National Register Nominations for the Johnson Rooming House and the Paine House Pass the State Review Board

On October 19, the Texas Historical Commission - State Board of Review recommended approval of the National Register of Historic Places nominations for the Johnson Rooming House in Oak Cliff and the Paine House in Irving to the National Park Service.

Paine House in Irving on the left and the Johnson Rooming House in Oak Cliff on the right.

Preservation Dallas volunteers nominated the two houses to the National Register as part of a Legacy Project for the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Johnson Rooming House in Oak Cliff is where Lee Harvey Oswald rented a room before the assassination and the Paine House in Irving is where his wife Marina lived and where Oswald visited on the weekends and picked up the rifle the morning of the assassination. Both houses were nominated to the National Register for their association with the events that took place on November 22, 1963 and the national attention they received. Other sites associated with the assassination such as Dealey Plaza, the Texas School Book Depository, Texas Theatre, and the old Municipal Building already have National Register or National Historic Landmark status. Preservation Dallas felt it was important to nominate the Johnson Rooming House and the Paine House to have a complete picture of the events that transpired and to recognize those places as part of the story of what happened that tragic day.

Both the Johnson Rooming House and the Paine House are open for tours. The Johnson Rooming House is still in the same family which owned the house when Oswald lived there and still has furnishings from that period as well. For more
The Paine House is now owned by the City of Irving which has restored the house back to its 1963 appearance and has opened it as a museum with exhibits and actor portrayals. The house is open from Tuesday through Saturday for scheduled tours leaving from the visitors center at the City of Irving library. Click here to find more information about the tours.

Ruth Paine (center) owner of the Paine House at the time of the Kennedy Assassination, with (l to r) Nancy McCoy, Marsha Prior, Carol Roark, and David Preziosi with Preservation Dallas. Ruth Paine helped provide information for the restoration of her house by the City of Irving. Nancy McCoy and Sam Childers (not pictured) worked on the National Register nomination for the Johnson Rooming House and Marsha Prior and Carol Roark worked on the nomination of the Paine House. Photo by Alan Robertson.

Premier of Pilot Grove Church Documentary at Dallas Heritage Village

**WEDNESDAY | November 20**
6:00 pm
Dallas Heritage Village

The Dallas Heritage Village will premiere Pilot Grove Church, a documentary short by award-winning film maker Mark Bimbaum. His movie takes a thoughtful look at recent restoration work to the church.
Before the Curtain Rises is a feature-length documentary film being produced for PBS about the history of going to the movies, and why "going" still matters. The program follows the 70-year history of Interstate Theatres, one of the nation’s largest and most storied circuits of movie houses, from its birth as a vaudeville chain to its death in the ’70s—a victim of multicinemas and urban flight. It also documents the efforts of communities to save the last of their beloved movie palaces. For one theatre, the Plaza Theatre of El Paso, Texas, the producers were able to follow every step of its four-year restoration and re-opening. There were several Interstate Theatres in Dallas including the Majestic, Tower, Forest, Circle, Palace, Esquire, Inwood, and Lakewood.

The evening will begin with a reception and light refreshments. This event is free but seating is limited so reservations are requested, call (214) 413-3662 or email by clicking here.

The film preserves the rapidly disappearing history of the golden
Preservation Texas
Texas Historical Commission

New Books in the Bookstore!

We have two new books and the new issue of Legacies in our bookstore!

JFK Sites in Dallas - Fort Worth by Mark Doty & John Slate, and Dealey Plaza, by John Slate & Willis Winters. Both books are $21/members, and $24/general public.

And the new fall issue of Legacies is out! It is their 25th Anniversary issue! Sustainer level and above should receive the issue with current membership. $5

New Preservation Planner joins the City of Dallas

The City of Dallas has a new advocate for historic preservation! Just recently Adam Alsobrook joined the city as a Senior Planner in the Sustainable Development & Construction Department. He will be assisting Mark Doty with the preservation planning for the city and working with COA applicants and the Landmark Commission. Specifically, Adam will be covering the following districts: Swiss Avenue, Munger Place, Wilson Block, Junius Heights, Fair Park, and State Thomas.

