

HISTORY RISING

A special building project for the
Fort Bend Museum



HISTORY RISING

From Fire to Higher: Rebuilding the Fort Bend Museum

HISTORY RISING

Rebuilding history with a reimagined Fort Bend Museum



COMMITTEE

Tim Kaminski
Kay Danziger
Keely Knipling
Rebecca Hafner
Harold Simmons
Steve Nelson
Claire Rogers
Paul Spana
Mandy Bronsell
Mary Favre
Marvin Marcell

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tim Kaminski
Lynn Hewitt
Paul Spana
Keely Knipling
Billie Van Slyke
Lupe Uresti Cabello
Jennifer Chiang
Kay Danziger
Debra Greenwood-Sharp
Rebecca Hafner
Lynne Humphries
Barbara Crump Jones
Mary Jane Kocurek
Steve Nelson
Judy Schmid
Harold Simmons
Judi Vernon
Sharon Wallingford
Letha Wood

The Fort Bend Museum is owned and operated by the Fort Bend History Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

fortbendhistory
ASSOCIATION

Preserve. Educate. Inspire.

281-342-1256
410 Jackson Street
Richmond, TX 77469
fbhistory.org

A place that celebrates and preserves history recently became part of history itself. Last spring, a fire broke out in a back room at our Museum. Occurring shortly after closing, it was nonetheless quickly spotted and, thankfully, quickly extinguished by a fast-responding fire department.

What we learned in the days and weeks that followed is that there is no such thing as a minor fire — especially at a building housing hundreds of irreplaceable items. Smoke, not just flames, is an insidious enemy, and one that impacts a far greater area than the room where the fire took place.

Still, we did what many before us have done when faced with life-changing events. We regrouped and forged ahead — removing nearly every item and examining and cleaning every inch of our building. In two months, we were operational once again.

The fire also had another effect. It forced us to take a good, hard look at our building with a new perspective and purpose. What we discovered was enlightening and, ultimately, emboldening.

We learned that the stories and the people our Museum celebrates are enduring — as they should be. However, we also learned that the museum space that houses them is, to be blunt, outdated — and not what it could be.

The good news is we have a plan: a creative, inspired, historical, useful and multi-purposed plan that involves improving and reimagining our current building.

We will create a new look from the outside — one that matches the era and style of the historic Moore House next door. (Think “carriage house” to complement the main house!)

On the inside, we will be even more imaginative. We will create a flexible exhibit space that can tell the history of our county by day, and be transformed into a unique, accommodating event venue by night, with modular displays and interactive exhibits that can be moved to the walls, freeing up room for meetings, receptions, and town halls — in effect, becoming a true community resource.

We haven't forgotten the space in between the Museum and the Moore House, either. We see this area as a perfect outdoor gathering place, creating additional possibilities and a unifying hub with a Museum, home and courtyard all working together and becoming a true center point for the community.

We believe in what this new plan can become. It's bold and visionary, but also smart and realistic. It preserves our history while inspiring our community.

In a very real way, this is History Rising. And we'd like you to help make our plan a reality.

Already, many have come on board, including our board leadership giver, Mary Jane Kocurek, who knows perhaps as much as anyone, what this new vision can mean to our evolving, growing, diverse county.

A shared heritage and a shared community resource is more important than ever. Please consider a “rebuilding” contribution — which will go directly to the building campaign as we move forward toward groundbreaking, reimagining and opening a brand new Fort Bend Museum and event space.

Claire Rogers
Executive Director
Fort Bend History Association

Tim Kaminski
President, FBHA Board of Trustees
Campaign Leadership Committee



HISTORY RISING

Rebuilding history by creating a unifying hub for our community

More than 50 years ago, residents and leaders of Fort Bend County came together to create a museum and to commit to telling the story of how our area came to be.

Thanks to their vision, we have a museum where that story is housed and a home where it comes to life.

Today, we are about to build on that vision, creating an even more inspiring place to tell new stories and reflect in new ways on our most enduring ones. More than a museum, we're looking to create an iconic, welcoming gathering place. Here's how:

- **An all-new museum exterior** – historic, welcoming, and architecturally similar to the historic Moore House located next door
- **Expanded galleries inside** – with the ability to tell more stories in memorable, compelling ways (growing from 1,200 static square feet to 3,000 flexible square feet)
- **Modular exhibit design approach** – enabling the space to be opened up as needed to become an event center with a unique historic flavor for groups, weddings, lectures and presentations (up to 150 guests comfortably seated, accommodated, and inspired)
- **More interactive exhibits** – where members, guests, families, and volunteers can explore and engage in a dialogue around diverse stories, voices, and perspectives
- **Enhanced outdoor patio space** – a functional and comfortable link between history museum and historic home, surrounded by decades old magnolia trees, and providing additional options for community gatherings and events

