the young republic virtually a colony of France.

However, the defeat of the Franco-Texienne proposal was not the only reason that Saligny was upset with the state--Richard Bullock's pigs continually ate Saligny's corn. Bullock was the owner and operator of the Bullock House, a hotel where Saligny had established the legation until his own residence ~~was~~ was completed. When Bullock insulted Saligny by presenting the impetuous Frenchman with a hotel bill, the mutual dislike between the two neighbors settled into a rich, warm feud that only ended with Saligny's recall. The story begins with the fact that Bullock raised pigs and Saligny raised corn to feed his prized horses. One day, after the pigs had been feasting on the corn crop for some months, Saligny lost his temper and ordered his cook to kill the pigs that were again in the field. Bullock, infuriated by the loss of his swine, soundly beat the cook on an Austin street several days later. Saligny demanded that the government punish Bullock, but without a trial the authorities could do nothing--besides, they were really too amused about the matter to want to do anything. Saligny, unable to understand the English trial by jury system, only became more irate. The dapper little minister had made a nuisance of himself over the Franco-Texienne bill, by continually harassing legislators, but with this second cause for crusade he became unbearable to Texas officials and the republic asked the French Foreign Minister to recall Saligny. He left Texas and headed toward New Orleans, stopping at all points in between to deliver a diatribe against the Republic of Texas.

Saligny's legation home remained as one of the pleasanter memories

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-11-42-0011	11/25/69

(Number all entries)

8. (cont'd)

of his stay in Texas. He bought the land for the house from Anson Jones, the fourth president of the Republic, for \$1,000. Saligny had brought door locks, keys, hinges, etc. from France for his new home. After Saligny left the house passed through several owners, the last being Joseph W. Robertson. In 1945 the State of Texas in cooperation with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas purchased the property for \$31,000. It is maintained by the DRT as a museum. The Texas State Historical Survey Committee designated the French Legation an historic landmark in 1967.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M. M. Birge Collection, Archives, The University of Texas.
French Legation File. Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library.
HABS, 1934, L. C. Page, Jr.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES									
CORNER	LATITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE						
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds				
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	97	0	44	5	30	16	16	5
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"								
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"								
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"								

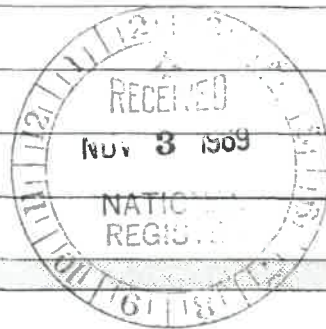
97° 44' 5" 30 16 05 30 16 05 97 43 55

UTM
14/622000
3348850
14L

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: M. Wayne Bell, Project Director
Larry J. Kennedy, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

DATE: 10/27/69

STREET AND NUMBER: 108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE: Texas

CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

Snell Latimer

Title

State Liaison Officer

Date

October 27, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

NOV 25 1969

Date

ATTEST:

William J. Mulloy
Keeper of The National Register

Date

NOV 7 1969

16



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
601 19TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34-HR

NOV 23 1969

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Freeman Plantation (Marion County)
French Legation (Travis County)
Driskill Hotel (Travis County)
Ursuline Academy (Bexar County)

ATTACHMENT 5

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission

French Legation Restoration Project

Following a competitive and publically advertised RFQ process, the Historic Sites Division (HSD) has selected Hutson Gallagher, an architecture firm specializing in historic architecture and preservation, for the design and construction administration of Phase I of the project. This contract was awarded following a competitive bid process per the established state contract procedures, as described in Attachment 6. Phase I restoration includes work that the Historic Sites Division of the THC has determined is vital to the integrity of the French Legation building, and public access to the property.

The Texas Facilities Commission has committed \$1,570,000 in emergency funding to support restoration efforts. However, the overall cost of the scope of work for Phase I, which includes the structural stabilization, restoration, and weatherization of the Legation as well as design and construction of ADA compliant restrooms to be added to the Carriage House, is expected to exceed the funding available for the project. The Friends of the THC are committed to supporting the Commission in securing additional funds to fully implement the scope for Phase I. A grant of \$59,000, if approved, will provide a critical match for the design and construction of the restrooms, and will accelerate the overall restoration of the facility and provide for more immediate public use.

As design plans move forward and construction bids are obtained, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission will provide updated figures and timelines to the ACVB, HLC, and Grants Special Committee. In the meantime, a brief synopsis of the scope of work is included for your review.