Adam is no stranger to Dallas as he has been working for the past six years as a Project Reviewer for the Texas Historical Commission covering Dallas County. Adam is excited to be working for the City of Dallas as he says "the local level is where the rubber meets the road for preservation and this position is a great opportunity for me to expand my experience and build upon the work I did at the THC." We are lucky to have a new planner at the city with great preservation experience and one who is already familiar with Dallas. Adam grew up on the east coast, went to high school in College Station and received an architecture degree from the University of Texas.

We at Preservation Dallas look forward to working with Adam in his new position and having another voice at City Hall for preserving the historic places of Dallas!

Address Change for Preservation Dallas

No we haven't moved, but our zip code has changed! Due to age of cinema, advocates for historic preservation of its remaining iconic theaters, and poses the question as we stand at a crossroads in cinema's evolution, "With a new generation of movie viewers choosing to watch films on personal digital devices, what are we losing as a society by no longer 'going' to the movies." The project is very close to completion, but the producers need funds to finish editing and submission to PBS. They have set up an Indiegogo crowd funding website where supporters can go to donate to the project.

Before the Curtain Rises is managed by Documentary Alliance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, so donations are tax deductible. At each level of giving donors will also receive gifts for their support. Click here to find out more about this project and to help this production make it to PBS and continue the legacy of going to the movies!
unannounced changes within the Post Office, our zip code's last four digits have changed. Some of the mail with the old zip code is being returned to senders as undeliverable. Our new zip code is 75204-5962. Please make note of this change if you mail Preservation Dallas.

Dallas History Painted
An Exhibit of Plein Air Paintings

THURSDAY | November 14
5-8 p.m.
Wilson House
2922 Swiss Avenue

Please join us as Tutti I Lunedi showcases their plein aire paintings from the past three years!

Tutti I Lunedi is a group of professional artists who meet every week to paint historic landmarks in Dallas en plein aire. Their mission is to respond to architectural and historically significant locations in Dallas through art. Each of the founding members have researched and chosen locations with national or state historical significance.

A percentage of all sales will be donated to Preservation Dallas.

REGISTRATION:
Admission is free but reservations are encouraged. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Susan Moss Cooper by email, 214-327-6648, or visit tuttilunedi.blogspot.com.

Annual Holiday Party

FRIDAY | December 6
6-8 p.m.
Wilson House
2922 Swiss Avenue

Save the date! Join us for some holiday cheer and celebrate the holiday season with your friends at Preservation Dallas! Also, get a chance to meet Adam Alsobrook, the new Senior Planner at the City of Dallas working in preservation and our special guest.
November 22nd will mark the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's assassination. Fifty years ago it was a day that shocked and forever changed the nation and Dallas. As the anniversary draws near I think of the tremendous effort of numerous people and organizations to preserve the sites associated with the assassination so that we and future generations can better understand the events that transpired that day and the impact they had on so many. To experience sites where important events have transpired is a very powerful experience. To stand on the grassy knoll or look out the windows of the sixth floor on to Dealey Plaza is a very personal experience for many and would not be the same if Dealey Plaza had been reconfigured or the former Texas School Book Depository building was not there. Yes, the story of the assassination and the events could be told elsewhere; however, they would not have the same visceral impact as telling the story in the place that it actually happened.

Today Dealey Plaza and The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza are two of the most visited sites in Dallas and Texas. Of course this month the visitation will be at an all-time high. The City of Dallas, the County of Dallas, and The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza must all be commended for their efforts to preserve and restore these important sites with a difficult and painful history for many.

Preservation efforts of these sites began back in the 1970s when the City of Dallas worked to list the West End Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places, which included the former Texas School Book Depository and Dealey Plaza. In 1978, that designation was granted and in 1984, the district was designated by the City of Dallas as a local historic district providing protection from inappropriate development. Dealey Plaza was established as its own National Register historic district in 1993, which included the Depository as part of that district. In that same year the Dealey Plaza Historic District was awarded National Historic Landmark status, the highest historic status that can be granted to a site or district, due to the association with the assassination of President Kennedy. The City of Dallas and the Park and Recreation Department have also recently worked to restore Dealey Plaza in time for the anniversary.

