

Winter 2019 ★ Volume 23 No. 1

PARD Restorations Continue at Oakwood Cemetery and Oakwood Cemetery Annex

By Sarah Marshall, Program Coordinator, Austin Parks and Recreation Department

he City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) manages more than 300 parks, greenbelts, trails, and nature preserves, but many do not realize that this number also includes five municipal cemeteries: Oakwood Cemetery, Oakwood Cemetery Annex, Evergreen Cemetery, Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, and Plummers Cemetery. In the spring of 2013, PARD took over cemetery management from InterCare Corporation, Inc., which had been providing grounds maintenance, tree maintenance, and burial operations on behalf of the city since 1990. Following a lengthy review by the community and key city boards and commissions, the Historic Cemeteries Master Plan was approved by the Austin City Council in September 2015. The award-winning Master Plan was the first in the city to provide a long-term framework for the cemeteries' rehabilitation, management, and activation.

Oakwood Cemetery was originally established in 1839 as the "City Cemetery" at the northeast corner of the original town plat. In 1856, the Texas legislature granted the property to the City of Austin, and the City officially changed the cemetery's name to "Oakwood" in 1908. The earliest grave marker shown in historical records was 1840, although there is speculation that the earliest burial was that of an enslaved person in 1839. The cemetery now has more than 23,000 burials. Lots were sold out by the early twentieth century, but Oakwood Cemetery continues to receive burials annually.

By the early 1900s, the City began to run out of lots for sale at Oakwood Cemetery. In response, citizens—including the ladies' Oakwood Cemetery Association—called on the City to enlarge

Part of the Master Plan's proposal for Oakwood Cemetery and Oakwood Cemetery Annex was transforming them into revered historic sites. Following the Preservation Merit Award-winning restoration of the Oakwood Chapel in September 2018, PARD started restoration of the gates and the replacement of deteriorated fencing at both cemeteries to elevate their importance and history for visitors.



Oakwood Cemetery Main Gate (1908) before restoration.

Continued on page 3

History Hunt in the **Guadalupe Neighborhood**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 from 9am-11am Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 1206 E. 9th St., 78702 FREE! RSVP Required

Preservation Austin's History Hunt is coming to East Austin's Guadalupe neighborhood! This architectural scavenger hunt gets families out and exploring our city's heritage. Children will race to follow clues to (top secret) stops throughout the Guadalupe neighborhood, learning about historic architecture while taking on sack races, hula hoops, and more along the way. Prizes will be awarded to the race champions at the finish line, where kids can make valentines dedicated to Austin's historic buildings. Light snacks and hot cocoa provided.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy some screen-free time with kids and grandkids in one of Austin's most beautiful historic neighborhoods. All are welcome, so we'll see you there!

All children must have an adult chaperone. RSVPs to Programs Director Lindsey Derrington at programs@preservationaustin.org are required by Monday, February 18.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Church is generously serving as home base for this year's History Hunt. Preservation Austin will be outside in the green space facing Lydia Street between the historic church and the Family Life

Center. Street parking is available throughout the neighborhood. \star





Kate Singleton, Executive Director Lindsey Derrington, Programs Director

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Oakwood, continued from page 1

the cemetery by purchasing additional land nearby. The Oakwood Cemetery Association president wrote to Mayor J. T. Wooldridge and recommended that the City purchase land just east of Oakwood Cemetery, expressing a concern that the older cemetery would be abandoned if a new one opened in a different part of town. In May 1912, the City issued bonds worth \$50,000 to purchase the land for cemetery purposes. Oakwood Cemetery Annex was established as a municipal cemetery in 1915.

The main gate at Oakwood Cemetery is located on its west side along Navasota Street. This gate was constructed in 1908 after the Oakwood Cemetery Association raised funds for the erection of an attractive and dignified gate. It is composed of four rusticated granite columns, a double wrought iron gate for vehicles, two flanking wrought iron pedestrian gates, and flanking curved wing walls of rusticated granite masonry. Each of the four granite columns is topped by a decorative finial. The wrought iron gates were manufactured by The Stewart



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Ironworks Company out of Cincinnati, Ohio. John Andrewartha was the architect, and he also designed the Louisville, Kentucky City Hall and the Hirshfeld House in Austin. He is buried in section one at Oakwood Cemetery.