Turning vision into reality — beginning this year:

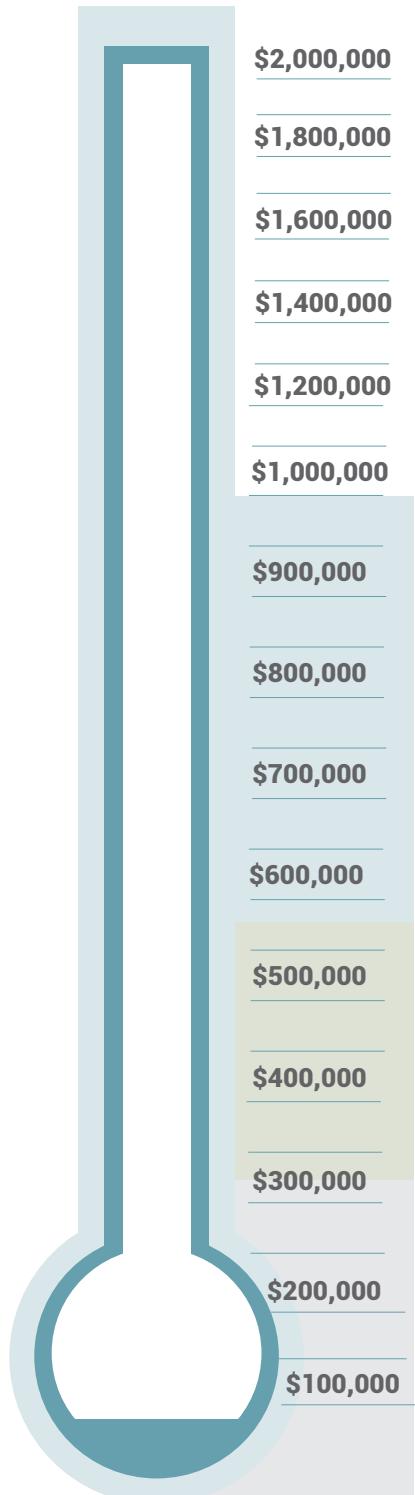
Building & Exhibit Renovation Needs: \$2,000,000

We are raising \$2 million to transform our museum and the courtyard next to it into a sustainable, functional, and historic community hub.

It will be a better place to celebrate our history, a more accommodating space for groups, a safer environment for our staff, and an iconic venue that says *this is what our county and our community is all about*.

With your help, we are confident we can preserve the history of Fort Bend County for the diverse range of citizens who call it home.

Sometimes, to embrace the past requires looking to the future. For those who preserve Fort Bend's history, appreciate it, and learn from it — now is that time.



