PRESERVATION TEXAS
Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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REHABILITATION OF KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HALL IN CUERO TO RECEIVE 2016 HONOR AWARD

Austin, Texas — Preservation Texas, Inc. has announced that the rehabilitation of the circa 1903 Knights of Pythias Hall in Cuero, Texas, will receive a 2016 Honor Award on February 18, 2016. The Honor Award will be presented at a special ceremony at the historic State Theatre on Congress Avenue in Austin as part of the Preservation Texas 2016 Summit.

Located at 302 North Esplanade and designed by architect James Wharenberger, the Hall was was acquired in 2002 by the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum with the intent on transforming the building into exhibit space and meeting rooms.

Work began by stabilizing the building's outer shell and restoring the two primary facades. Brick details were replicated using historic photographs and nearly 100 years of paint was removed from the front. This phase also included the restoration of all original wood windows. The original copper Knights of Pythias emblem was replicated and placed in the central arch on the parapet wall.

On the interior, community rooms were worked into existing spaces and each room was handsomely restored. The centerpiece is the museum exhibit space on the first floor.

"Historic commercial buildings establish a unique sense of place," said Preservation Texas executive director Evan Thompson. "Adapting the old Knights of Pythias Hall as the Chisolm Trail Heritage Museum is evidence of the creativity inherent in all rehabilitation projects, and will draw many Texans to Cuero to experience the city's history and architecture."

The project team included the Chisolm Trail Heritage Museum and Fisher Heck Architects.

Founded in 1985, Preservation Texas is a member-supported non-profit historic preservation advocacy and education organization based in Austin, Texas. The organization does not receive any government funding.

For more information, visit www.PreservationTexas.org or call 512-472-0102.