The Historic Sites Division plans to begin bidding the construction work by late summer 2018. As the project is still in the design phase, these estimates are drawn from assessments completed as part of the 2017 Master Interpretive Plan and do not include architect/engineering fees.

French Legation Building	Estimate
Remove siding along lower walls of east, west and south elevations to inspect, stabilize and repair wood framing and treat with biocide. Reinstall salvaged siding (est. 40% loss), seal prime and repaint walls.	\$285,000.00
Investigate structural framing at west side of door 102 and repair as per structural engineer. Repair and reinstall historic door, hardware and trim. Install new interior canvas and paint.	\$25,000.00
Investigate structural framing at stair landing and repair as per structural engineer. Salvage, repair, replace, and reinstall boards as needed. Prep and repaint.	\$36,000.00
Structural repair and/or strengthening as required by structural engineer, including inspection of chimneys, providing positive attachment from sill to stone foundation wall, masonry/pointing repairs to foundation, and stabilization and/or replacement of mortise and tenon joints with significant separation or moisture/termite damage.	\$150,000.00
Window and shutter restoration, including repairing rot at sills, repair all hardware, reglaze where needed, repair/replace shutters as needed and apply UV protectant and ballistic impact protectant film to glass.	\$90,000.00
Exterior and interior door restoration, including both hardware and hardware repairs.	\$45,000.00
Replacement of rotted/damaged interior wall canvas, replacing gyp board backing with water-resistant board, treat structural framing with biocide and repair/replace as needed. Install new canvas, prep and paint. Patch damaged masonry at fireplaces.	\$60,000.00
Replace mechanical systems, including ductwork, resizing register openings (carpentry), removing old electrical, sewer, and plumbing from chases, adaptive ventilation of crawlspace and attic, and asbestos testing and abatement as needed.	\$65,000.00
Repair and refinish wood floors, and install dust/vapor barrier underlayment	\$29,000.00
TOTAL	\$785,000
Carriage House: Food concessions, exhibits, restrooms, and operational offices	
Level building slab and remove differences in floor heights on first level to provide universal access, replace thresholds and widen openings.	\$25,000.00
Replace windows and doors, add ADA compliant motor-assist double door and create level, covered entrance facing San Marcos Street connecting to accessible pathway to street	\$42,000.00
Addition with ADA compliant gender-neutral companion/family care restrooms, janitorial closet and storage room	\$80,000.00
Repair and/or construct interior walls as needed and repaint	\$8,000.00
TOTAL	\$155,000.00
Kitchen Building: will be used as learning and activity space	
Carpentry repairs, repainting of wood surfaces, inspection and cleaning of chimney	\$5,000.00
Inspection and repair of HVAC system	\$4,000.00
TOTAL	\$9,000.00
Site Landscaping, Infrastructure & Accessibility Improvements	
Site survey as none currently exists, which includes boundaries and utilities	\$28,000.00
Address existing leak in underground water supply from San Marcos Street (currently investigating).	
Service to Carriage House increased.	\$10,000.00
Repair or modify/replace existing gates as needed	

Site security to include intrusion and fire detection in all buildings, remote camera surveillance, and central station monitoring. Knoxbox and exterior gate emergency keypad access. Fire extinguishers and defibrillator.	\$45,000.00
Relocation and replacement of ramp to the side of the Legation building to provide access to the front door, porch, Capitol View Corridor and gardens in front of the building. Includes replacement of steps at rear door.	\$15,000.00
Create ADA compliant entrance from the northern San Marcos Street gate to connect to the Carriage House and site pathways. Install sliding gate with motor-assist.	\$19,000.00
Level and repair site pathways to remove trip hazards, changes in elevation, and correct slopes to meet ADA standards.	\$8,000.00
Survey and pruning and/or removal of damaged trees, critical repair of irrigation system, installation of landscape plantings at entrance and infill existing garden elements with drought-tolerant, sustainable varieties.	\$15,000.00
TOTAL	\$140,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,089,000

ATTACHMENT 6

Competitive Bid Explanation:

As a state agency, the THC has an open, competitive, and rigorous bidding process that is consistent with the policies and practices established by the State Comptroller's contract management guide.

