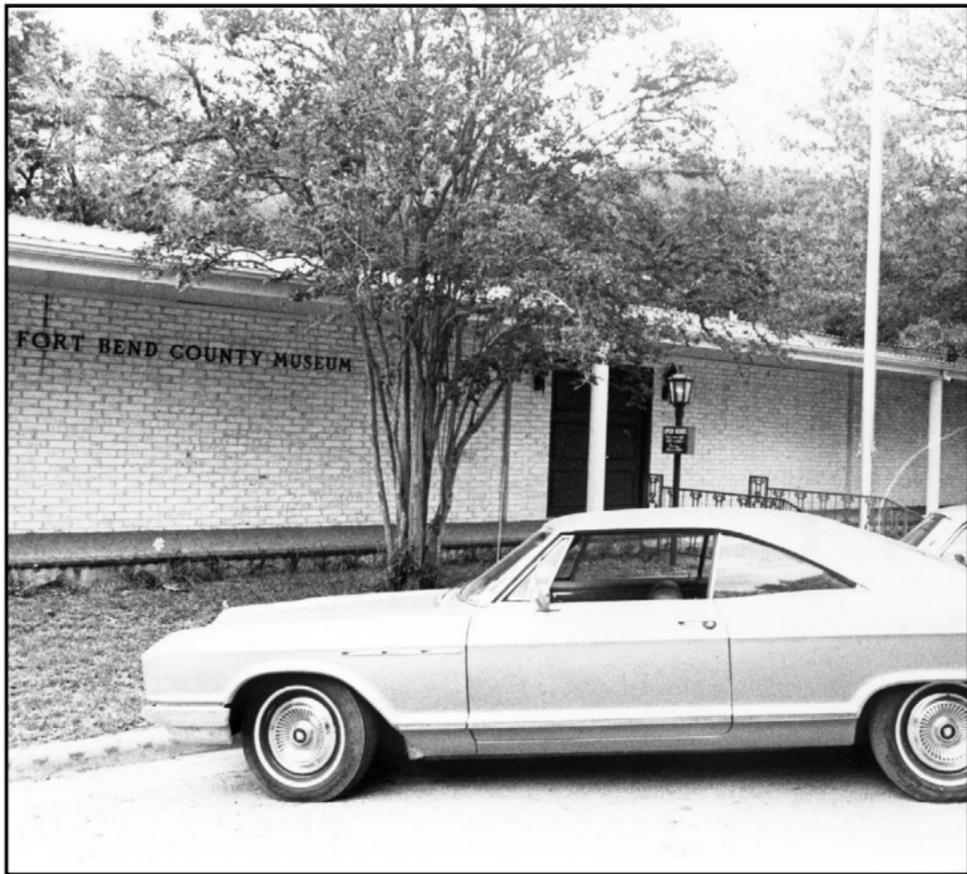


**FOR 53 YEARS, WE'VE
BEEN CELEBRATING
FORT BEND'S HISTORY.**

*Now, you have a chance
to help transform it!*



fortbend**history**
ASSOCIATION
Preserve. Educate. Inspire.



FROM NEED, TO DREAM, TO REALITY.

At the Fort Bend History Association, we've been telling our county's story since 1967. It's a story that is uniquely Texan and still evolving: the Old 300, America's most diverse county, the historic Moore Home and thousands of visiting school kids — and so much more. It's understanding what brought us here, and shining a light on what makes us unique.

Until now, its centerpiece has been a non-descript, somewhat functional, but, to be blunt, uninspiring museum building.

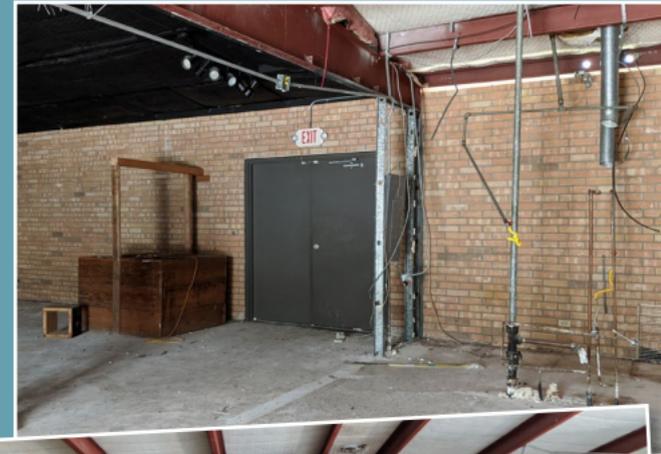
A BETTER BUILDING. A BETTER HISTORY.

