

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Texas
COUNTY:	Travis
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
The Governor's Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1010 Colorado

CITY OR TOWN:  
Austin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Texas CODE: COUNTY: Travis CODE:

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
The State of Texas

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Austin

STATE:  
Texas

CODE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Travis County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Austin

STATE:  
Texas

CODE:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936, 1966  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Division of Prints and Photographs

STREET AND NUMBER:  
The Library of Congress

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
D.C.

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

1

## 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

On February 11, 1854, the Texas State Legislature appropriated \$17,000 for the erection and furnishing of a suitable residence for its chief executive. Elisha M. Pease, then Governor, selected the site--an entire city block on a knoll to the southwest of the State Capitol grounds in Austin. A commission composed of Pease and two other State officials selected Richard Payne, an Austin contractor, to draw the plans. Bids were then taken, and Abner Cook, another master-builder, was awarded the contract. The original plans have apparently not survived, and it is unknown to what extent they were followed. As built, the mansion incorporates many design features known from other Austin buildings to be stylistically characteristic of Cook's work, and his is the name generally associated with the Governor's Mansion. Born in North Carolina in 1819, Cook came to Texas in 1839, settling in Austin in the fall of that year. By 1890 he was owner of a sawmill in Bashop, and in that year constructed a church for the Presbyterians in Austin. He remained in Austin until his death in 1889, and during this time was responsible for many if not the majority, of the city's most important buildings. Of his surviving works, The Governor's Mansion is perhaps the most impressive and most representative of his style.

The building was completed in 1856, and Governor Pease moved in on June 15 of that year. It has been continually occupied by the successive Governors of Texas and their families from that time on.

The dominant exterior feature of the mansion is the monumental hexastyle Ionic portico. Fluted columns support a full, proper Ionic entablature. The architecture has a paneled soffit. The absence of a pediment for the portico is said to be a regional characteristic, and is characteristic of Cook's work. The entablature conceals a low-pitched metal roof.

The full width second story gallery of the portico has a graceful and delicate wood balustrade made up of slender bundled slats forming an open diamond pattern. This, too, is a feature found often in buildings by Cook. The first floor balustrade and stair railings are a harmonizing modern addition.

Yet another typical detail of Abner Cook's Greek revival buildings is seen in the sidelights and transom of the front door. Here an unusually tall transom is intersected by the pilasters of the door jambs, and is capped by a high entablature. The second story door is much simpler, consisting only of the door and transom recessed in an unframed opening. The second story windows opening onto the gallery have six over nine sash and are floor length. First floor front windows are six over twelve sash.

The full entablature of the portico extends all around the building, and has been copied in the later new additions. Side elevations are simple and unadorned except for the entablature.

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The Governor's Mansion (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued page 1

At several periods rear additions have been made to the structure. Consisting today of family dining room, service rooms, porch, and porte-cochere, these additions have consistently respected and are subordinate to, the original building. They, as is the main structure, are of brick, painted white.

The plan of the original portion of the Governor's Mansion is that of a typical center hall with two rooms on either side. The two rooms to the north act as double parlors, being divided by a screen wall with a framed opening 12 feet wide. To the south of the center hall, the front room is designated the living room, with the state dining room to the rear. The second floor essentially repeats the plan of the first, with four large bedrooms separated by the central hall. Originally, there was a separate kitchen to the rear of the property. Behind the original portion are two additions. The smaller wing, directly behind the state dining room, serves as the family dining room, while the larger west wing contains the kitchen and other service areas. On the second floor these additions house the family living quarters. Together the two wings form an ell to the rear of the original house, and are connected by a porch on the first floor, and by a sleeping porch above.

Perhaps the most impressive interior feature is the stairway, which begins its ascent on the north long wall, curves gracefully as it nears the rear wall, and reaches the second floor on the south wall. In all, the stair has 34 risers. Balusters, two to a tread, are rather simple in profile. The handrail parallels the curve of the stair in a single sweep.

Interior trim is boldly scaled, and most effective, serving as a quiet backdrop for the furnishings. Door frames taper to dog-eared flat lintels. Original mantels are equally simple. Those in the state dining room and the living room show paired unfluted pillars on either side of the fireplace opening, supporting an unadorned frieze below a solid, plain, mantel shelf. All of these have had mirrored overmantels added around the turn of the century. The mantels in the double parlors are complete replacements, and have built in framed mirrors on the chimney breasts above.

The grounds of the Governor's Mansion still occupy the entire city block selected in the 1850's. A separate carriage house now a garage, with a mansard roof, occupies the extreme northwestern corner of the block. During the recent term of Governor John Conally, the grounds were relandscaped, with walls, terracing, and gardens added. More recently, the block between the mansion and Congress Avenue, Austin's "Main Street," has been cleared and landscaped, affording a vista that makes the house more than ever a prominent landmark of the capital city.

4

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1854-56

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" 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) |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Texas Governor's Mansion is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. Begun in 1854 and completed in 1856, it has served continuously as the home of the chief executives of the State of Texas since that time. Of Governor's Mansions built as such and still in use, only three are older. Those in Virginia, Mississippi, and Illinois. Of the four, the Texas mansion has best preserved its original appearance and integrity. Predating the neighboring Capitol by approximately 30 years, it has been thereby intimately associated with the history, development, and politics of Texas for more than a century. Among the notable figures who have occupied the structure are Elisha M. Pease,, the first occupant; Sam Houston; and James Stephen Hogg; each of whom served terms as chief executives. In all, 38 Texas Governors and their families have called the mansion "home" during their official tenure.

The building was constructed by Abner Cook, perhaps the most noted mid-19th century master-builder of central Texas, and stands as one of the most representative of his works. It also stands an eloquent witness to the aspirations, taste, and accomplishments of Texans, who had seen their land achieve statehood only 11 years prior to the passage of the bill providing for its construction.

The Governor's Mansion was the first structure to be designated a Texas historic landmark, recorded in 1962. Official dedication ceremonies were held December 7, 1969. The mansion was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on August 25, 1970.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**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	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' " "	° ' " "		30° 16' 22"	97° 44' 34"	
NE	° ' " "	° ' " "				
SE	° ' " "	° ' " "				
SW	° ' " "	° ' " "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.06 acres**

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

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Allen Chambers, Architectural Historian**

ORGANIZATION **Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation,  
National Park Service** DATE **8/14/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1100 L Street NW.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE **D.C.** CODE

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

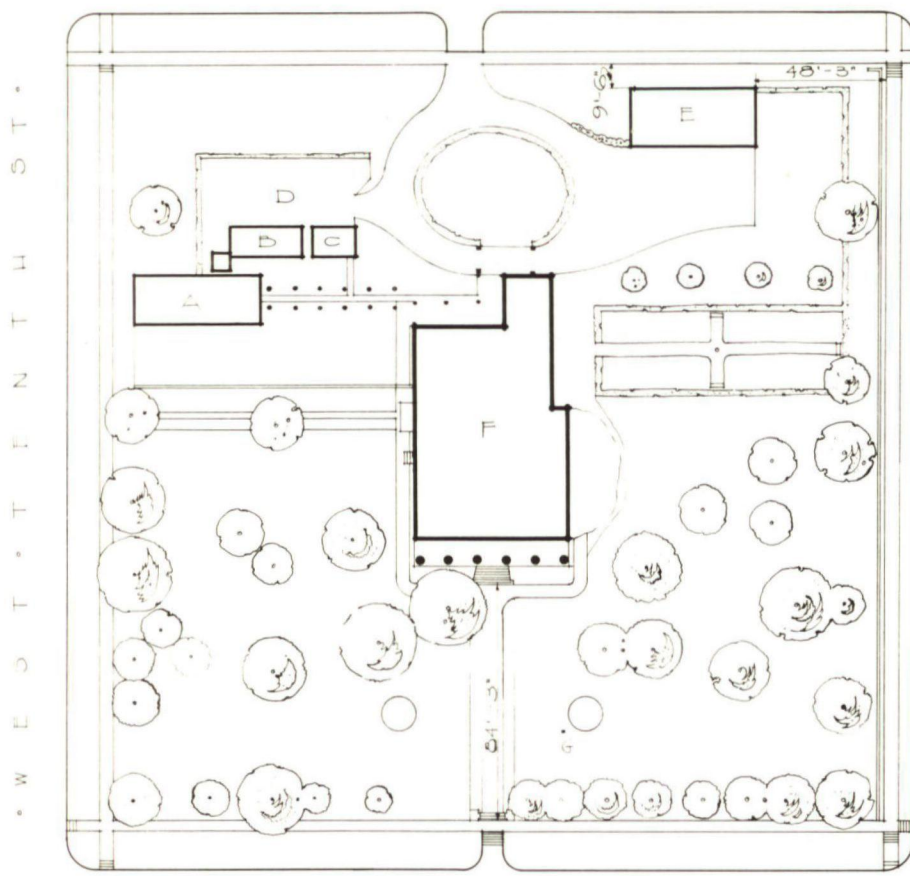
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Keeper of The National Register*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



• L A V A C A • S T R E E T •



• L E G E N D •

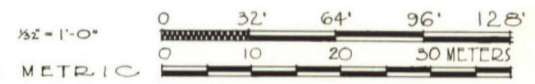
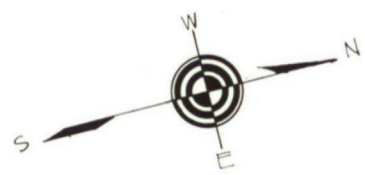
- A. GREENHOUSE
- B. FAWN STABLE
- C. TOOL HOUSE
- D. FAWN YARD
- E. GARAGE
- F. MANSION
- G. FLAG POLE

• W E S T • T E N T H • S T •

• W E S T • E L L E V E N • S T •

• C O L O R A D O • S T R E E T •

• P L O T • P L A N •  
S C A L E 1/32" = 1'-0"



MARK E. ADAMS, DEL.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715  
 UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
**• THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION •**  
 COLORADO, W. 10TH & W. 11TH STS. AUSTIN TRAVIS CTY. TEX.