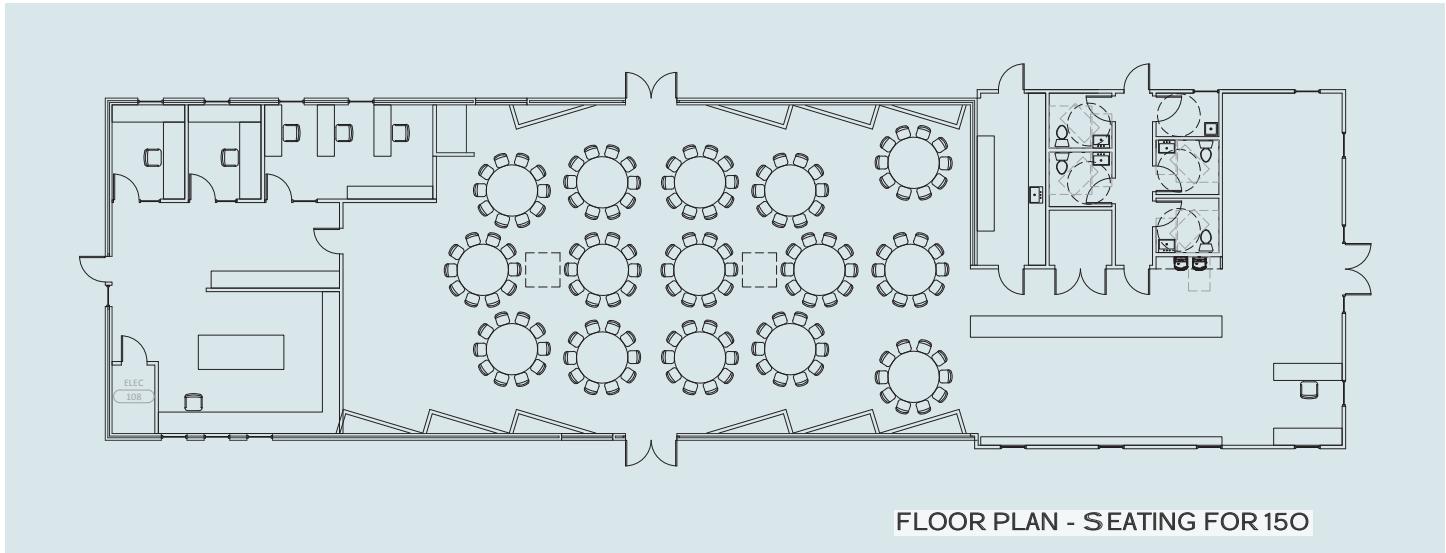
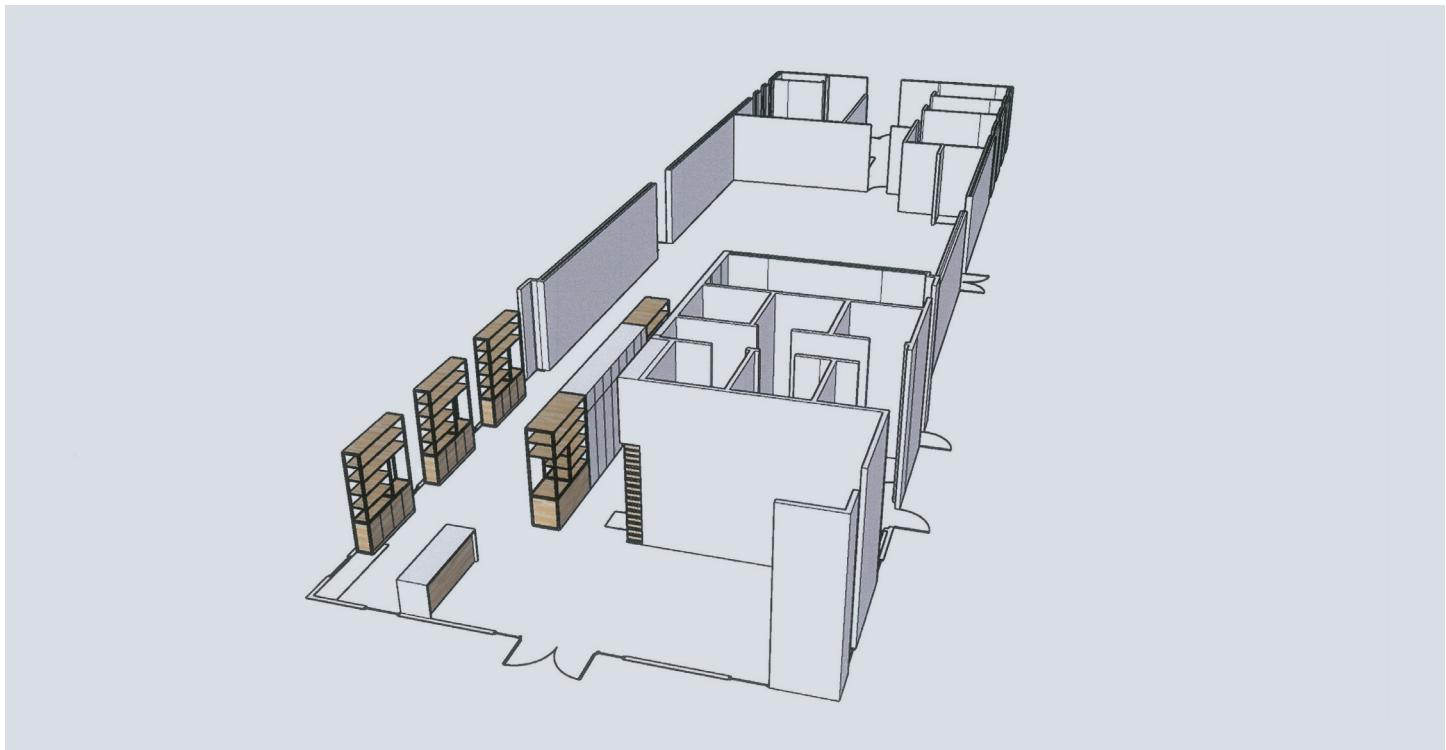
BUILDING DRAWINGS

HISTORY RISING:
A Special Building Project for the Fort Bend Museum



BUILDING DESIGN

HISTORY RISING:
A Special Building Project for the Fort Bend Museum



FLOOR PLAN - SEATING FOR 150

MUSEUM HISTORY



1967: The Vision

"The purpose for which the corporation is formed is to support an educational undertaking and to support and maintain a place where historical, patriotic, civic, educational and other scientific collections may be housed, to increase and diffuse a knowledge and appreciation of history, art and science;..."