Major construction project solicitations (greater than \$25,000) are posted to the Comptroller's Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD), which is publicly available. The THC notifies vendors that have elected to be notified for specific types of solicitation on the Comptroller's Centralized Master Bidders List (CMBL). The solicitation package on the ESBD includes all necessary documents for understanding the project, bid response requirements, and deadlines for questions and responses. The vendor responses are scored for best value to the state and the awards are posted publicly on the ESBD.

Historic Sites Division anticipates bidding for construction to begin by late summer, 2018. As bids are received and the construction timeline moves forward, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission will update ACVB, HLC, and the Grants Special Committee with three competitive bids received for the construction of ADA compliant restrooms to be added to the Carriage House.

ATTACHMENT 7



PHASE I Restoration of the French Legation:

September 2017

Property transferred to Texas Historical Commission

October-November 2017

Begin bidding architectural and engineering services

April 2018

Begin investigation and design phase with Hutson Gallagher (HG)

Sept/Oct 2018

Construction documents and design specs complete

Begin bidding construction work

Nov 2018 – Aug 2019

Construction underway

Sept 2019

Project closeout

Prep site for re-opening

PHASE II *proposed*:

Completion by 2021

Regrade and resurface parking lot and reconfigure Embassy Drive entrance to meet ADA compliance

Embassy Drive entrance improvements

Cultural Landscape Report

Furnishings, interpretive panels & media interactives for the Legation building

Exterior interpretive panels on the grounds

Exterior interpretive panels along San Marcos Street

Sidewalk along San Marcos Street

Wall cuts with decorative ironwork to provide visual access on San Marcos Street side



FRIENDS OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PHASE III *proposed*:

Completion by 2025

Design and build visitor center with offices, program space, exhibits, retail and food concessions

Enhance planting plan and level terraces at and provide accessibility to southern San Marcos entrance

ATTACHMENT 8

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the transfer of jurisdiction over and management of the
3 property known as the French Legation to the Texas Historical
4 Commission and to certain historic sites under the commission's
5 jurisdiction.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Section 442.072(a), Government Code, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 (a) The following historic sites and parks [~~formerly under~~
10 ~~the jurisdiction of the Parks and Wildlife Department~~] are under
11 the commission's jurisdiction:

- 12 (1) Acton State Historic Site;
- 13 (2) Caddoan Mounds State Historic Site;
- 14 (3) Casa Navarro State Historic Site;
- 15 (4) Confederate Reunion Grounds State Historic Site;
- 16 (5) Eisenhower Birthplace State Historic Site;
- 17 (6) Fannin Battleground State Historic Site;
- 18 (7) Fort Griffin State Historic Site;
- 19 (8) Fort Lancaster State Historic Site;
- 20 (9) Fort McKavett State Historic Site;
- 21 (10) Fulton Mansion State Historic Site;
- 22 (11) Landmark Inn State Historic Site;
- 23 (12) Levi Jordan State Historic Site;
- 24 (13) Magoffin Home State Historic Site;

- 1 (14) Sabine Pass Battleground State Historic Site;
- 2 (15) Sam Bell Maxey House State Historic Site;
- 3 (16) San Felipe State Historic Site;
- 4 (17) Starr Family Home State Historic Site;
- 5 (18) Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site;
- 6 (19) Sam Rayburn House State Historic Site;
- 7 (20) National Museum of the Pacific War;
- 8 (21) the property known as the French Legation; and
- 9 (22) Mission Dolores State Historic Site.

10 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 442, Government Code, is
11 amended by adding Section 442.077 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 442.077. AGREEMENT RELATING TO FRENCH LEGATION. The
13 commission may enter into an agreement with the Daughters of the
14 Republic of Texas regarding the management, staffing, parking
15 facilities, operation, and financial support of the property known
16 as the French Legation.

17 SECTION 3. Section 2165.257, Government Code, is
18 transferred to Subchapter C, Chapter 442, Government Code,
19 redesignated as Section 442.076, Government Code, and amended to
20 read as follows:

21 Sec. 442.076 [2165.257]. FRENCH LEGATION [EMBASSY]. (a)
22 The commission is responsible for:

23 (1) the preservation, maintenance, and restoration of
24 the [The] property known as the French Legation and its contents;
25 and

26 (2) the protection of the historical and architectural
27 integrity of the exterior, interior, and grounds of the French

1 ~~Legation [Embassy is for the use and purposes of the Daughters of~~
2 ~~the Republic of Texas. They may take full charge of the building~~
3 ~~and use it as they consider proper].~~