SURVEY NO.  
**3304**

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 11 OF 11 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
 INDEX NUMBER



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas

NPS HABS Photo 1966



Texas Governor's Mansion Austin

Jack E. Boucher ↓ 1966 Frost  
for MABS

10/1/72

45601M



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas  
( Stair Hall)

NPS HABS Photo 1966

Texas Gov. Mansion

Jack E. Boucher, photo, <sup>for MARS</sup> 1966

Stair Hall

5  
175



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas  
(Dining Room)

NPS HABS Photo 1966

Texas Goddard Memorial Austin

Jack E. Boucher for MARS, 1966

Dining Room

10  
178

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Texas
COUNTY:	Travis
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON:  
The Governor's Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1010 Colorado

CITY OR TOWN:  
Austin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Texas CODE: COUNTY: Travis CODE:

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 type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
The State of Texas

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Austin STATE: Texas CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Travis County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Austin STATE: Texas CODE:

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TITLE OF SURVEY:  
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STREET AND NUMBER:  
The Library of Congress

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
COUNTY:  
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DATE

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

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- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
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## 7. DESCRIPTION

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	(Check One)			(Check One)		
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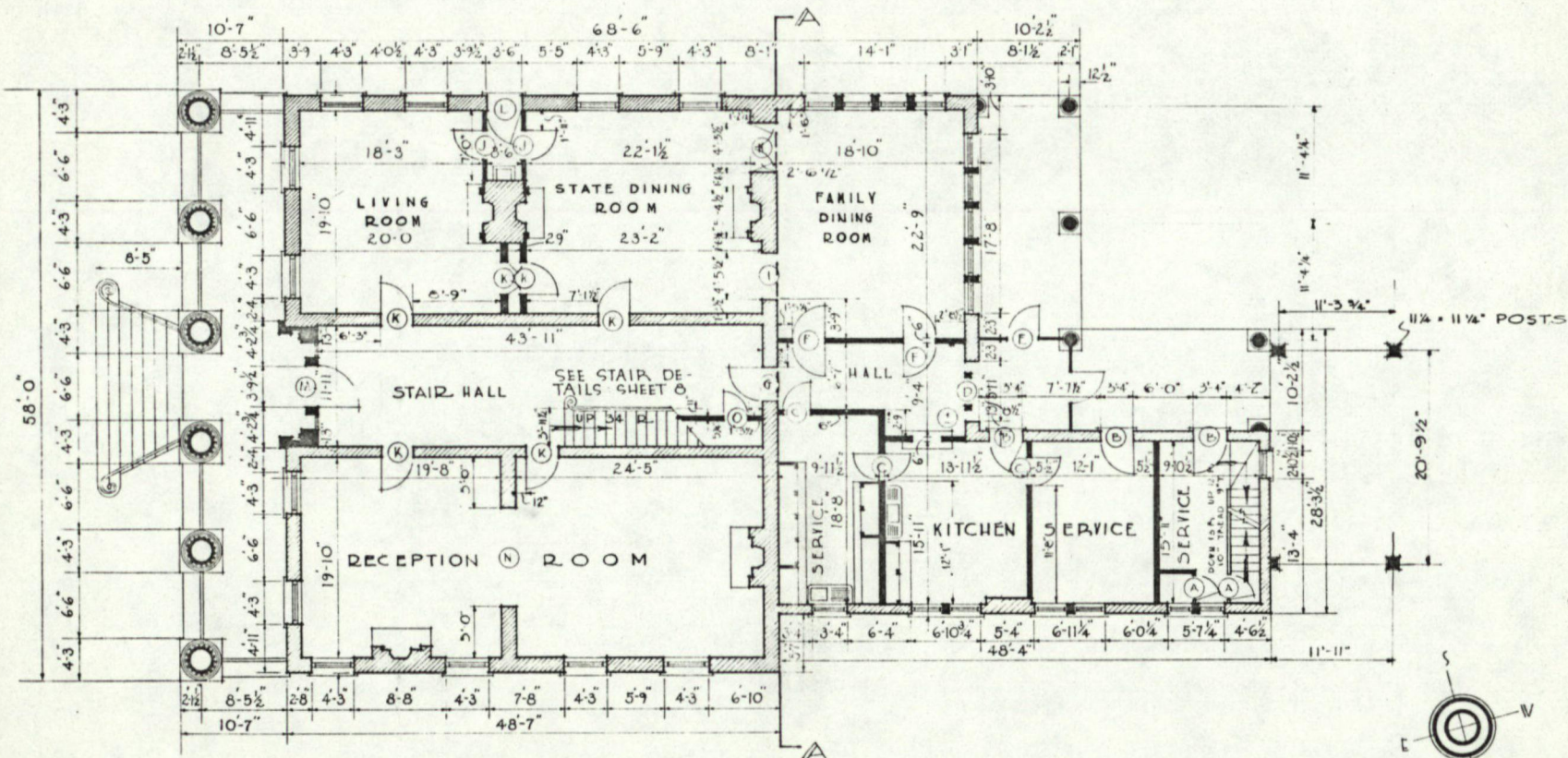
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4

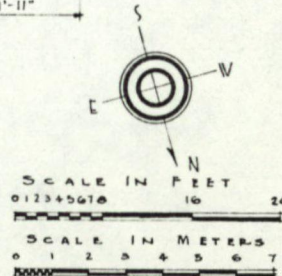
• D O O R • S C H E D U L E •											
DES	D O O R		O P E N I N G		SIZE	DES	D O O R		O P E N I N G		SIZE
1	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
2	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
3	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
4	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
5	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
6	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
7	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
8	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
9	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
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15	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
16	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
17	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
18	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
19	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
20	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
21	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
22	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
23	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
24	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
25	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
26	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
27	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
28	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
29	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
30	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
31	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
32	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
33	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
34	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0
35	6	6	7	7	0	K	0	0	1	1	0

• NOTE •  
 PORTION TO LEFT OF "A-A"  
 IS ORIGINAL ✓ THAT TO THE  
 RIGHT WAS ADDED IN 1914..



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •

• S C A L E - 3/8" = 1'-0" •



DEL. MARK E. ADAMS.  
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO 65-1715

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS  
 BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
**THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION**  
 COLORADO, W. 10<sup>TH</sup> & 11<sup>TH</sup> STREETS  
 AUSTIN, TEX.

SURVEY NO.  
**33-C-4**

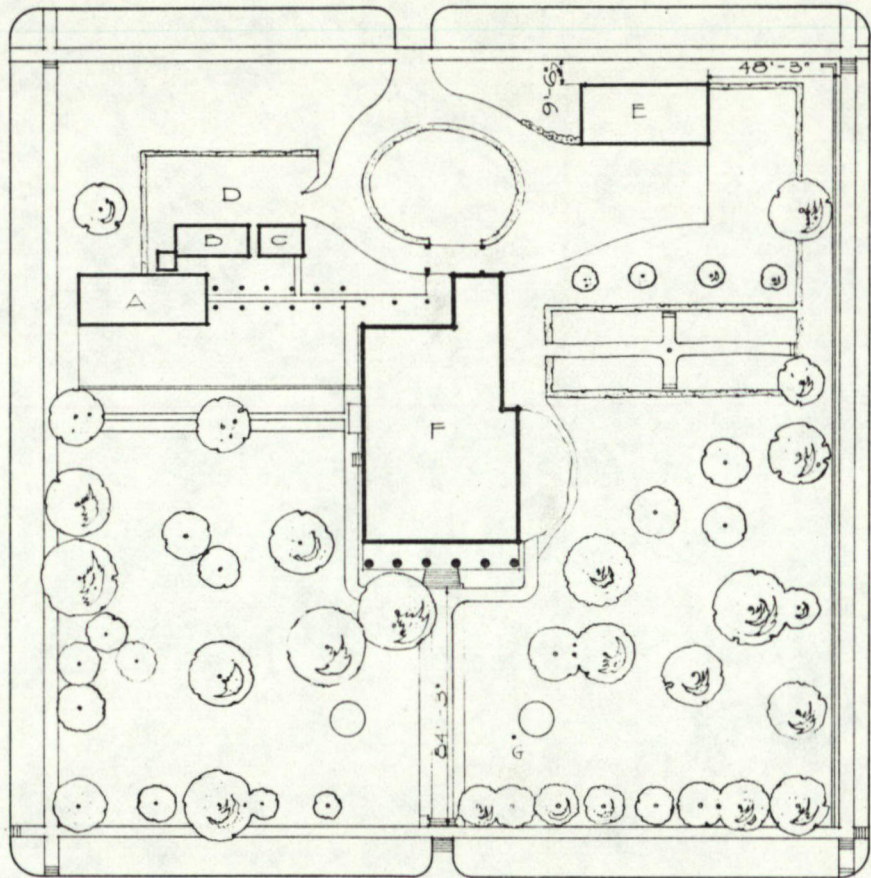
HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 1 OF 11 SHEETS

INDEX NO.

• L A V A C A • S T R E E T •

• W E S T • T E N T H • S T •

• W E S T • E L L E Y • S T •

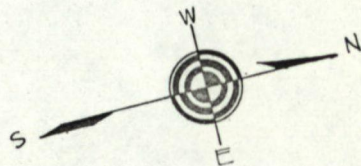


• L E G E N D •

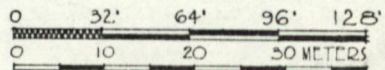
- A. GREENHOUSE
- B. FAWN STABLE
- C. TOOL HOUSE
- D. FAWN YARD
- E. GARAGE
- F. MANSION
- G. FLAG POLE

• C O L O R A D O • S T R E E T •

• P L O T • P L A N •  
S C A L E 1/32" = 1'-0"



1/32" = 1'-0"



M E T R I C

MARK E. ADAMS, DEL.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715  
 UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
**• THE • GOVERNOR'S • MANSION •**  
 COLORADO, W. 10TH & W. 11TH STS. AUSTIN TRAVIS CTY. TEX.