New Fort Bend County Museum made reality

The idea of a Fort Bend County Museum was given definite impetus when the Fort Bend Survey Committee, in its February, 1963, meeting, named Mrs. George Moore as its chairman. The committee, named Mason Britco as its chairman. The committee was charged with the task of selecting a suitable site and building a suitable building for a museum. It was emphasized that this was to be a community museum, not a profit-making institution. The committee recommended that the survey committee request the DeSoto Survey Committee to consider three prospective sites for the museum. Other Survey Committee members suggested sites for consideration. After several meetings, many sites were visited and the survey committee approached for possible purchase, all with negative results. In July of 1964, Mrs. Vannie George of Richmond gave the



1972

The Fort Bend Museum opens



1975

The Museum acquires the 1883 Moore Home and the Fort Bend Museum Docent Society is formed.



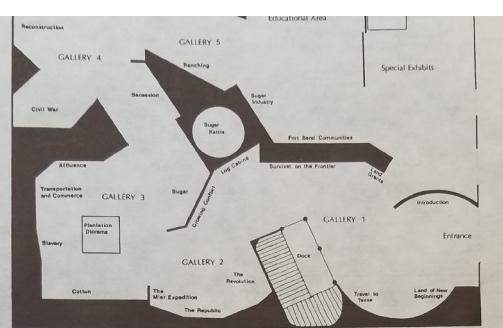
1987

The Long-Smith Cottage is moved to the Fort Bend Museum property



1981

The Candlelight Tours begin



1988

The gallery is updated to its current configuration

IMPACT TODAY



11,712
Total visitors to the Museum in 2017



6,900

Adults and children
reached as part of
the Texian Time
Machine and
other community
outreach programs

7,718

attended a school field trip
at the Museum in 2017



THANK YOU
for Bend
Museum for Coming
It was so much fun!

I had a
awesome time
I've always
wanted to learn
about what we
learned about
today thank you



Annual Events

Seasonal Lectures • Lone Star Stomp
Spring Break Programs • Tea Parties
Bites & Brews • Twilight Tours
Miss Ivy's Spooktacular Halloween Party
Candlelight Ball & Tours



NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

\$500,000

Two Available

- Building Renovation
- Exhibit Gallery

\$50,000

Two Available

- Building Entry
- Courtyard

\$100,000

One Available

Temporary Gallery

\$25,000

Sixteen Available

- People & Group Exhibits
- Landscaping

Exhibit donors will have first right of refusal to renew support when exhibit components expire.

\$50,000

Eight Available

Permanent Exhibits

\$10,000

Donor Wall



For more information, contact:

Zarinah K. Poole | Director of Development | zpoole@fbhistory.org | 281-342-1256

MY PLEDGE

Rebuilding history with a reimaged Fort Bend Museum



Your donation is fully tax-deductible as allowable by law.

A portion of your donation may be used for administrative expenses of the capital campaign.

Return this form to:
Fort Bend History
Association
P.O. Box 460
Richmond, TX 77406

More info:
Zarinah K. Poole
Director of
Development
281-342-1256
zpoole@fbhistory.org

fortbendhistory
ASSOCIATION

Preserve. Educate. Inspire.

fbhistory.org
281-342-1256

Donor names(s) (as it should appear in the annual report)

- I would like this gift to remain anonymous
 I am interested in a Dedication or Naming Opportunity

In Memory of/To Honor (as it should appear in the annual report)

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Daytime Telephone

Please select from the options below. Signature required.

ONE-TIME GIFT

- Enclosed is my check # _____ for \$ _____
 Please charge my credit card for \$ _____
 I pledge the following amount of stock or property: _____

RECURRING GIFT

To qualify for a two-year payment, pledge must be \$10,000+.
To qualify for a three-year payment, pledge must be \$25,000+.

- I pledge to donate a total of \$ _____
to be paid over 2 Years 3 Years

Charge my Credit Card | Invoice Me (circle one)

Monthly | Quarterly | Semi-Annually | Annually

Beginning _____ Ending _____

CREDIT CARD INFO

Credit Card Number

Visa | AmEx | MC | Discover
(circle one)

Exp. Date

CVC

Signature

Thank you for keeping Fort Bend County history alive and relevant for future generations!



From Fire to Higher: HISTORY RISING A Campaign to Rebuild the Fort Bend Museum



500 Houston Street • Richmond, Texas 77469
fortbendmuseum.org • 281-342-6478

Open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Historic House Tours at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

fortbendhistory**
ASSOCIATION**

Preserve. Educate. Inspire.

Tax ID#74-6105651
P.O. Box 460 • Richmond, Texas 77406
fbhistory.org • 281-342-1256