Our museum began its life as a storage facility for historic artifacts. It was then converted to a museum space and has served in that role, unchanged, for years.

It has long been in need of an update. **Actually, a transformation.** Two years ago, we set out on a path to renovate the outside by giving it a look to match the Moore Home next door. We also wanted to do the same on the inside by expanding the space to increase program flexibility and updating exhibits that hadn't been touched in decades.

Today, even in the middle of an historic pandemic, this vision is so close to becoming reality. Plans have been drawn. Money has been raised. Permits have been obtained. And some very creative museum experts and architects have been engaged to help us transform.

In short, our community is very close to having the Museum it deserves. You can help make this happen!



July 2020: Construction/demolition progress in the Museum gallery.

YOUR ROLE IN MAKING HISTORY

Our dream is smart, efficient, creative, and flexible. It creates a better museum by day and a unique event space by night. It also comes with a \$2 million price tag — which isn't pocket change but, considering what it delivers, is a pretty good bargain.

Many different groups, foundations, organizations, and individuals have agreed. To date, they've contributed \$1,620,000 to our "History Rising" renovation campaign. **That's over 80% of our goal** and enough to allow us to get started with the plans, the approvals, and the gutting of our current space to prepare for the creation of a better space.

Here's where you come in. **With matching grant opportunities still in play, we actually only need to raise \$80,000 in new contributions to trigger monies that will allow us to reach our \$2 million total.**

\$80,000: THAT'S IT

JANE LONG

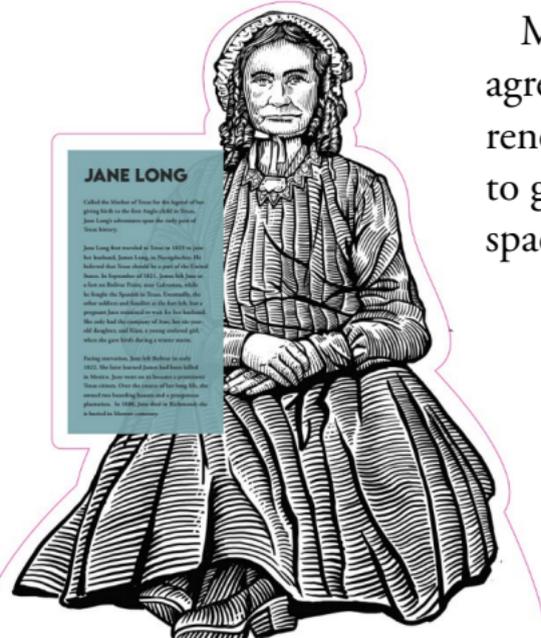
Called the "Mother of Texas" for the legend of giving birth to the first English child in Texas, Jane Long volunteered over the early part of the 1800s.

Jane Long first married in 1812 to John A. Bledsoe, James Long's brother-in-law. He helped her move to Texas to help her husband. In September of 1812, Jane and John were on their way to Texas. Jane gave birth to a son, John A. Bledsoe, on the ship. Jane was the only white woman to give birth in Texas. She was the only white woman to give birth in Texas. She was the only white woman to give birth in Texas.

During her time in Texas, Jane Long was instrumental in the establishment of the first school in Texas. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the first school in Texas. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the first school in Texas.

WALTER MOSES BURTON

Walter Moses Burton was a prominent African American businessman and philanthropist. He was born in 1854 and died in 1921. He was a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and was instrumental in the establishment of the first school for African American children in Texas. He was also instrumental in the establishment of the first school for African American children in Texas.



CAMPAIGN FORMULA BREAK-DOWN:



OUR GOAL: \$2,000,000

FUNDS RAISED TO DATE: \$1,620,000

TOTAL AMOUNT LEFT: \$380,000

HELP TRIGGER MATCHING FUNDS BY OCTOBER

\$300,000

The sum of two different matching funds that are available for the History Rising campaign

\$80,000

The amount needed before the matching funds will be triggered and applied to the campaign.
That's where you come in!



TERRY'S TEXAS RANGERS

The 8th Texas Cavalry

Terry's Texas Rangers was a cavalry unit led by respected Fort Bend businessman and plantation owner Benjamin Franklin Terry.

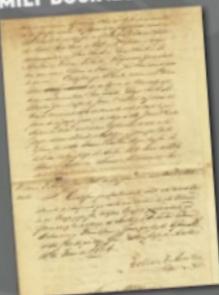
Soldiers brought their own weapons and equipment to the battlefield; the army provided the horses. Although the men were comfortable with both weapons and horsemanship, calling they lacked military experience. Early on, they spent much of their time drilling.