SURVEY NO.  
 3364

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 11 OF 11 SHEETS

LISTED BY CONGRESS  
 IN L.A. NUMBER

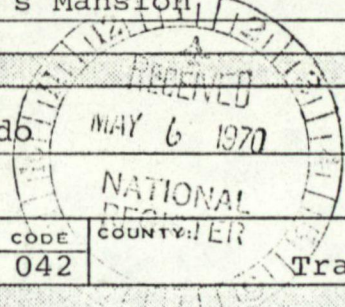
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 7018420016	DATE 8/25

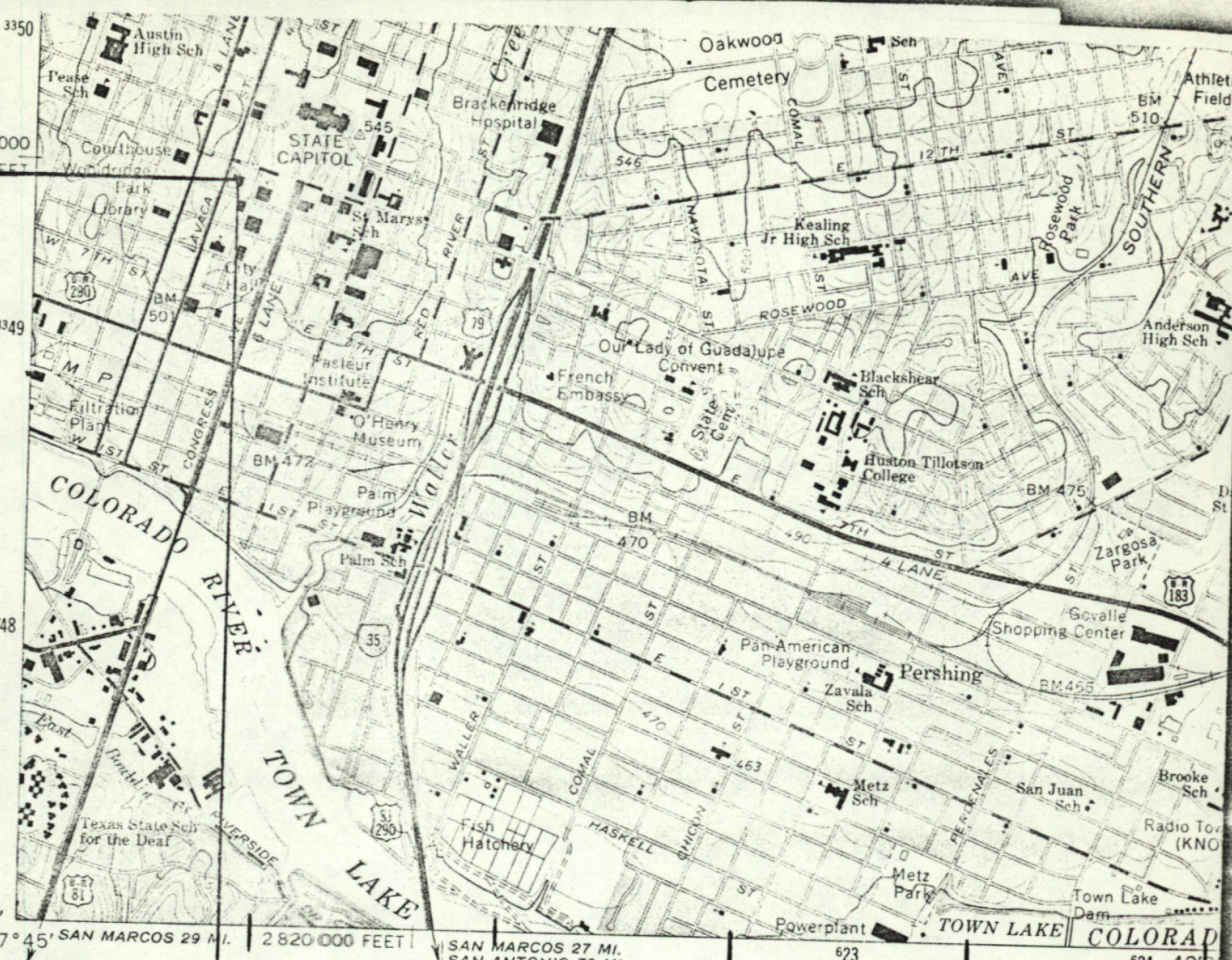
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON:		The Governor's Mansion	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
		1010 Colorado	
CITY OR TOWN:			
		Austin	
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
Texas		042	Travis
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
United States Department of Interior Geological Survey			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1952-54			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.		Texas Map Reference #3097-242	
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



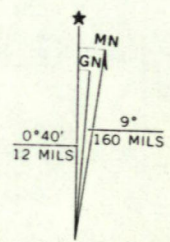
6A

TEXAS STATE GOVERNOR'S MANSION  
 1010 COLORADO; AUSTIN TEXAS



30° 15' 97° 45' SAN MARCOS 29 MI. | 2 820 000 FEET | SAN MARCOS 27 MI. SAN ANTONIO 76 MI.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS and USC&GS  
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, central zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue  
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

FEB 23 1970

68



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas

NPS HABS Photo 1966



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas  
( Stair Hall)

NPS HABS Photo 1966



Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas  
(Dining Room)

NPS HABS Photo 1966



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

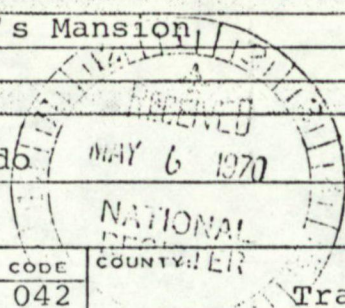
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

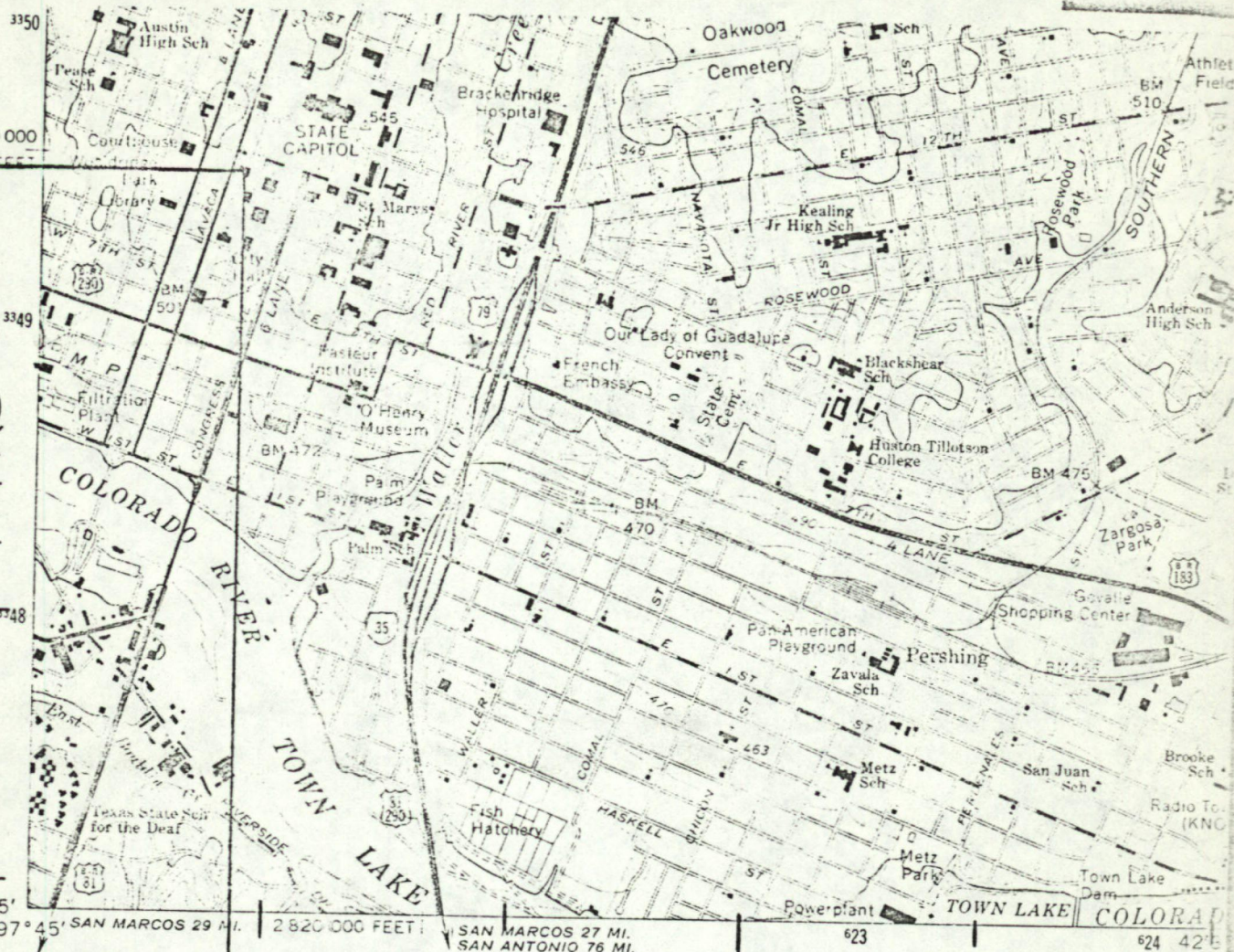
STATE		TEXAS
COUNTY		Travis
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
108-42,000	5/3-	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		The Governor's Mansion	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
		1010 Colorado	
CITY OR TOWN:			
		Austin	
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY: IER
Texas		042	Travis
			CODE
			453
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
United States Department of Interior Geological Survey			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1952-54			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.		Texas Map Reference #3097-242	
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



TEXAS STATE GOVERNOR'S  
 MANSION  
 1010 COLORADO AUSTIN TEXAS



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

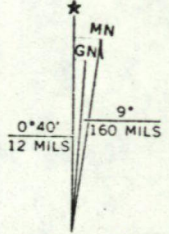
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, central zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

FEB 23 1970

97° 44'

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		30° 16' 22"	97° 44' 34"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.06 acres

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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Allen Chambers, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation,  
National Park Service

DATE  
8/14/74

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1100 L Street NW.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE  
D.C.

CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: **Texas**  
 COUNTY: **Travis**  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 ENTRY DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**The Governor's Mansion**  
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1010 Colorado**  
 CITY OR TOWN:  
**Austin**  
 STATE: **Texas**      CODE:      COUNTY: **Travis**      CODE:

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" 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:  
**The State of Texas**  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
 CITY OR TOWN: **Austin**      STATE: **Texas**      CODE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Travis County Courthouse**  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
 CITY OR TOWN: **Austin**      STATE: **Texas**      CODE:

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey**  
 DATE OF SURVEY: **1936, 1966**       Federal       State       County       Local  
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Division of Prints and Photographs**  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
**The Library of Congress**  
 CITY OR TOWN: **Washington**      STATE: **D.C.**      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

①

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

On February 11, 1854, the Texas State Legislature appropriated \$17,000 for the erection and furnishing of a suitable residence for its chief executive. Elisha M. Pease, then Governor, selected the site--an entire city block on a knoll to the southwest of the State Capitol grounds in Austin. A commission composed of Pease and two other State officials selected Richard Payne, an Austin contractor, to draw the plans. Bids were then taken, and Abner Cook, another master-builder, was awarded the contract. The original plans have apparently not survived, and it is unknown to what extent they were followed. As built, the mansion incorporates many design features known from other Austin buildings to be stylistically characteristic of Cook's work, and his is the name generally associated with the Governor's Mansion. Born in North Carolina in 1819, Cook came to Texas in 1839, settling in Austin in the fall of that year. By 1890 he was owner of a sawmill in Bashop, and in that year constructed a church for the Presbyterians in Austin. He remained in Austin until his death in 1889, and during this time was responsible for many if not the majority, of the city's most important buildings. Of his surviving works, The Governor's Mansion is perhaps the most impressive and most representative of his style.

