



NORTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PRESERVATION SUMMIT

September 7, 2023 | Tyler | Rose Garden Center

09:15 WELCOME

Evan Thompson, Executive Director of Preservation Texas will introduce PT board members in attendance and share some programmatic updates and organizational initiatives that are happening around the state.

09:30 NORTHEAST TEXAS PROGRAM UPDATE

Conor Herterich, PT's Northeast Texas Regional Officer and Endangered Properties Manager will provide an overview of recent initiatives and programs underway including the Texas Rural African American Heritage Grants Program.

09:45 RECLAIMING SACRED SPACES: A FRAMEWORK FOR RECOGNIZING AND PROTECTING ABANDONED HISTORIC CEMETERIES

Carlyn Copeland Hammons, Cemetery Preservation Specialist, Texas Historical Commission

This session aims to equip attendees with the knowledge and tools to navigate the complexities of abandoned historic cemeteries and foster a deeper understanding of their preservation and management. Using examples from the Northeast Texas region, cemetery specialist Carlyn Copeland Hammons will cover a variety of relevant topics including navigating cemetery laws, funding for cemetery care, and the Historic Texas Cemetery Designation Program.

10:45 BREAK

11:00 PRESERVING IDENTITY, DRIVING PROSPERITY: EXPLORING THE BENEFITS OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER FOR HISTORIC DOWNTOWNS

Amber Verona, Main Street Director, City of Tyler

In 2022, the Tyler Downtown Historic District was placed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), marking the culmination of a multi-year effort by local government and downtown business leaders to set the stage for future investment and revitalization of Tyler's historic downtown. Tyler Main Street Director, Amber Verona, was at the center of that effort. She will share her insights on how the NRHP can be leveraged as a powerful tool for revitalization and why your town needs one.

12:00 LUNCH & HONOR AWARDS PRESENTATION

1:15 A PRIMER ON GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION: FOUR TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Linda Matthews, San Augustine Legacy Group

Tabitha Enge, Mt Vernon AME Church

Danney Stanley, Atlanta Grade School Friends

Carolyn Appleton, Atlanta Grade School Friends

Leading members of three grassroots preservation organizations in Northeast Texas will share valuable insights and expert advice on a variety of topics including fundraising and enhancing organizational visibility, offering participants a unique opportunity to learn from their successful preservation endeavors.

2:15 BREAK

2:30 100 YEARS OF HISTORY: DOCUMENTING THE HISTORIC RESOURCES OF STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Jordan Coleman, Jessica Reid, Kollynn Hendry, Graduate Students, Public History Program, Stephen F. Austin State University

SFASU Public History graduate students will present their work documenting historic resources on the SFA campus in preparation for the university's centennial.

3:00 SETTING THE TABLE FOR A SUCCESSFUL REHABILITATION PROJECT

Mark Thacker, Mark A. Thacker, AIA ~ Commercial & Preservation Architecture.

Throughout his career, preservation architect Mark Thacker has worked on dozens of historic rehabilitation projects and conducted architectural investigations on historic buildings throughout East Texas. These investigations are a crucial first step for any rehabilitation projects, regardless of the size and complexity of the building. Using real-world examples from Northeast Texas, Mark will illuminate and organize essential pieces of the investigation and planning process that are necessary for any successful preservation project.

4:00 CONCLUDING REMARK