Vehicular traffic had damaged and displaced the original stone at Oakwood Cemetery's main gate throughout the years. PARD's 2018 restoration included dismantling and cataloguing its components, then restacking them

> carefully. The wrought iron at this entrance had also suffered damage from automobile impacts, so was restored as well.

> The entrance to Oakwood Annex almost mirrors the east entrance of Oakwood Cemetery just across Comal Street. Both are composed of two matching yellow brick columns supporting a double-leaf iron vehicular gate of bent steel. The Annex gate was built in 1916,

but slight differences in design make it appear that the Oakwood Cemetery east gate was built earlier than the Annex Cemetery main gate. Both were modified in 1980 to make vehicular access easier for larger cars by splicing in the pedestrian sections to widen the entrance. During the 2018 restoration, both gates were cleaned, repaired, and restored.

All wrought iron was refurbished by Stanley Studio Architects. The practice is experienced in projects that integrate artistry, community, and craftsmanship, and previously worked on the restoration of the gate at the Elisabet Ney Museum for PARD in 2017. After producing spectacular results at the Ney displaying their attention to detail and metalwork knowledge, Stanley Studio was a great option for the restoration of gates at Oakwood and the Annex. Their scope of work included straightening damaged wrought iron, reassembling and welding missing pieces, cleaning, sandblasting, repair of latches, and new paint.

Continued on page 4



Lars Stanley, FAIA, LEED AP, inspects the west/main gate of Oakwood Cemetery at his studio.

Oakwood, continued from page 3

The gate project is being done in tandem with fencing replacement at both Oakwood Cemetery and Oakwood Annex Cemetery. The previous chain link fence set along the property line was topped with a double row of barbed wire in most places causing an unseemly appearance that was unsuitable for these historic sites. Some old photographs of the cemetery show a spear-point picket fence. PARD wanted the new fence to relate to the historic one, to communicate a feeling of importance to the public, and to provide better security. Black, spear-point metal steel picket fencing was chosen for both cemeteries. The new fence is meant to convey the significance of these historic sites with a nod to one of the iterations of the earlier historic fence.

Both the gate restoration and fencing project are being funded by the City Council-allocated Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funding dedicated to historic preservation projects. The Cemeteries Master Plan called for designing Oakwood Cemetery and the Annex as historic sites and encouraging visitors to explore Austin's history through the stories of the cemeteries' residents. The new, elegant fence and restored gates are just one more step in making the Master Plan's vision a reality by welcoming visitors to these significant public spaces. In 2019, PARD will add updated signage to the sites and begin programming the newly rehabilitated Oakwood Chapel Visitor Center. ★



Oakwood Cemetery Annex's Main Gate (1916) after restoration.



Oakwood Cemetery's Main Gate, vehicle damage and detail.



New steel fence to replace chain link and barbed wire.

Sarah Marshall is a Program Coordinator with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department and a member of Preservation Austin's Education Committee. All photos courtesy of the City of Austin Parks & Recreation Department



🖈 👌 Legislative Update

★ Kate Singleton, Executive Director

The Texas Legislature opened its 86th legislative session on January 8. Preservation Austin is monitoring proposed legislation and is prepared to advocate for historic preservation and related issues. We will work with partner organizations including the Texas Historical Commission, Preservation Texas, Texas Downtown Association, Texas Society of Architects, and Texans for the Arts to ensure positive outcomes on bills related to our mission to promote Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic places.

Last session Preservation Austin, along with our partner organizations, successfully defeated bills that targeted cities' ability to locally designate historic properties and to pass heritage tree ordinances. We also advocated to fund the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and several of their programs that impact not only Austin but cities and towns across the state. The THC administers the Historic Courthouse Grant Program, Heritage Trails Program, and the Certified Local Government Program.

