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**PRESERVATION TEXAS NAMES SAN JACINTO BATTLEGROUND
TO ITS SEVENTH ANNUAL LIST OF TEXAS' MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES**

*Sites in Travis, Harris, Kendall, Hood, Llano
and Dickens Counties Included on 2010 List*

AUSTIN, TEXAS... San Jacinto Battleground, where the famous battle that won Texas its independence was fought, is one of seven sites that Preservation Texas, Inc. has named to its seventh annual list of *Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places*.

Preservation Texas officials announced the selections on the steps of the Texas State Capitol on February 4.

Located in La Porte, the San Jacinto Battleground is the place where the battle of San Jacinto was fought between the Texas army under the command of Sam Houston and a division of the Mexican army under the command of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna on April 20-21, 1836. The State of Texas acquired portions of the battleground in several transactions in the late 1800s and early 1900s to create the first state park in Texas in 1907. Since then, additional acreage was donated to or acquired by the State of Texas. In 1936-1939, the San Jacinto Monument and reflection pool were constructed within the property owned by the state and a berth was created for the Battleship *Texas* in 1948 on the portion of the site that is thought to be the location of the Texas army camp. One hundred fifteen acres of the battlefield were lost as a consequence of subsidence and Houston Ship Channel dredging and a levee was constructed on the north boundary of the state park in the 1970s.

Much of the battleground is located today within the boundaries of the state-owned San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, but portions of the battleground lie outside the state boundaries and are not protected. The threat to the site comes from external influences such as industrial encroachment as well as proposed construction projects on the battlefield. A Master Plan was adopted in 1998 to initiate an organized effort to preserve and restore the battlefield. Since then a holistic approach to the future of site has not been the focus, and new construction projects threaten to compromise the site and lead to further loss of the historic landscape.

"The landscape is all that remains of this important historic site and without a comprehensive preservation plan that respects the historic integrity of the entire site, its future is at risk" said Susan Lassell, president of Preservation Texas, Inc., a statewide partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Like the other sites on our 2010 endangered list, San Jacinto Battleground reflects the increasing awareness across our state of the importance of preserving the significant places that have played important roles in the history of Texas. By calling attention to them now, we want to encourage residents to act while there's still time."

The 2010 list of *Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places* includes:

Austin Woman's Club, 710 San Antonio, Austin, Travis County

Brazos Drive-In Theatre, 1800 W. Pearl St., Granbury, Hood County

Herff Farm, 33 Herff Road, Boerne, Kendall County

Downtown Austin's Historic Fabric, bounded by Interstate 35 to Lamar, Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. to Lady Bird Lake, Travis County

Old Llano County Jail (Red Top), 400 E. Oatman St., Llano County

San Jacinto Battleground, 3523 Independence Parkway, La Porte, Harris County

Swenson Swimming Pool and Bathhouse, Swenson Park Road, Spur, Dickens County

The Most Endangered Places program is at its heart a grassroots effort designed to elevate the cause of historic preservation and to increase the capacity of local groups and individuals to preserve the historic resources in their communities.

Sites receiving the designation receive one-on-one consultation in such areas as technical assistance to identify preservation needs and set priorities, fund raising expertise, and assistance in fostering partnerships and building community support. "It is our hope that inclusion on our list will provide these sites with the expertise and momentum that they need to take their preservation efforts to the next level," said Lassell.

Preservation Texas, Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization that advocates for preserving the historic resources in Texas. Preservation Texas named its first list of endangered historic sites in 2004. Several sites recognized by Preservation Texas have benefited from inclusion on the list of *Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places* through energized conservation efforts, commitments for restoration, and additional funding. Galveston's Strand and Mechanic Historic District and the Statler Hilton Hotel, both named to the Preservation Texas list, also were cited by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Preservation Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places program is funded by generous grants from the Burdine Johnson Foundation, Texas Historical Commission, and the Partners in the Field Challenge grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and our sponsors.

For more information on *Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places*, visit our Web site at www.preservationtexas.org, or phone Preservation Texas, Inc. at 512-472-0102.

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