The building was completed in 1856, and Governor Pease moved in on June 15 of that year. It has been continually occupied by the successive Governors of Texas and their families from that time on.

The dominant exterior feature of the mansion is the monumental hexastyle Ionic portico. Fluted columns support a full, proper Ionic entablature. The architecture has a paneled soffit. The absence of a pediment for the portico is said to be a regional characteristic, and is characteristic of Cook's work. The entablature conceals a low-pitched metal roof.

The full width second story gallery of the portico has a graceful and delicate wood balustrade made up of slender bundled slats forming an open diamond pattern. This, too, is a feature found often in buildings by Cook. The first floor balustrade and stair railings are a harmonizing modern addition.

Yet another typical detail of Abner Cook's Greek revival buildings is seen in the sidelights and transom of the front door. Here an unusually tall transom is intersected by the pilasters of the door jambs, and is capped by a high entablature. The second story door is much simpler, consisting only of the door and transom recessed in an unframed opening. The second story windows opening onto the gallery have six over nine sash and are floor length. First floor front windows are six over twelve sash.

The full entablature of the portico extends all around the building, and has been copied in the later new additions. Side elevations are simple and unadorned except for the entablature.

3

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1854-56

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" 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) |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Texas Governor's Mansion is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. Begun in 1854 and completed in 1856, it has served continuously as the home of the chief executives of the State of Texas since that time. Of Governor's Mansions built as such and still in use, only three are older. Those in Virginia, Mississippi, and Illinois. Of the four, the Texas mansion has best preserved its original appearance and integrity. Predating the neighboring Capitol by approximately 30 years, it has been thereby intimately associated with the history, development, and politics of Texas for more than a century. Among the notable figures who have occupied the structure are Elisha M. Pease,, the first occupant; Sam Houston; and James Stephen Hogg; each of whom served terms as chief executives. In all, 38 Texas Governors and their families have called the mansion "home" during their official tenure.

The building was constructed by Abner Cook, perhaps the most noted mid-19th century master-builder of central Texas, and stands as one of the most representative of his works. It also stands an eloquent witness to the aspirations, taste, and accomplishments of Texans, who had seen their land achieve statehood only 11 years prior to the passage of the bill providing for its construction.

The Governor's Mansion was the first structure to be designated a Texas historic landmark, recorded in 1962. Official dedication ceremonies were held December 7, 1969. The mansion was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on August 25, 1970.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**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	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "	30 ° 16 ' 22 "	97 ° 44 ' 34 "		
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.06 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Allen Chambers, Architectural Historian**

ORGANIZATION **Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation,  
National Park Service**      DATE **8/14/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1100 M Street NW.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington**      STATE **D.C.**      CODE

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/>      State <input type="checkbox"/>      Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Title _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date _____ <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">7</span></p>
--	--

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

COUNTY	
Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

The Governor's Mansion (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued page 1

At several periods rear additions have been made to the structure. Consisting today of family dining room, service rooms, porch, and porte-cochere, these additions have consistently respected and are subordinate to, the original building. They, as is the main structure, are of brick, painted white.

The plan of the original portion of the Governor's Mansion is that of a typical center hall with two rooms on either side. The two rooms to the north act as double parlors, being divided by a screen wall with a framed opening 12 feet wide. To the south of the center hall, the front room is designated the living room, with the state dining room to the rear. The second floor essentially repeats the plan of the first, with four large bedrooms separated by the central hall. Originally, there was a separate kitchen to the rear of the property. Behind the original portion are two additions. The smaller wing, directly behind the state dining room, serves as the family dining room, while the larger west wing contains the kitchen and other service areas. On the second floor these additions house the family living quarters. Together the two wings form an ell to the rear of the original house, and are connected by a porch on the first floor, and by a sleeping porch above.

Perhaps the most impressive interior feature is the stairway, which begins its ascent on the north long wall, curves gracefully as it nears the rear wall, and reaches the second floor on the south wall. In all, the stair has 34 risers. Balusters, two to a tread, are rather simple in profile. The handrail parallels the curve of the stair in a single sweep.

Interior trim is boldly scaled, and most effective, serving as a quiet back drop for the furnishings. Door frames taper to dog-eared flat lintels. Original mantels are equally simple. Those in the state dining room and the living room show paired unfluted pillars on either side of the fireplace opening, supporting an unadorned frieze below a solid, plain, mantel shelf. All of these have had mirrored overmantels added around the turn of the century. The mantels in the double parlors are complete replacements, and have built in framed mirrors on the chimney breasts above.

The grounds of the Governor's Mansion still occupy the entire city block selected in the 1850's. A separate carriage house now a garage, with a mansard roof, occupies the extreme northwestern corner of the block. During the recent term of Governor John Conally, the grounds were relandscaped, with walls, terracing, and gardens added. More recently, the block between the mansion and Congress Avenue, Austin's "Main Street," has been cleared and landscaped, affording a vista that makes the house more than ever a prominent landmark of the capital city.

④



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

The Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado, Austin, Texas

The Texas Governor's Mansion is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. Begun in 1854 and completed in 1856, it has served continuously as the home of the chief executives of the State of Texas since that time. Of Governor's Mansions built as such and still in use, only three are older. Those in Virginia, Mississippi, and Illinois. Of the four, the Texas mansion has best preserved its original appearance and integrity. Predating the neighboring Capitol by approximately 30 years, it has been thereby intimately associated with the history, development, and politics of Texas for more than a century. The dominant exterior feature of the mansion is the monumental hexastyle Ionic portico. Fluted columns support a full, proper Ionic entablature. The architecture has a paneled soffit. The absence of a pediment for the portico is said to be a regional characteristic, and is characteristic of Cook's work. The entablature conceals a low-pitched metal roof. The full width second story gallery of the portico has a graceful and delicate wood balustrade made up of slender bundled slats forming an open diamond pattern. This, too, is a feature found often in buildings by Cook. The first floor balustrade and stair railings are a harmonizing modern addition. The full entablature of the portico extends all around the building, and has been copied in the later new additions. Side elevations are simple and unadorned except for the entablature. Perhaps the most impressive interior feature is the stairway, which begins its ascent on the north long wall, curves gracefully as it nears the rear wall, and reaches the second floor on the south wall. In all, the stair has 34 risers. Balusters, two to a tread, are rather simple in profile. The handrail parallels the curve of the stair in a single sweep. Interior trim is boldly scaled, and most effective, serving as a quiet back drop for the furnishings. The grounds of the Governor's Mansion still occupy the entire city block selected in the 1850's. A separate carriage house now a garage, with a mansard roof, occupies the extreme northwestern corner of the block. During the recent term of Governor John Conally, the grounds were relandscaped, with walls, terracing, and gardens added. More recently, the block between the mansion and Congress Avenue, Austin's "Main Street," has been cleared and landscaped, affording a vista that makes the house more than ever a prominent landmark of the capital city.

The building was constructed by Abner Cook, perhaps the most noted mid-19th century master-builder of central Texas, and stands as one of the most representative of his works. It also stands an eloquent witness to

the aspirations, taste, and accomplishments of Texans, who had seen their land achieve statehood only 11 years prior to the passage of the bill providing for its construction. Among the notable figures who have occupied the structure are Elisha M. Pease, the first occupant; Sam Houston; and James Stephen Hogg; each of whom served terms as chief executives. In all, 38 Texas Governors and their families have called the mansion "home" during their official tenure.

At several periods rear additions have been made to the structure. These serve today as a family dining room, service rooms, and portecochere. These additions have consistently respected and are subordinate to the original building. They, as is the main structure, are of brick, painted white. The mansion still serves as the official residence of the Governor of Texas and is open to the public on a restricted basis.

\* \* \* \* \*

NSHSB: 9/20/74  
A C



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

APR 12 1974

Memorandum

To: Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

From: Associate Director, Professional Services

Subject: Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas

When I was in San Antonio recently, to address the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the San Antonio Conservation Society, I discovered that there is a strong sentiment in Texas to have the Governor's Mansion in Austin declared eligible for registration as a National Historic Landmark. Truett Latimer, State Historic Preservation Officer, spoke to me about it. So did Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, who was a guest at the banquet. From these conversations I have the impression that Mrs. Johnson, who will be in Washington for the meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Board on April 22-23, may inquire when we intend to study the building; also Secretary Morton may receive a letter from Governor Briscoe expressing his interest and asking the same. Therefore, I also ask: according to our study program, when will it come up?

The integrity of the building, I understand, is still good, although there has been some thought of attempting to enlarge it. According to the best information I have, the Governor's Mansion was erected in 1854-56; Richard Payne, architect; Abner Hugh Cook, contractor. It was designed and built to be the Governor's Mansion and has been continuously occupied by the Governors of Texas since June 1856.

*Ernest Allen Connally*  
Ernest Allen Connally



*Entered  
Commitment Book  
5/1/74*



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

APR 17 1974

Memorandum

*ENC 4-18*

To: Associate Director, Professional Services

From: <sup>APR 19 REC'D</sup> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Subject: Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas

We appreciate very much receiving your memorandum of April 12 concerning the Governor's Mansion in Austin and the existence of a strong sentiment in Texas to see this structure declared eligible for registration as a national historic landmark. As you indicate, it is quite possible that Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson may inquire as to when we intend to study the building, and further that Secretary Morton may receive a letter from Governor Briscoe concerning the Governor's Mansion. I have discussed this matter with associates in the landmarks program and find the following:

It appears that the building is a rather good example of the 19th-century Greek Revival period. From what we can learn, it possesses integrity and it is important to note that there seems to be no threat to its integrity at this time. In terms of our planned schedule under thematic studies of architecture, it is presently scheduled to be studied within the next two years.

In view of the fact that the building is under no threat it would seem appropriate that it be taken up for study in due course with other structures which fall under the same theme, thereby avoiding the necessity of a special study. However, we fully realize that we shall need to be alert to the interests in this structure on the part of high ranking citizens and officials in the State of Texas.