This year Preservation Austin will continue to monitor proposed legislation throughout the regular session—and any special sessions. We are adopting the following advocacy priorities and may add to them if other issues of local and statewide importance are identified:

- We will defend municipal authority and oppose bills that limit cities' abilities to perform historic preservation, planning, zoning and other activities related to preservation and sustainability and that erode local authority of cities to govern their own affairs.
- We are supporting the THC's request that includes \$35 million to fund the Courthouse Preservation Grant Program and an additional \$500,000 in funding for the Heritage Tourism Program.
- We also support providing increased staffing levels to successfully implement the various THC programs, and to address needs at State Historic Sites including the French Legation. The Legation was acquired by the THC during the last legislative session.
- One of our partner organizations, Texans for the Arts, is requesting restoration of funding for the Texas Commission on



the Arts' Cultural District Grant Program. Preservation Austin supports this request as many of the Cultural Districts are centered in historic areas such as Six Square: Austin's Black Cultural District. And, we will work with Texans for the Arts and other organizations to protect the continued use of the 15% Hotel Occupancy Tax funds for preservation and the arts.

• The state historic preservation tax credits for both forprofit and nonprofit-owned historic properties have spurred rehabilitation of numerous buildings across Texas creating jobs and adding to local and state economies as well as creating affordable housing as part of revitalization efforts in Austin and cities across Texas. Preservation Austin will work to ensure the future of the tax credit.

Preservation Austin will keep our membership informed and will ask for your help in advocating for historic preservation as the regular session unfolds! *

2018 Preservation Merit Awards Celebration

Many thanks to all those who helped make our 58th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration such a huge success! We honored eighteen amazing projects, our largest slate of award-winners yet, and celebrated our nonprofit's 65th birthday by looking back on the impact we've had on this city since our



PARD and Oakwood Cemetery Chapel honorees.

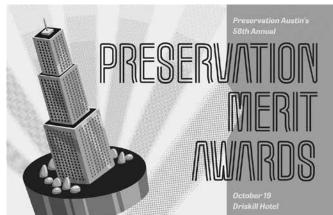


Phoebe Allen - Lifetime Achievement Award



Tucker-Winfield Apartment honorees.

founding in 1953. Proceeds from this sold-out event will support our educational programming and advocacy activities throughout the year. Thank you to everyone who attended, and to our awardwinners for the amazing work they're doing to preserve our city's heritage. A few scenes from this year's awards celebration:





Preservation Austin - 65 years strong!



Twin Houses award recipients.

Continued on page 7

Our Preservation Merit Awards Celebration would not be possible without the support of our generous sponsors:

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"Thank you!

★ Haley Wilcox, IA, Secretary



Inherit Austin

nherit Austin had a fabulous last few months of 2018. Our annual Somewhere in Time event this year was the St. Elmo Swig, taking place in the historic St. Elmo industrial district We enjoyed live music, a silent auction, tacos and ice cream, a presentation on beer history, and tours of the St. Elmo Brewery and Still. It was a very successful event and everyone had a great time. Thank you to those of you who attended! We hope next year's SIT is even better!

In December, Inherit Austin co-hosted a holiday happy hour with the UT Student Historic Preservation Association (SHPA) at Lala's Little Nugget-- a fitting location as it is fully decked for Christmas year round! We always enjoy getting to know emerging professionals in the historic preservation field at events with SHPA. Thanks to those joined us!

Keep a lookout for announcements for a bike tour in February and our annual Spring event-- it's going to be a new twist on an old classic!