The County of Dallas purchased the former Texas School Book Depository in 1977 for additional office space protecting the building from demolition or inappropriate changes. At the time they left the sixth and seventh floors of the building vacant to protect those spaces. The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, which started out as just an exhibit in 1989, has since grown to a world class museum with programs, educational services and an archive collecting artifacts and memories of Dallasites and
people from all over the world. The museum is now a forum for exploring the memory and effects surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy.

In addition, other sites associated with the events that took place that tragic day are also being preserved and recognized such as the Johnson Rooming House, the Paine House, the Texas Theatre, site of Officer Tippit's murder, and the old Municipal Building. Together with Dealey Plaza and the former Texas School Book Depository those sites give a complete picture of the events that transpired on November 22, 1963, a day that forever changed a nation.

Fall Architectural Tour

Our 2013 Fall Architectural Tour was a complete sell out and we have been inundated with your great feedback! It has been almost a decade since we presented a mid-century modern themed Tour, and the collection of homes this year was worth the wait. Appropriately, Kalita Humphreys Theater (1959) welcomed attendees with continental breakfast and a prologue discussion with architecture critic Mark Lamster, architect Larry Speck and associate professor Kate Holliday. The speaker's remarkable backgrounds in modernism fueled each of their perspectives and provided lively discussion. Tour Chairman, Robbie Briggs, led the charge with a great team from Title Sponsor, Briggs Freeman Sotheby's International Realty, and we are thankful to them and all our Tour Sponsors!

Upcoming Programs and Events for Preservation Dallas and Partners

Panel Discussion: Forever Changed: The JFK Assassination and Dallas Architecture
Magnolia Theater
November 12, 6pm
Was the assassination of President Kennedy a turning point in the city's development and architecture? Did that soul-searching and self-examination extend to the way we looked at urban planning, design, and the buildings around us? This panel discussion will examine a variety of outgrowths of the Kennedy assassination, including the JFK Memorial, The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, Goals for Dallas and more. Panelists will include Mark Doty, Stephen Fagin, Vel Hawes, FAIA, Frank Welch, FAIA, and others.

The panel discussion will be followed by a reception. A donation of $10 is requested at the door. RSVP to info@DallasCFA.com. Include "JFK Panel" in the subject line.
Forum Lecture: Wilfried Wang
Magnolia Theater
November 12, 7:30pm
Wang is a Principal of Hoidn Wang, Berlin, and O’Neil Ford Centennial Professor in Architecture at UT. He is a founding co-editor of 9H Magazine; was the director of the German Architecture Museum from 1995 - 2000 and has also taught at numerous universities. Wang is the author and editor of various architectural mono- and topographs, and is the co-editor of the O’Neil Ford Mono- and Duograph Series.

Attendees are encouraged to attend the Panel Discussion preceding the Forum Lecture. For more information, click here.

bcSHOPFRONT Series: One Watershed, Two Neighborhoods & Seven Streetcars
bc WORKSHOP
416 South Ervay Street
November 12, 6:15pm - Turtle Creek
November 19, 6:15pm - Street Cars
December 3, 6:15pm - Knox Park
December 10, 6:15pm - Bexar Street
Come discover how Dallas has been shaped through public space, financial investment, urban formation and transportation boosterism. All lectures are free and open to the public. For more information and to register, click here.

Appetite for Architecture
November 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm
A Park Cities home will be featured at this month’s Appetite for Architecture. The home designed by Perkins + Will principal Tom Reisenbichler for himself and his family intends to dispel the myth that achieving sustainability in residential design requires a step back in luxury.

Brief remarks by the architect/homeowner will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by tours of the home. All proceeds benefit the Dallas Center for Architecture Foundation programming. For more information, click here.