*yes*

*A. R. Mortensen*



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

The Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado, Austin, Texas

The Texas Governor's Mansion is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. Begun in 1854 and completed in 1856, it has served continuously as the home of the chief executives of the State of Texas since that time. Of Governor's Mansions built as such and still in use, only three are older. Those in Virginia, Mississippi, and Illinois. Of the four, the Texas mansion has best preserved its original appearance and integrity. Predating the neighboring Capitol by approximately 30 years, it has been thereby intimately associated with the history, development, and politics of Texas for more than a century. The dominant exterior feature of the mansion is the monumental hexastyle Ionic portico. Fluted columns support a full, proper Ionic entablature. The architecture has a paneled soffit. The absence of a pediment for the portico is said to be a regional characteristic, and is characteristic of Cook's work. The entablature conceals a low-pitched metal roof. The full width second story gallery of the portico has a graceful and delicate wood balustrade made up of slender bundled slats forming an open diamond pattern. This, too, is a feature found often in buildings by Cook. The first floor balustrade and stair railings are a harmonizing modern addition. The full entablature of the portico extends all around the building, and has been copied in the later new additions. Side elevations are simple and unadorned except for the entablature. Perhaps the most impressive interior feature is the stairway, which begins its ascent on the north long wall, curves gracefully as it nears the rear wall, and reaches the second floor on the south wall. In all, the stair has 34 risers. Balusters, two to a tread, are rather simple in profile. The handrail parallels the curve of the stair in a single sweep. Interior trim is boldly scaled, and most effective, serving as a quiet back drop for the furnishings. The grounds of the Governor's Mansion still occupy the entire city block selected in the 1850's. A separate carriage house now a garage, with a mansard roof, occupies the extreme northwestern corner of the block. During the recent term of Governor John Conally, the grounds were relandscaped, with walls, terracing, and gardens added. More recently, the block between the mansion and Congress Avenue, Austin's "Main Street," has been cleared and landscaped, affording a vista that makes the house more than ever a prominent landmark of the capital city.

The building was constructed by Abner Cook, perhaps the most noted mid-19th century master-builder of central Texas, and stands as one of the most representative of his works. It also stands an eloquent witness to

the aspirations, taste, and accomplishments of Texans, who had seen their land achieve statehood only 11 years prior to the passage of the bill providing for its construction. Among the notable figures who have occupied the structure are Elisha M. Pease, the first occupant; Sam Houston; and James Stephen Hogg; each of whom served terms as chief executives. In all, 38 Texas Governors and their families have called the mansion "home" during their official tenure.

At several periods rear additions have been made to the structure. These serve today as a family dining room, service rooms, and portecochere. These additions have consistently respected and are subordinate to the original building. They, as is the main structure, are of brick, painted white. The mansion still serves as the official residence of the Governor of Texas and is open to the public on a restricted basis.

\* \* \* \* \*

NSHSB: 9/20/74  
A C



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AUSTIN

DOLPH BRISCOE  
GOVERNOR

June 10, 1974

The Honorable Rogers Morton  
Secretary of the Interior  
United States Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the State of Texas I would like to request that the 1856 Governor's Mansion located at 1010 Colorado Street, Austin, Texas, be considered at your earliest opportunity as a possible National Historic Landmark.

Few structures in the American Southwest have been so intimately connected with the history, development, and politics of a state as this executive mansion has been. The two-story, brick, Greek Revival residence, which has an Ionic colonade across the east facade, was constructed by the Texas master builder Abner Cook and has served as the residence of every Governor of Texas since 1856.

Among notable figures who have occupied the structure are Elisha M. Pease, the first occupant; Sam Houston; and James Stephen Hogg; each of whom served terms as chief executives.

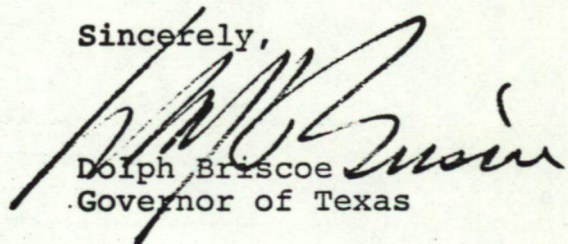
The mansion was entered on the National Register of Historic Places August 25, 1970, and was designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1969. The structure occupies a full block of land on a prominent hillock located southwest of the State Capitol, therefore, making it a paramount landmark in the Texas capital city. I understand it is one of four Governor's Mansions in the nation that is still being used for its

The Honorable Rogers Morton  
Page 2

original purpose and of the four the only one to have retained its original architectural integrity.

Because this historic structure has played such a significant role in the events which have shaped the history of Texas and, subsequently, the history of the United States, I very strongly feel that the Governor's Mansion should be recognized as one of the National Historic Landmarks of this nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dolph Briscoe', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas

DB/gt





United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON D.C 20240

FILE COF  
Surname


June 12, 1974

Dear Governor Briscoe:

Secretary Morton has asked me to thank you for your letter of June 10, 1974, recommending consideration of the Governor's Mansion as a possible National Historic Landmark.

Your letter has been brought to the attention of the appropriate Departmental officials, and you will be provided with a reply as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Raphaelle Semmes  
Staff Secretary

The Honorable Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of the State of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

bcc: Official File (Copy to remain with incoming until final reply is made.)

H. J. Sheely 6/26/74  
Heine

JUN 27 1974

H3415-PS

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Southwest Region  
From: Chief, Division of Historic and Architectural Surveys  
Subject: Historic Sites Survey Field Trip in Southwest Region

Architect Samuel A. Chambers is on his way to visit the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Texas. The lateness of our notification results from the fact that this is an unplanned special study being made in response to a commitment just given to Governor Dolph Briscoe by Secretary Morton.

(Signed)

Cornelius W. Heine

FNP:HJ Sheely:mc 6/25/74

bcc: D-Director's Reading File  
DI  
PS(HSS)-Mr. Sheely  
PS(HABS)-Mr. Chambers

HP - Texas - Governor's Mansion

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS(HSS)

*Green*

In Reply Refer To:  
H3415-PS  
SS-18292

JUL 1 1974

Dear Governor Briscoe:

Thank you for your letter of June 10 bringing to our attention the Texas Governor's Mansion as a potential national historic landmark. Unique in its integrity and continuity of use as a Governor's Mansion, it unquestionably deserves consideration.

The designation of national historic landmarks ordinarily requires preliminary staff studies within specific historic themes. Thus, individual sites and structures can be evaluated for national significance within a framework providing valid comparisons. The architectural theme appropriate to the Governor's Mansion in Austin is scheduled for late 1975. However, because of the integrity and high potential for national historic landmark status, I have asked the National Park Service to undertake immediately a special study of the Governor's Mansion. An architect working for the National Historic Sites Survey will carry out this work.

We appreciate very much your personal interest in historic preservation and also your support for the preservation programs of the Department.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgn) John C. Whitaker

Acting Secretary of the Interior

Honorable Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

cc:  
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director, Texas State  
Historical Survey Committee  
Post Office Box 12276  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711 ) w/c of inc.

D-Reading File

DI / P / PH

PS(HSS)-Mr. Sheely )

PS(HSS)-Dr. Goeldner )

LS-Mr. Whitlock )

FNP: PGoeldner: HJSheely: crb: 6-26-7

Secretary's Reading File (2)  
FW / S / S(Hoffman) / US(Lyons)  
Regional Director-Southwest ) w/c of inc.

Commitment

*Green*

BASIC RETAINED IN PS (HSS) - HP-Texas-Texas Governor's Mansion

Beakton 6/26  
Goeldner  
HJ Sheely  
Heine  
Wilson  
Wood 6/26  
Whitaker 6/26  
Dickerson 6-26

In Reply Refer To:  
H3415-PS  
SS-18292

7/1/74

Dear Governor Briscoe:

Thank you for your letter of June 10 bringing to our attention the Texas Governor's Mansion as a potential national historic landmark. Unique in its integrity and continuity of use as a Governor's Mansion, it unquestionably deserves consideration.

The designation of national historic landmarks ordinarily requires preliminary staff studies within specific historic themes. Thus, individual sites and structures can be evaluated for national significance within a framework providing valid comparisons. The architectural theme appropriate to the Governor's Mansion in Austin is scheduled for late 1975. However, because of the integrity and high potential for national historic landmark status, I have asked the National Park Service to undertake immediately a special study of the Governor's Mansion. An architect working for the National Historic Sites Survey will carry out this work.

We appreciate very much your personal interest in historic preservation and also your support for the preservation programs of the Department.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd)

John C. Whitaker

acting

Secretary of the Interior

red to  
FW  
TW  
6/27  
10A

Honorable Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

cc:  
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director, Texas State  
Historical Survey Committee  
Post Office Box 12276  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711 ) w/c of inc.

D-Reading File  
DI / P / PH  
PS(HSS)-Mr. Sheely )  
PS(HSS)-Dr. Goeldner )  
LS-Mr. Whitlock )  
FNP:PGoeldner:HJSheely:crb:6-26-74

Secretary's Reading File (2)  
FW / S / S(Hoffman) / US(Lyons)  
Regional Director-Southwest ) w/c of inc.

(Commitment)



Green

H. J. Sheely 1/13/75

# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JAN 15 1975

The Secretary of the Interior

Rogers C. B. Morton

is pleased to inform you that the historic properties in your State described in the enclosed brief summaries have been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States. On the recommendation of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments these properties have been declared eligible to be national historic landmarks. We hope this action will be of interest to you and your constituents.

Also enclosed, please find leaflets explaining in detail the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service. You will note that recognition as a national historic landmark automatically places a property on the National Register of Historic Places and extends to it the safeguards provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Further, the owner of each property is eligible to receive, upon request, a certificate and plaque officially designating it as a national landmark. The Director of the National Park Service will shortly notify the owners about these benefits and provide them with the appropriate application forms.

The owners of these properties are to be commended for preserving these significant examples of our Nation's cultural heritage for the education and enjoyment of all our citizens.

## Enclosures

Hon. John Tower  
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Hon. J. J. Pickle  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION, TEXAS

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS(HSS)

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 1/10/75  
bcc: Regional Director, Southwest Region  
PS(HSS)-Sheely

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
For Release February 23, 1975

J.Carroll (202) 343-7394

## SECRETARY MORTON DESIGNATES 20 SITES FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK STATUS

Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton has designated 20 additional sites in 15 States for designation as national historic landmarks.

Among the present selections, eight are associated with prominent black Americans and institutions in the history of American education, five with signers of the U.S. Constitution, and five with 19th-Century architecture. The final two sites were selected as a result of special studies.