Join our Instagram campaigns

8

Help us show some love to the historic signs of Austin by using the hashtag #signsofthetimesATX when you're around town and see a historic sign worthy of attention. And, continue to tag us in your posts of Austin culture & history, especially roadside resources using #atxroadside.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@inheritaustin) to find out about our upcoming events and campaigns! \star





Somewhere in Time at St. Elmo Brewery and Still



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Grants

Celebrating Hyde Park's Sign Toppers

he Hyde Park Neighborhood Association held its annual holiday party at the Elizabet Ney Museum on Sunday, December 9. Neighbors gathered to enjoy the season, see friends, and celebrate installation of new Hyde Park Local Historic District Sign Toppers, supported by one of Preservation Austin's matching grants! The toppers now mark every street sign, at every intersection, in the local historic district. Board members Clavton Bullock , Ann S. Graham, Linda Jackson, Clay Cary, Blake Smith and Scott Marks joined in the celebration as well. A special thank you to HPNA leadership-past and present – as well as Mark Fishman for helping with this project!

Our grant program offers matching funds of up to \$5,000 on a quarterly basis. Categories include Education, Bricks and Mortar, and Planning/ Historic Resource Survey/Local Historic Designation. Nonprofit organizations, neighborhood organizations, public entities, and owners of individual or proposed landmarks may apply. By providing small but impactful PA board members celebrate with Hyde Park. grants to important projects citywide, Preservation Austin can affect real change in the preservation and interpretation of the historic places that mean the most to our community. 🖈



Spring grant applications are due **MARCH 15!** preservationaustin.org/programs/grants

Amplify Austin Day 2019: February 28-March 1

reservation Austin is participating in Amplify Austin Day from 6pm on February 28 to 6pm on March 1! This community-wide day of online giving has helped hundreds of local nonprofits raise over \$45 million since 2013 through donations as small as \$10. With your help we raised nearly \$5,000 during Amplify Austin in 2016 and 2017, which helped pay for crucial office improvements such as new computer monitors, a new laptop, Adobe Creative Suite, and QuickBooks. Our organization's strength is in its people, and these upgrades have helped our staff, board, and volunteers do our work better and more efficiently. But there's more to be done, and every donation - no matter how small - matters!

This year's goal is \$2,500 but we need your help to get there. First, share! Amplify Austin Day relies heavily on word-of-mouth, so we need our members to share PA's fundraising posts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. And if you donate between February 28 and March 1, please share that too, and tell your followers why supporting our mission

is so important.

We're also challenging five members to become Individual Fundraisers. You'll set up a fundraising page, set your own goal,



and then promote our campaign to your social network. Have a cute dog? Make it your fundraising mascot! Love Austin's historic parks or neighborhoods? Take pictures of each one and say why it's important to you. Your followers will be inspired and you'll help us raise

the funds we need to make our nonprofit stronger.

Email Programs Director Lindsey Derrington at programs@preservationaustin.org for more details! And check out our Amplify Austin donation page at **amplifyatx.org**. **★**

Education Committee

* Ann S. Graham & Blake Smith, Co-Chairs

here is never a dull moment with the Education Committee (or EDU as we call it). Join us in our inspiring work to share what-makes-Austin-Austin and the importance of preserving historic buildings, iconic businesses, and cultural resources for our ever-growing population of residents and tourists alike! A special shout out to our volunteers who work tirelessly and enthusiastically on the breadth of programming and projects we undertake:

- Planning for our 4th annual History Hunt scheduled for Saturday, February 23 in the Guadalupe neighborhood (see Page 2 for details). Our subcommittee spent a sunny Sunday morning in December scouting "top secret" locations for this children's scavenger hunt and we've been overwhelmed by how quickly, and how generously, historic property owners have agreed to participate.
- Researching the names of municipal parks (some 360!) in partnership with the City of Austin Commission for Women to see which are named after women and what is the history of the naming. Volunteers Sarah Botros, Katie Hill, Sarah Marshall, and Cyrus Yerxa determined that only some 25 are named for women and 15 for women/men together. We look forward to seeing how their painstaking research will be put to good use.
- Finalizing our long-awaited "Austin's Postwar Boom" self-guided tour through the Otocast app! Based on Preservation Austin's 2016 Homes Tour and supported by a grant from the Austin Foundation for Architecture, this new content focused on Allandale, Brentwood, and Crestview launched this month. EDU volunteers

contributed archival research, photography, voice talent, and writing over the course of 18 months to make this project possible (many thanks to Rebekah Dobrasko, Marie Oehlerking-Read, Rosa Fry,



History Hunt subcommittee scouting scavenger hunt locations in the Guadalupe neighborhood.