4 (b) ~~AAAny power or duty related to the French Legation~~
5 ~~formerly vested in another state agency or entity is vested solely~~
6 ~~in the commission.~~

7 (c) ~~The commission may solicit and accept gifts, donations,~~
8 ~~and grants of money or property from any public or private source to~~
9 ~~be used for the purposes of this section.~~

10 (d) ~~In carrying out the commission's responsibilities under~~
11 ~~this section during the state fiscal biennium ending August 31,~~
12 ~~2019, the commission may use only money or property received as a~~
13 ~~gift, donation, or grant from a public or private source. This~~
14 ~~subsection expires September 1, 2019 [The French Embassy is the~~
15 ~~property of the state, and title to the property remains in the~~
16 ~~commission's custody].~~

17 SECTION 4. The heading to Section 2203.003, Government
18 Code, is amended to read as follows:

19 Sec. 2203.003. STATE PROPERTY UNDER CONTROL OF THE TEXAS
20 DIVISION UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY [~~TEXAS DIVISION, AND~~
21 ~~THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS~~].

22 SECTION 5. Section 2203.003(a), Government Code, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 (a) The Texas Division United Daughters of the
25 Confederacy [~~TEXAS DIVISION, and the Daughters of the Republic of~~
26 ~~Texas each~~] may charge admission to state property over which the
27 [~~each~~] organization has custody or control.

1 SECTION 6. (a) On September 1, 2017, or as soon as
2 practicable after that date, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas
3 with assistance from the Texas Facilities Commission shall take a
4 complete inventory of all personal property and fixtures located at
5 the property known as the French Legation. The inventory must
6 identify the origin of each item and its current owner as agreed to
7 between the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Texas
8 Facilities Commission. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas shall
9 be allowed a reasonable time after completion of the inventory to
10 remove any personal property and fixtures owned by the
11 organization.

12 (b) Any dispute regarding the ownership of personal
13 property and fixtures located at the French Legation shall be
14 resolved through alternative dispute resolution as provided by
15 Chapter 2009, Government Code.

16 (c) The Daughters of the Republic of Texas may transfer any
17 property of the organization described by this section to the Texas
18 Historical Commission.

19 SECTION 7. AA On September 1, 2017, the following are
20 transferred to the Texas Historical Commission:

21 (1) AA all powers and duties of the Daughters of the
22 Republic of Texas relating to the property known as the French
23 Legation;

24 (2) all state-owned assets in the possession of the
25 Daughters of the Republic of Texas relating to the French Legation;
26 and

27 (3) all files and other records of the Daughters of the

1 Republic of Texas kept by the organization regarding the French
2 Legation.

3 SECTION 8. On September 1, 2017, the following are
4 transferred to the Texas Historical Commission:

5 (1) all powers and duties of the Texas Facilities
6 Commission relating to the property known as the French Legation
7 and its grounds;

8 (2) all files and other records of the Texas
9 Facilities Commission relating to the French Legation;

10 (3) all contracts of the Texas Facilities Commission
11 pertaining specifically to the French Legation and its grounds; and

12 (4) all funds appropriated to the Texas Facilities
13 Commission designated for the benefit of the French Legation.

14 SECTION 9. On September 1, 2017, the Daughters of the
15 Republic of Texas shall transfer any money held in trust by the
16 organization under Section 2203.003, Government Code, as amended by
17 this Act, in relation to the property known as the French Legation
18 to the Texas Historical Commission to be held in trust by the
19 commission for the purposes described by Section 442.076,
20 Government Code, as redesignated and amended by this Act.

21 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

H.B. No. 3810

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3810 was passed by the House on May 9, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 136, Nays 7, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3810 on May 26, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 5, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3810 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor

ATTACHMENT 9



Insurance Explanation:

The state of Texas is self-insured. The Texas Historical Commission does not carry insurance for State Historic Sites.

ATTACHMENT 10



Plans and Specifications for Proposed Work:

As described in this request for support, per the timeline of the project, the THC has secured an architectural and design firm, Hutson Gallagher Architects, who working with the THC staff have developed the scope of work for Phase I of the project.

Also per the timeline, the design and specifications of the proposed work will be ready by September 2018. As the RFQ process moves forward and plans and specifications for Phase I work, including the ADA compliant restrooms, are developed, the Friends of the THC will provide the ACVB, HLC, and Special Grants Committee with the information.