The sites were recommended to the Secretary by his Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments.

Addition of these 20 sites brings to 1,198 the number of national historic landmarks in the National Register of Historic Places. The Register is maintained by Interior's National Park Service.

The landmarks continue in their present ownership, whether public or private.

Detailed information about the sites may be obtained by writing to the Historic and Architectural Surveys Division, National Park Service, 1100 L Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20240.

Below are the sites chosen, listed by category:

### SIGNERS OF THE CONSTITUTION

#### Delaware

Jacob Broom House, Wilmington  
Lombardy Hall, Wilmington

#### New Hampshire

Governor John Langdon Mansion, Portsmouth  
Ladd-Gilman House, Exeter

#### New York

King Manor, New York

### BLACK AMERICANS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN EDUCATION

#### Alabama

Swayne Hall, Talladega

(over)

Mary McLeod Bethune Home, Florida  
Daytona Beach

Stone Hall, Atlanta Georgia

Lincoln Hall, Berea Kentucky

James H. Dillard House, New Louisiana  
Orleans

Penn School, Frogmore South Carolina

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Jubilee Hall, Nashville Tennessee

Virginia Randolph Cottage, Virginia  
Glen Allen

19TH-CENTURY ARCHITECTURE

Oak Alley Plantation, Vacherie Louisiana  
United States Custom House, New Orleans

Dunleith, Natchez Mississippi

Cincinnati Music Hall, Cincinnati Ohio

The Governor's Mansion, Austin Texas

SPECIAL STUDY

Snow's Island, Johnsonville South Carolina  
vicinity

Zuni-Cibola Complex, Hawikuh New Mexico

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-NPS-

14. J. Sheely 2/21/75

Green



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FEB 24 1975

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service

Gary Everhardt

is pleased to inform you that the historic property described briefly in the enclosure, has been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States, and is thus eligible for designation as a national historic landmark.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Eligible landmarks are chosen through studies prepared by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings; evaluated by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments; and approved by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935.

As explained in the enclosed leaflet, recognition and designation of landmark sites are accorded by certificates and bronze plaques, which are provided free of charge to the owners or administrators of these properties upon their application and agreement to adhere to simple preservation practices. If you wish to apply for the certificate and plaque, copies of the application form are enclosed. The form should be completed in triplicate and two copies returned to the National Park Service. You may retain the third copy for your records.

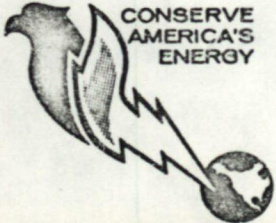
Designation as a national historic landmark automatically places the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, entry on the National Register provides each landmark with safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings and fulfills one qualification for participation in a grant-in-aid program to assist in its preservation. Further information about these provisions of the law is contained in a leaflet describing the National Register that is also enclosed.

We will be pleased to include this property among the sites already recognized as national historic landmarks.

Honorable Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

GOVERNOR'S MANSION, TEXAS

FNP:HJ Sheely:kr 2/21/75  
bcc: Regional Director, Southwest Region  
PS-Sheely



Save Energy and *Green* You Serve America!





STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AUSTIN

DOLPH BRISCOE  
GOVERNOR

March 10, 1975

Mr. Gary Everhardt  
Director  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Everhardt:

I am delighted that the Governor's Mansion in Austin is eligible for designation as a National Historic Landmark.

We would like to apply for the certificate and plaque and are enclosing herewith completed application forms in duplicate.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dolph Briscoe".

Dolph Briscoe  
Governor

DB/gt

March 10, 1975

(Date)

Mr. Gary Everhardt  
Director  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Everhardt:

As the (owner, owners) of Governor's Mansion  
(Name of site)

located in Austin Travis Texas  
(City) (County) (State)

(I,we) hereby make formal application for a certificate (X) and a bronze plaque, 17" x 18" (X), designating this historic property a national historic landmark. (Check one or both as desired.)

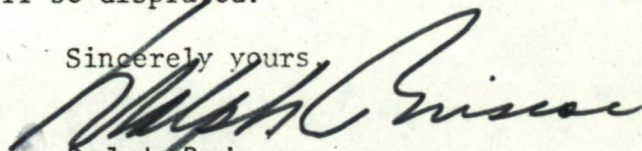
1. Fully conscious of the high responsibility to the Nation that goes with the ownership and care of a property classified as having national significance and worthy of national historic landmark status, (I,we) agree to preserve, so far as practicable and to the best of (my,our) ability, the historical integrity of this important part of the national cultural heritage.

2. Toward this end, (I,we) agree to continue to use the property only for purposes consistent with its historical character.

3. (I,we) agree to permit an annual visit to the property by a representative of the National Park Service, as a basis for continuing landmark status.

4. If, for any reason, the three conditions mentioned above cannot continue to be met, it is agreed that the national historic landmark status shall cease and that until such status is restored by the Secretary of the Interior, neither the national historic landmark certificate nor the plaque will be displayed.

Sincerely yours,



Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas

H. J. Sheely 4/8/74  
c Heine  
4-10-75  
Westlesen  
4/10/75

APR 11 1975

H3417-PS

Honorable Dolph Briscoe  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Briscoe:

Thank you for returning the application for the certificate and plaque that will designate the Governor's Mansion, Austin, Texas, as a national historic landmark. We are proceeding with the preparation of the certificate and plaque.

The personal concern that you and your predecessors have shown in preserving this important landmark and enhancing its setting enriches the historic heritage of the Nation. We appreciate your interest in having the Governor's Mansion recognized as a national historic landmark.

Our Southwest Regional Office administers the National Historic Landmarks Program in Texas. The Regional Director will inform you when the certificate and plaque for the Governor's Mansion have been completed. Should you wish the help of the Service in arranging ceremonies for the presentation, he will be glad to assist you. His name and address is: Mr. Joseph C. Rumburg, Jr., Regional Director, Southwest Regional Office, National Park Service, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

We are pleased to know that you plan to accept designation as a national historic landmark for the Governor's Mansion.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director,  
Professional Services

Enclosure

FNP:HJ Sheely:KP Ross:kr 4/8/75  
bcc: Regional Director, Southwest Region w/c inc. application form  
Director's Reading File P- Connally  
DI PH-Mortensen  
PS-Heine

PS-Sheely w/c inc. application form  
HP - Texas - Governor's Mansion  
BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS (HSS)



*The Governor's Mansion*  
*Austin, Texas*

April 21, 1975

Dear Mr. Connally,

Dolph and I are delighted to learn that this lovely old Mansion has been designated as a national historic landmark and will receive a certificate and plaque as soon as these are completed.

This has been of great interest to both of us, and we are delighted that it was granted during Dolph's tenure of office. We appreciate your thoughtfulness in suggesting that we write Mr. Joseph C. Rumburg, who will assist us in arranging ceremonies for the presentation.

Thank you for your kind assistance.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Dolph Briscoe*

Mrs. Dolph Briscoe

Mr. Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Washington, D. C. 20240

H3417-PS

H3417-PSH

MAY 2

REC'D

APR 29 1975

RECEIVED  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
MAY 1 12 28 PM '75

Mrs. Dolph Briscoe  
The Governor's Mansion  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mrs. Briscoe:

Your letter of April 21 is gratefully received.

To answer your inquiry about customary ceremonies for the official placement of plaques and presentation of certificates for National Historic Landmarks, these range from very small intimate occasions to large celebrations. This is explained by the variety of sites which become National Historic Landmarks.

Therefore, we should like to suggest that you and Governor Briscoe consider this ceremony in light of your preferences and advise us of the concept that would be most appropriate. We will be happy to arrange for an official representative of the National Park Service to be present and/or participate, if that is your wish. Ordinarily it takes from eight to twelve weeks to obtain the bronze plaque, so I would suggest you bear this in mind as you consider your plans.

Please let us hear from you again after you have determined your preferences for this important ceremony.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

(SCD) JOSEPH C. RUMBURG, JR.  
Regional Director  
Southwest Region

cc: Associate Director, Professional Services, WASO

(C)



Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

Dr. Connally

PH  
MAY 20 REC'D

Reply  
pls prepare  
reply for  
my sig.  
EAC  
5-19

May 14, 1975

Dr. Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director  
Professional Services  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ernest:

ok  
etc

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have just received from Mrs. Dolph Briscoe concerning the possibility of a ceremony officially designating the Texas Governor's Mansion as a National Historic Landmark. First of all, I would like to invite you to be present and represent the Department of the Interior at this ceremony. Secondly, I would like to have your advice and consultation on the program format that is normally used in such ceremonies.

Both Governor and Mrs. Briscoe are extremely interested in this project, and would appreciate so much your attendance and participation. I realize that this is an open invitation, but first of all tell me if you can come, and secondly what dates you could come, and then we will work with the Governor's schedule accordingly.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer (eg)  
Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

cc: Mrs. Dolph Briscoe

TL:eg  
enclosure

No time -  
EAC, I'd be happy to go & present plaque & certificate depending on time selected (which should be after plaque is cast & delivered). Should be arranged to accommodate Governor's personal participation. Perhaps some suitable anniversary is coming (eg when manor was 1st occupied). Ceremony at Wash. - see University a good model. Perhaps speech by Joe Grantz (Council member of Ado Bd), Latimer MC, presentation by me. Keep square informed. EAC

send copy



*The Governor's Mansion  
Austin, Texas*

May 7, 1975

Dear Truett,

We are delighted that we have finally been awarded a National Historical Landmark.

I would appreciate your helpful suggestions on what we should do now. Should we have a public ceremony? I think it would be wonderful. Would you please continue to follow this through.

Thank you for your expert assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janey".

Mrs. Dolph Briscoe

Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission  
1511 North Colorado  
Austin, Texas 78711

H34-PS

MAY 23 1975

*Confidential*  
*5-22-75*  
*Ry RPH*  
*5/22*

Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Survey Committee  
Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Truett:

I was delighted to receive your letter of May 14 informing me of Mrs. Dolph Briscoe's letter to you requesting suggestions concerning a ceremony designating the Governor's Mansion as a national historic landmark. Upon your invitation, I would be highly honored, indeed, to present the certificate at this important ceremony.

We would also be very pleased to work with you and assist in planning the ceremony. You may be assured of the full cooperation of our Regional Director in connection with plans for the ceremony and with any support services which the National Park Service can provide. The Regional Director's name and address is: Mr. Joseph Rumburg, Southwest Regional Office, National Park Service, Post Office Box 728, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

There are a few practical aspects that should have a bearing on the timing of the ceremony. The bronze marker was ordered on April 28. It normally takes a minimum of two months, and sometimes considerably longer, to receive these markers from the foundry. Therefore, unless unusual circumstances present themselves, we should allow at least three months for planning time for the ceremony.