Cyrus Yerxa, Reagan Baechle, Elizabeth Brummett, Elisha Perez, and Dane Edwards). We hope to launch our Red River Cultural District tour in time for SXSW as well (thank you to Maggie Conyngham, Elaine Sullivan, Rosa Fry, Avery Laux, and more). Did you know that our tours rank at the top of Otocast's offerings? From New York City to Chicago, from Phoenix to Milwaukee, Preservation Austin tops the charts!

- EDU's Rebekah Dobrosko has represented PA for months to work with the Original L.C. Anderson Alumni Association and AISD to develop text for a Texas Historical Commission Subject Marker dedicated to Austin's only high school for African Americans. The marker will honor Anderson High's powerful cultural role within East Austin, as well as the thousands of students and educators who made it such an incredible institution until its closure in 1971.
- EDU members, including Co-Chair and PA board member Blake Smith, Salli

Hosseini, Olivia Miller, and Cyrus Yerxa, have "answered the call" to serve as House Captains for the 2019 Homes Tour. Blake and EDU's Elisha Perez serve on the Homes Tour Committee as well. This is a huge responsibility and we are proud of them for stepping up, on top of everything else they do for PA!

 Thinking ahead to EAST (East Austin Studio Tour) 2019, EDU is exploring ways to raise its profile and reach new audiences by participating in this evergrowing celebration of arts and culture.

These are just some of the wide-ranging ways volunteers can get engaged in Preservation Austin, make friends, contribute to a great cause, and learn much in the process.

JOIN US! We meet the third Tuesday of every month from 5:45pm to-7pm at the Preservation Austin office at 500 Chicon. For more information contact Lindsey Derrington, Programs Director at programs@preservationaustin.org.

Thank you to ALL of our volunteers! \star

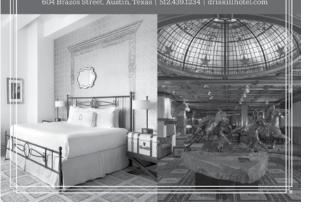
President's Message

appy New Year! I am excited to kick off 2019 with new goals and opportunities for Preservation Austin. This will certainly be a busy year for us as the Texas Legislature is now in session and the state budget will be front and center. Preservation Austin is committed to working with partners to monitor, and support or oppose legislation that impacts historic preservation.

As in years past, we will continue to support increased funding for the Texas Historical Commission (THC), the state agency that protects our heritage in Austin and statewide. We'll also be advocating to ensure that the State Historic Preservation Tax Credit and funding for preservation



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and the arts from the Hotel Occupancy Tax remain intact. And if needed, we are prepared to oppose any potential statewide legislation that would restrict Austin's ability to protect our historic places.

But Preservation Austin isn't all work; we know how to have fun too! Looking ahead to the spring, we have our always popular Homes Tour planned for April 27, 2019. "The Art of the Craftsman Style" will feature seven historic homes in coordination with the Harry Ransom Center's upcoming exhibition, *The Rise of Everyday Design: The Arts and Crafts Movement in Britain and America.* The Homes Tour is Preservation Austin's marquee event- one not to be missed. Please don't

hesitate to reach out to us if you have any interest in volunteering for the tour or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities.

For some fun that includes the whole family, please save the date for our History Hunt on February 23. This year, we are thrilled to dive into the history, heritage, and architecture of the Guadalupe neighborhood with Austin's next generation of preservationists.