Terry's Texas Rangers fought in significant battles across Tennessee and Kentucky.



LAND GRANTS: A FAMILY BUSINESS

In 1820, Texas belonged to Spain. Armed with a Spanish passport and a big idea, American entrepreneur Moses Austin traveled to San Antonio to convince the Spanish government to let him settle American families in Texas. He returned home with a contract allowing him to sell Texas land grants to 300 American families, but he became ill on his journey back and soon died. Moses's son, Stephen F. Austin, took over the venture and began advertising the cheap, fertile Texas land.



SETTLERS ARRIVE

Settlers were already journeying to Texas by 1821, but Stephen F. Austin's work was far from over. Mexico declared independence from Spain and the new government did not recognize Austin's contract. Austin traveled to Mexico City and spent almost a year there negotiating a new contract with Mexico.

For the next decade, Austin sold land to American settlers as a land agent, or empresario. He was also responsible for keeping order and ensuring that settlers met with conditions specified by the Mexican government. Settlers were required to pledge allegiance to Mexico, speak Spanish, be "honest, industrious farmers and mechanics," and practice only the Catholic faith.

AUSTIN'S COLONY

The First American Settlement in Texas



DOUBLING YOUR IMPACT

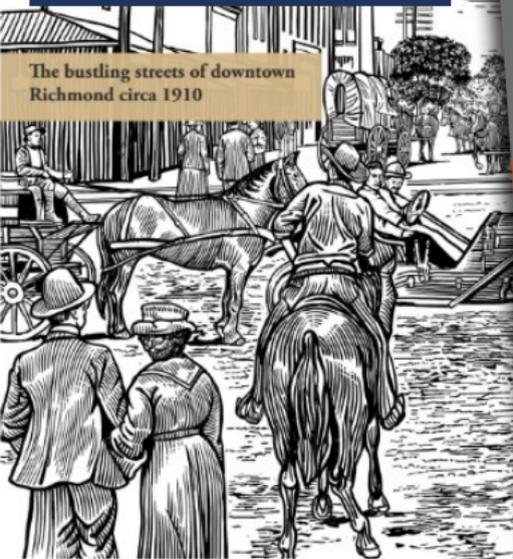
With the funds that will be triggered if we can raise just \$80,000, your contribution really takes on added impact by unleashing two different matching grants.

So every dollar you give works twice as hard. Plus, the impact of what you give will be seen in a new museum whose completion date is just a few months away in February 2021!

DEADLINE: OCTOBER

There is a deadline. **We need to hit our \$80,000 remaining goal by this October** for all of the matching funds to be activated. These gifts must be in-hand at that time (no pledges) to count toward the match.

The bustling streets of downtown Richmond circa 1910



A WORD ABOUT YOUR SUPPORT

Our “History Rising” campaign has set us down the path of an amazing journey. All of you who have contributed support — whether finances, expertise, motivation, or simply a reinforcing word — have been such an inspiration.

How often do museums get reinvented and reimagined? Without all of you, we would not have made it this far.

When we open our new space in February, we will have the opportunity to more formally recognize those who have provided support.

Looking for a specific naming opportunity? Contact Zarinah K. Poole at 281-342-1256 or zpoole@fbhistory.org for customized packages.

GIFTS GIVEN BY OCTOBER WILL BE MATCHED!

Gifts of \$10,000 and above automatically include your name on the donor wall.

\$5,000 = \$10,000

\$2,500 = \$5,000

\$1,000 = \$2,000

\$500 = \$1,000

Every donation makes double the impact!



Above: Moving the big sugar kettle out of the Museum's old gallery earlier this summer.

Donors

A Friend of Fort Bend History Association

The George Foundation

Madison Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Billie H. Wendt

Mary Jane Kocurek

Kay T. Danziger

Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation

OCuSOFT, Inc.

The Robert R. and Kay M. Onstead Foundation

Union Pacific Foundation

Gurecky Charitable Fund, *A Donor Advised Fund of
The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust*

Fort Bend Museum Docents • Brian & Keely Knipling
Steve & Mary Kay Nelson • C&M Favre Foundation

McDonald & Wessendorff Insurance

Jane Marshall Goodsill • NRG, a Reliant Co.

Lester & Billie Van Slyke • Ron & Claire Rogers

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Kelly and Nathan Wilmot

James Bowie Middle School (FBISD)

Unwine'd

Shelly and Carl Richards

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