Being a native Texan, I am naturally deeply interested in the ceremony and since you have asked me for some of my personal suggestions relating to it I am pleased to pass on a few general thoughts. It would be appropriate if the ceremony might be held on the anniversary of some significant historical event in the history of Texas. Such a connection would doubtless heighten the participation by Governor Briscoe. In



addition to the presentation of the marker and certificate by a representative of the Department and the acceptance and remarks by the Governor, it might be appropriate to have an historical address by a person such as Joe Frantz who is a council member of the Secretary's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments. Participation reaching beyond the broad borders of Texas might also be considered, with thought given to having a speech by some well-known figure in the cultural field.

I am enclosing for you copies of two previous landmark ceremonies-- one at Washington-Lee University and the other at the Virginia Military Institute for your interest.

We will be interested in the planning for this event and eager to assist in any way that we can.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director,  
Professional Services

**Enclosures**

FNP:CW Heine:ho 5-22-75

bcc: Regional Director, Southwest Region )w/c inc.

D )

DI

Director's Reading File

P )

PH )

PS-Heine )

PS(HSS)-Sheely )

PS-reading file

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS

H34-(SWR)PSC

FEB 3 1976

Mrs. Dolph Briscoe  
The Governor's Mansion  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mrs. Briscoe:

This letter is to advise you that the bronze plaque designating The Governor's Mansion a National Historic Landmark has been received here, and I am forwarding it directly to you. You may wish to have it mounted prior to the formal dedication.

Mr. Joseph C. Rumburg, Jr., Regional Director, Southwest Region, has shared with me your earlier correspondence related to a dedication ceremony, and I trust I can be helpful. As you know, we will be happy to arrange for a representative of the National Park Service to present the Certificate and participate in the program. So, please keep us advised of your plans, won't you.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

Margaret G. Twyman  
Historic Landmark Specialist

MGT:rp PSC/2-3-76



Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
*Truett Latimer*  
Executive Director

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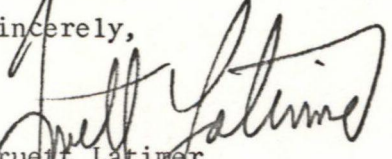
February 13, 1976

Ms. Margaret G. Twyman  
Historic Landmark Specialist  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Southwest Region  
P. O. Box 728  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Ms. Twyman:

Mrs. Briscoe has asked me to reply to your letter of February 3rd, concerning the National Historic Landmark ceremony for the Governor's Mansion. We had contacted Dr. Ernest Connally many months ago to make this presentation. I was in Washington and Alexandria with him in meetings last week, and discussed all of the plans.

The bronze plaque has arrived at the Mansion, and Dr. Connally is to bring the certificate with him. We deeply appreciate your willingness to be of assistance.

Sincerely,  
  
Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

cc: Mrs. Dolph Briscoe

TL:eg

Southwest Region  
P. O. Box 728  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

H34-(SWR)PSC

FEB 23 1976

Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12776, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Latimer,

Many thanks for responding to my inquiry to Mrs. Briscoe regarding the ceremony dedicating the Governor's Mansion. After writing Mrs. Briscoe, our Washington office phoned to advise of Dr. Connally's plans to be there, and I am delighted.

It would be helpful if I knew something more of the specific plans for the ceremony, so if you have a moment send them along, please. It is important for the Regional Office to have this information. I shall also alert our Washington office to send the plans when they are received there (through Dr. Connally's office, I presume).

Many thanks for your interest and assistance with this program. I am sure it will be a memorable one. Some bright day, when travel restrictions are eased a bit, I look forward to meeting you! Hope it will be in 1976!

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

Margaret G. Twyman  
National Historic Landmark Specialist

bcc: Horace Sheely, WASO ✓

*Green*

*B. Levy Acting HSS  
2/25/76*



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H3417-PS

February 25, 1976

The Director of the National Park Service

Gary Everhardt

is pleased to inform you of a ceremony formally marking the national landmark listed below. A National Park Service representative will present the landmark certificate and bronze plaque recognizing this as a nationally significant property in our Nation's heritage, and it will be listed automatically on the National Register of Historic Places. Plans and arrangements for the landmark presentation program are the prerogative of the owner of the property. The National Park Service is glad to cooperate in such activities when requested to do so. Pertinent facts about the ceremony follow. Please let us know if we may supply further information.

Name of property: Governor's Mansion  
 Location: 1010 Colorado, Austin, Texas  
 Date of ceremony: March 2, 1976  
 Time and place: 9:00 a.m., at the site  
 Presentor: Dr. Ernest Allen Connally, Associate Director, Professional Services  
 Recipient: Governor and Mrs. Dolph Briscoe

Also notified: Senator John G. Tower and Representative J. J. Pickle

SIMILAR LETTER BEING SENT TO:

Hon. John G. Tower  
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Hon. J. J. Pickle  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS (HSS)

DI PS-Sheely SHPO-Texas

FNP:KP Ross:kr 2/25/76  
bcc: FW-Mr. Richard Rodgers, Room 3144  
Regional Director, Southwest Region  
LS  
Director's Reading File

HP - Texas - Governor's Mansion



*Green*



Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

March 9, 1976

*ELC*  
*3-12*

Mr. Ernest A. Connally  
Associate Director, Professional Services  
National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ernest:

Thank you for coming to Austin last week to represent the Secretary of the Interior in ceremonies officially designating the Governor's Mansion as a National Historic Landmark. I was personally very pleased with the way the ceremony went and was also elated with the reception which the Briscoes gave all of us. From your discussions before, during and after the ceremony, I think you can see that they are extremely interested in the preservation of the Mansion as well as other sites of historical significance throughout the state.

It was also very kind of you to attend the meeting of the Texas Historical Foundation on Monday night and the meeting of the Texas Historical Commission on Tuesday. From this you can see that we get into all types of things, but I was particularly pleased that you were there when we made the allocation of the grants-in-aid monies.

The HABS publication has arrived and you were kind to send us one. We will hope that this gets wide distribution throughout the state and will encourage others to do HABS projects.

We will keep in close touch concerning the re-authorization legislation and other matters of paramount importance.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

TL/sw

28

MAR 29 1976

Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Truett:

Thank you for your good hospitality when I was in Austin on Texas Independence Day. The ceremonies at the Governor's Mansion were very pleasant indeed, and it pleases me very much that they went off so well. It was also very informative for me to be able to attend the meetings of the Texas Historical Foundation and the Texas Historical Commission. It was equally pleasant to renew a number of acquaintances.

Please relay my thanks to Mrs. Mosely for the clippings, which she was kind enough to send me. I'll be talking with you on the telephone in due course about the status of the reauthorization legislation. As you know, time is growing short. Meanwhile, please accept my best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

~~Ernest Allen Connally~~

Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director,  
Professional Services

cc:

P

PH with incoming

EACConnally:eh

✓ PSCHSS)

Governor's Mansion file



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711  
 Truett Latimer  
 Executive Director

Rec'd  
4/20

~~P~~  
PH  
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H.S.S.  
148  
File

April 13, 1976

*EW 5-6*

Dr. Ernest Allen Connally  
 Associate Director Professional Services  
 Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 National Park Service  
 U. S. Department  
 Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ernest,

Thank you for coming to Texas to present the National Historic Landmark plaque for the Governor's Mansion. It was most appropriate for a Texan involved in National Historic Preservation to make the presentation to current Texas Governor, Dolph Briscoe, in the lovely Texas Mansion.

Your remarks were so right for a glimpse into how the Mansion came into being, along with the people who made memorable contributions to Texas history over the years.

We really appreciated your insight into how the Commission and Foundation members can be a force for historic preservation on the National level.

Sincerely,

*Maxine Blankenship*

Maxine Blankenship

Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship, Chairman  
Lubbock  
 Mrs. Frank M. Covert III, Vice-Chairman  
Austin  
 Phillip Bowen, Secretary  
El Paso  
 John Beretta  
San Antonio

John Clifton Caldwell  
Albany  
 Mrs. Frederick M. Lange  
Dallas  
 Dan Lester  
Jefferson  
 Mrs. Mary Moody Northen  
Galveston

Dr. A. M. Pate, Jr.  
Fort Worth  
 Mrs. Dan Petty  
Dallas  
 Hollis Rankin, Jr.  
McAllen  
 Mrs. Julian Read  
Austin

Mrs. D. J. Sibley, Jr.  
Austin  
 Vernon Smylie  
Corpus Christi  
 Mrs. J. Douglass Toole  
Houston  
 Mrs. Charles R. Woodburn  
Amarillo



NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK  
BIENNIAL VISIT REPORT

SITE TEXAS GOVERNOR'S MANSION

LOCATION AUSTIN, TEXAS

DAY(S) VISITED August 9 1977  
Month Day(s) Year

VISITED BY JOHN T. TIFF  
(Name)

SUPERVISORY PARK HISTORIAN  
(Title)

Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Site  
P. O. Box 329, Johnson City, Texas 78636  
(Address)

512/868-7128 FTS: 734-5123  
(Phone Number)

PERSON(S) CONTACTED, WITH TITLE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Roy Kimble, Assistant to Governor

Marie Gonzales, Secretary to Mrs. Brisco

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Name John Tiff

Title Park Historian

Signature John T. Tiff

Date August 11, 1977

REPORT

- I. Did you have any difficulty making contact with the owner or administrator in advance of your visit? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X If yes, please describe:
- II. Did you feel that your visit was welcome? X not welcome? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, please describe circumstances:
- III. Was the material provided by SWRO ample and helpful? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X  
If not, please explain: *SWRO did not send any helpful information because they had none to send. Somewhere there must be information submitted with the application for designation as a Historic Landmark. This information should be in the Southwest Regional Office files.*
- IV. Approximately how long did you spend at the site? 1 hour
- V. Please describe the condition of the site (structure(s), grounds, furnishings, etc.)  
  