We are also happy to announce that we will be participating again in Amplify Austin, a community-wide day of giving set to occur February 28 - March 1. There are so many incredible nonprofits working to make Austin a better place to live, and we're proud to do our part by making sure that our city's irreplaceable heritage continues to tell stories of where we came from and where we are going. We hope you will mark your calendar for this day and consider giving additional

★ Vanessa McElwrath



support for our mission, our educational programming, and our advocacy efforts. We rely on the generous support of our donors and members to continue to fight for Austin's treasured places and spaces. Please keep an eye out for a reminder email on these events so you can join us!

And finally, I want to thank the Driskill Hotel and all of our sponsors who helped us end the year with a very successful Preservation Merit Awards Celebration. Our awards program recognize preservationists, owners of historic properties and organizations who do the hard work of preservation for all of us. I also want to thank our Board Member and First Vice President, Clayton Bullock, for taking us through a fascinating retrospective of Preservation Austin's history and roots in honor of the organization's 65th birthday. On that note, I hope you will continue to support our efforts in 2019 to ensure we can defend preservation in Austin for at least another 65 years.

Sincerely,

Jamesso Maseliath

Vanessa McElwrath President



Exhibition on View February 9–July 14, 2019



HARRY RANSOM Center

See an extraordinary selection of drawings, sketches, photographs, art objects, and handcrafted furniture that offers a new and detailed look at the history of the Arts and Crafts movement. The exhibition examines the ideas of the movement's reformers, such as John Ruskin and William Morris in Britain, and Candace Wheeler, Alice and Elbert Hubbard, and Gustav Stickley in America, among others. See how their theories and products, which remain influential to this day, transformed the homes and lives of ordinary people in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The exhibition is organized for the Harry Ransom Center by Christopher Long, professor of history

and theory in the School of Architecture, and Monica Penick, associate professor in the Department of Design in the College of Fine Arts, The University of Texas at Austin. A catalogue of the same title published by Yale University Press and edited by the organizers accompanies the exhibition.

The Ransom Center, located at 21st and Guadalupe streets, is open until 5 p.m. daily with extended hours until 7 p.m. on Thursday evenings. Docent-led tours are offered every day at noon, with additional tours at 6 p.m. on Thursdays, and 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. For details, visit hrc.utexas.edu.



HERITAGE QUIZ ***** by Kaitlyn Harris & Elizabeth Porterfield

Preservation Austin presents our Facebook Heritage Quiz the first Friday of every month! The first respondent to correctly identify a local landmark receives a \$5 gift card to East Austin's Cenote Café, housed in the 1887 McDonald-Cain House, courtesy of your favorite preservation nonprofit.

Congratulations to our fall contestants for spotting the following properties:

SEPTEMBER: HOWSON COMMUNITY CENTER (1192 Angelina Street)

The Howson Community Center was established in 1929 and continues to serve East Austin residents. The center was built by the Community Welfare Association, which formed from seven different African American organizations in 1927, in order to provide a space for clubs, classes, and health care. The Community Welfare Association distributed milk, ran a nursery school, hosted everything from art classes to parenting education classes, and held meetings here for groups ranging from Girls Scouts to the American Woodmen. ★ Winner: Kristina Kupferschmid



Howson Community Center

NOVEMBER: LAMMES CANDIES (5330 Airport Boulevard)

Lammes Candies has been an Austin tradition since 1878, when William Wirt Lamme opened the Red Front Candy Factory in the 800 block of Congress Avenue. According to the company's website, the business was lost by William Lamme in a poker game in 1885, but his son, David Turner Lamme, Sr., paid the debt and regained ownership of the store, which he renamed Lammes Candies. The company relocated to its present site on Airport Boulevard in 1956 where it continues to operate under fifth-generation Lamme family ownership. Lammes Candies has provided Austinites with delectable goodies for over a century, and one of their best-selling candies is the "Texas Chewie Pecan Praline," first produced in 1892!



Lammes Candies

★ Winner: Paula Scafe

DECEMBER: VICTORY GRILL (1104 East Eleventh Street)

Johnny Holmes opened the Victory Grill in 1945 by to create a gathering space for African American veterans returning to a rigidly segregated Austin after World War II. Soon he expanded to include a bar, cafe, grill, and performance stage. Becoming a popular spot for many around Austin, the Grill was part of the national Chitlin Circuit and hosted music legends such as James Brown, Tina Turner, Billie Holiday, and Chuck Berry. The Victory Grill suffered a fire in October of 1988 and had to close, however the building remains with a tribute mural created by the Trust Your Struggle artists collective and other local artists. **★ Winner: Amy Lambert**



Victory Grill

★ Caroline Wright & Tere O'Connell, Co-Chairs

Preservation Committee

he Preservation Committee makes recommendations for PA policy positions and forms partnerships with neighborhood or special-interest groups working on preservation issues. Committee members are restoration architects, historians, realtors, developers, planners, experienced neighborhood advocates, and others with expertise in historic preservation and advocacy. The committed discusses, and sometimes debates, items that come to our attention, then votes on a position for PA's Board or Executive Committee approval. Only then does Preservation Austin state a position on any given issue.

Over the last year the Preservation Committee has worked on two separate projects at the city level:

 Committee members have been actively involved in efforts to change how Austin's Hotel Occupancy Taxes (HOT) are utilized. Previously, only a small portion of HOT funds were allocated for historic sites through Visit Austin's Heritage Grants program. Thanks to the Visitor Impact Task Force, City Council ultimately moved to increase the allotment of HOT funds for preservation. Now 15% of the city's annual HOT funds will be available for heritage tourism and historic preservation projects that relate directly to tourism.

In FY 2019, that amounts to \$11.5 million. A Heritage Grants Working Group came up with further recommendations about how that money should be dispersed. In FY 2019, 70% of these funds will go directly to city-owned historic facilities, 15% will be available for other city projects, and 15% will be available through competitive Heritage Grants.

City projects to be funded this year include the Barton Springs Bathhouse, Zilker Café, Zilker Clubhouse, Downs Field, Brush Square, Norwood Estate, Austin History Center, signage for historic Parks and Recreation Department sites, and a building scan conducted through the Historic Preservation Office.

The Heritage Grant program will be revamped, with grants of up to \$250,000 made available to nonprofits and some private property owners for planning projects and brick-andmortar construction projects. The grant program will be housed in the city's Economic Development Department, with a new program manager to be hired. In future years, the grant program will grow.

Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers and our city government, millions of dollars will now be invested in Austin's historic resources and in programs that invite tourists to experience those special and unique places. 2) Over the summer, committee members worked with City Council to introduce a resolution asking the City Manager to study possible improvements for the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and a number of significant changes have been made. First, a new senior planner position was added to HPO staff. Second, as part of the FY 2019 budget, the HPO has been elevated within the Planning and Zoning Department with a new position created to serve as Manager of Historic Preservation. (Neither position has yet been filled). Finally, the budget provided funding for professional training for the Historic Landmark Commission.

PA also sought funding for a rewrite of preservation sections of the Land Development Code, which we feel is important with or without CodeNEXT. This was not funded, but PA will continue to pursue other funding sources and advocate for this improvement. PA is confident that these changes will enable the city's preservation staff to better serve property owners and participate in city planning projects, and we greatly appreciate the efforts of City Council members, their staff, and the City Manager's office for their support.



Many Thanks to

🖈 👌 Our New & Renewing Members



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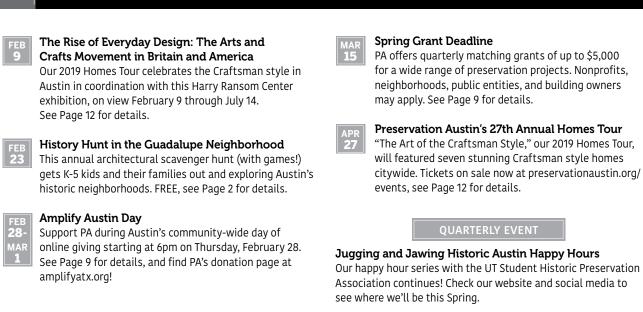
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