*The site was in excellent condition and appeared to be neat, tidy, and well cared for.*
- VI. Based on the reasons for the original designation, is it your opinion that the integrity of the site is being adequately maintained? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_  
If no, please explain:
- VII. Please describe in detail the management of the site (owner-managed, employee-managed, government-managed, etc.):  
  
*Owned and operated by the State Of Texas*
- VIII. In your opinion, is the site management adequate? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ If you have any reservations, please describe:

IX. Is the site used for commercial purposes? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X If yes, does this present any problems related to maintaining the integrity of the site? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please describe:

X. Please describe any financial problems related to the site:

NONE

XI. What other problems did you encounter, if any?

NONE

XII. What specific suggestions, if any, did you make to the owner or administrator?

NONE

XIII. What follow-up action do you suggest for the SWRO and/or others?

N/A

XIV. Is there any urgency regarding the suggested action? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X  
If yes, please clarify:

XV. If this site is being managed under the terms of a signed agreement, has the plaque been mounted? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, describe exact location. If no, please explain why it has not been accepted or not been mounted. Also, describe location of the Certificate.

*Plaque is mounted on the front of the building approximately 6 feet to the right of the front door. I did not see the certificate.*

Questions?

(PLEASE ENCLOSE PHOTOS, CLIPPINGS, COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE, OR ANY OTHER MATERIALS WHICH WILL SUPPLEMENT THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE REPORT)

APR 1 1 1988

H34(418)

Honorable Thomas J. Bliley, Jr.  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Bliley:

We have been requested to take steps so that the property named in the enclosure may be considered for National Historic Landmark designation at the next meeting of the National Park System Advisory Board. Ordinarily, National Historic Landmark nominations are presented to the Board only after parties specified in the National Historic Landmarks Program regulations have been notified of the Board's review 60 days in advance of the Board meeting, and invited to comment on the nomination. The timing of this special request makes it necessary for us to ask that the owner of the property and the chief elected local official waive their right to the full 60-day period for commenting on the Landmark nomination of the property, as explained below.

We wish to inform you of our progress in this special request, and to invite your comment on the matter. A nomination study of the property has been prepared, and a copy of it is enclosed. Should you wish to comment on the nomination, please do so in a timely manner, so that the National Park System Advisory Board may have the benefit of your comments at its upcoming meeting. The time and location of the Board meeting are indicated on the enclosure.

The National Historic Landmarks Program recognizes sites of national significance in the Nation's history, architecture, archeology, and culture. Each Landmark receives a certificate of designation; owners may also apply for a bronze plaque. National Historic Landmark designation follows three steps: study and preparation of a nomination; review of the nomination by the National Park System Advisory Board; and a decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the Board's recommendations.

National Historic Landmarks Program regulations provide that certain parties shall receive notice of the preparation of Landmark studies and of the National Park System Advisory Board meeting at which the Board will consider those studies. The notified parties ordinarily have 60 days before the Board meeting to submit their views in writing if they so desire. However, the regulations also provide for waiving of that full 60-day commenting period, when all property owners and the chief elected local official have agreed in writing to a waiver.

If we receive the required waivers, the National Park System Advisory Board will review the enclosed nomination study at its upcoming meeting. Subsequently, we will inform the Secretary of the Interior of the Board's recommendation for his decision in this matter.

To assist you in considering this matter, we have enclosed a copy of the regulations that govern the National Historic Landmarks Program. They describe the criteria for designation (Sec. 65.4), the effects of designation (Sec. 65.2), and specify how you may comment on a proposed designation (Sec. 65.5(d) (4-6)). Should you wish to comment, please send your comments to Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian, at the National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

If you have questions regarding the National Historic Landmarks Program or the National Park System Advisory Board meeting, you may contact Ben Levy at the History Division address above, or by telephone at (202)343-8164 or FTS: 343-8164.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/Sgd/Jerry L. Rogers

For

William Penn Mott, Jr.  
Director

Enclosures

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Honorable John Warner  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Paul Trible  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

cc: <sup>Margaret</sup>~~Margaret~~ Peters  
Division of Historic Landmarks  
Department of Conservation and  
Historic Resources  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

bcc: Regional Director (MARO) (4000) Attn: B. Bolger  
001 RF  
190 RF  
400 RF  
418 GOVERNOR'S MANSION, Richmond, VA (NHL Pending)

PMilner:gm:04-04-88  
MILNER WAVIER LETTER DISK

PROPERTY STUDIED FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

GOVERNOR'S MANSION, Richmond, Virginia

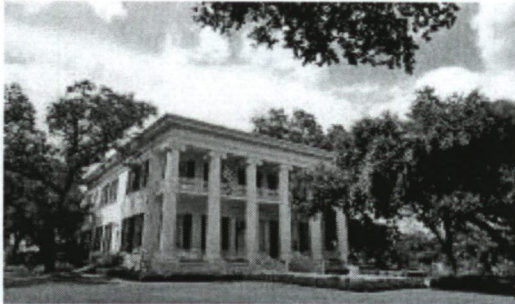
The above property may be considered for possible designation as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park System Advisory Board at a meeting on the afternoon of April 26, 1988 at the National Park Service's Mather Training Center at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

If you have questions concerning the study, you may contact Mr. John S. Salmon, Historian with the Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks, 221 Governor Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219; (804) 786-3143.

## Arson suspected at Governor's Mansion

By CLAY ROBISON and JANET ELLIOTT Copyright 2008  
Houston Chronicle Austin Bureau

June 8, 2008, 6:38PM



Rodolfo Gonzalez Austin American-Statesman  
The Texas Governor

AUSTIN — An early morning fire at the Governor's Mansion today was intentionally set, a state fire investigator said.

State Fire Marshal Paul Maldonado declined to discuss further details but said there was no indication the fire was intended as a direct threat to Gov. Rick Perry.

No one was in the building, which has been closed several months for renovation, when the fire broke out. The governor has been living in a rented house in suburban Austin since last fall.

He and his wife, Anita, are in Stockholm, Sweden,

finishing up a weeklong, trade-related trip to Europe.

The fire, discovered by security officers about 1:45 a.m., was under control by 6:30 a.m., but there were still hot spots in the building. Flames broke through a portion of the roof about 9:30 a.m. but were quickly extinguished.

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms was assisting the state Fire Marshal's office in the investigation. Maldonado indicated security cameras posted around the building were helpful to investigators.

But officials declined to discuss more details, including how an arsonist might have gone undetected by Department of Public Safety troopers assigned to secure the building and its grounds.

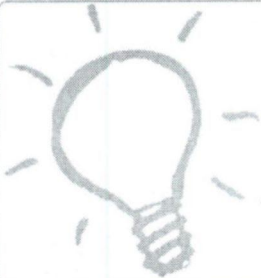
Damage to the 152-year-old historic structure is "extraordinary, bordering on catastrophic," including a partially collapsed roof, said Perry spokesman Robert Black.

Millions of dollars worth of antique furnishings, portraits and other heirlooms had been removed from the mansion and placed in storage before renovation began. But Black said it was impossible to calculate the historic value of the building itself.

He said officials hoped the first floor could be structurally salvaged, but there was more uncertainty about saving the second floor.

Ironically, one of the purposes of the renovation

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project was to install a sprinkler system in the building, which had none. Before work began, the mansion had a fire alarm system on the first floor but none on the second floor, where the governor and his family lived.

Former Gov. Mark White, who lived in the Mansion from 1983-1986 and took office shortly before a fire heavily damaged the state Capitol, said he was devastated by the latest fire.

"We just must rebuild it," he said, urging state officials to use the occasion to fully restore the Mansion to its original structure, much as state government did to the Capitol following the 1983 fire.

Security officers staying on the mansion grounds in a carriage house were alerted by a fire alarm triggered by smoke getting into the air conditioning system on the mansion's first floor, Black said.

The fire quickly spread to the second floor and the ceiling. The problem was compounded by old air shafts and new holes and shafts that had been opened up by workers on the renovation project.

About 100 firefighters responded, and none were injured. At the height of the fire, they were pumping 8,000 gallons of water a minute on the roof from four ladder trucks and other equipment, Austin Fire Department spokesperson Dawn Clopton said.

The Perrys moved out of the mansion last fall into a \$9,900 a month rental house to allow for

the renovation, a project that was expected to be completed next spring and cost about \$10 million.

Among other things, outdated plumbing also is being replaced.

Black said the governor was notified of the fire about 2 a.m. Austin time but planned to conclude his European trip before returning to Austin, as scheduled, on Tuesday.

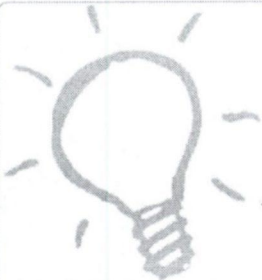
Perry is scheduled to talk about wind energy at an American Chamber of Commerce event in Stockholm on Monday.

The columns in front of the building were heavily charred, and shrubbery around the building was singed.

*clay.robison@chron.com*

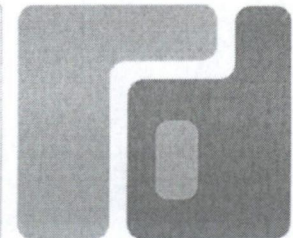
*janet.elliott@chron.com*

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## Arson suspected at Governor's Mansion

By CLAY ROBISON and JANET ELLIOTT Copyright 2008  
Houston Chronicle Austin Bureau

June 8, 2008, 6:38PM



Bob Daemrich For the Chronicle

The Texas Capitol can be seen in the background, with the devastated Governor's Mansion in the foreground, after arson destroyed the building Sunday in Austin. Bob Daemrich :  
bob@bobphoto.com

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State Fire Marshal Paul Maldonado declined to discuss further details but said there was no indication the fire was intended as a direct threat to Gov. Rick Perry.

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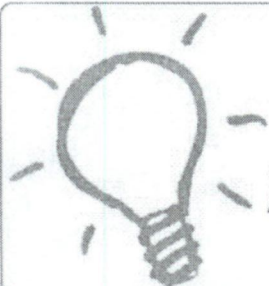
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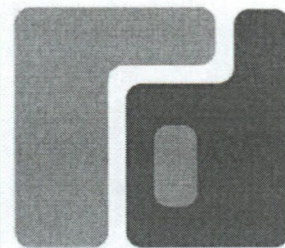
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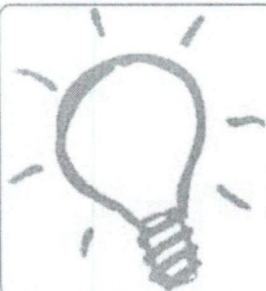
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singed.

*clay.robison@chron.com*

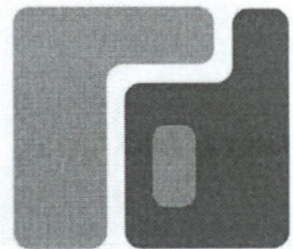
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