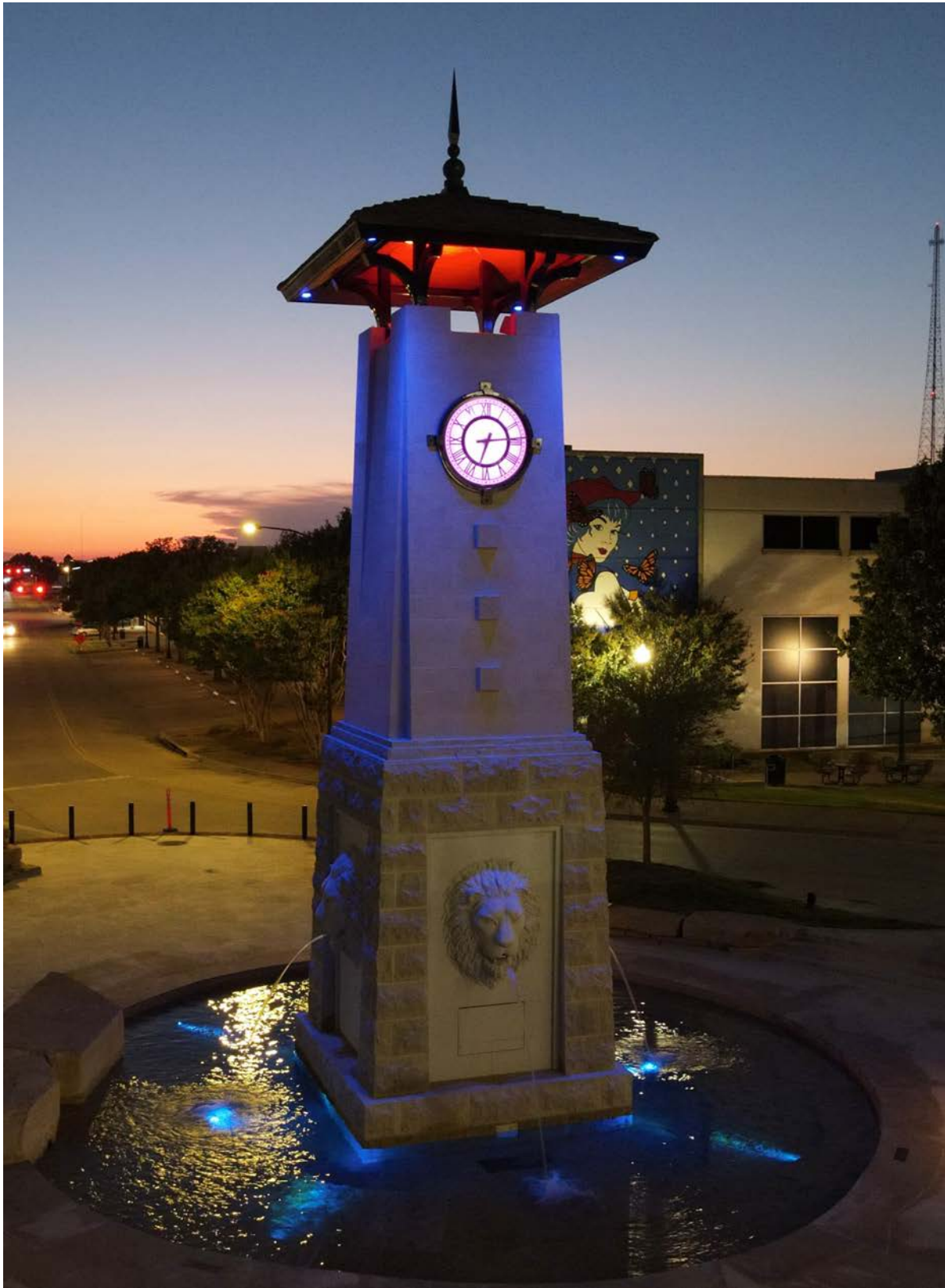


# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Landmark Preservation Commission



# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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**KRISTINA RUMANS**

The Landmark Preservation Commission is pleased to present our 2023 Annual Report to the Mayor and City Council. Our dedicated Commissioners are working diligently to preserve our city's historic resources and educate our citizens about their landmark significance.

This report highlights the Commission's efforts to mark history by using our "Landmark Arlington" marker program which focuses on historic architectural periods as well as historic sites and neighborhoods. Our program encourages green building to reuse existing structures as opposed to new construction in our older historic neighborhoods and links this history as a "place that matters."

We are diligently educating our citizens to show the value of historic preservation moving forward with our growing community defining not only what we create but also what we refuse to destroy for future generations to appreciate and share with a sense of community pride. These efforts fuel our downtown economy by raising the value of our historic resources.

It is a privilege and honor to be serving as Chairperson of the Landmark Commission. Thank you for giving the Commissioners the opportunity to serve Arlington to educate, oversee, and preserve Arlington's historic resources and history.

*Kristina Rumans, Chair*

**"Through restoration and adaptive reuse, old buildings are given a new life, and the process brings a host of benefits to the community."**

# 2023 Landmark Preservation Commissioners



Kristina  
Rumans  
Place 1



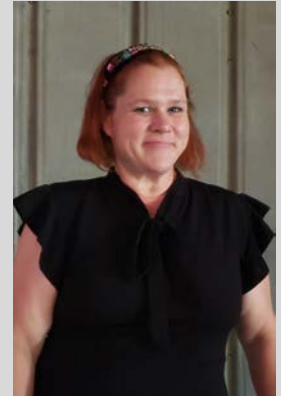
Julie Hunt  
Place 2



Cheryl Donaldson  
Place 3



Vacant  
Place 4



Jennifer Hurley  
Place 5



Zane Gober  
Place 6



OK Carter  
Place 7



Rodrick Penson  
Place 8



Geraldine Mills  
Place 9

## City Staff Liaisons

Sarah Stubblefield, AICP, continued to serve as the Historic Preservation Officer and served as staff support through August 2023. Jacob Browning, AICP, became Historic Preservation Officer in September 2023, and currently serves as staff support to the Commission.

Anthony Cisneros, AICP, also assisted the Commission in 2023.

## Certified Local Government Reporting

As a member of the Certified Local Government program, annual reports must be provided to the Texas Historical Commission and National Park Service. Reporting was completed to both organizations in February 2024.



# Demolition Permits

The Arlington Unified Development Code requires the Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC) to review all demolition and relocation permit applications for structures at least 50 years of age, whose age is unknown, or those with historical designations. Office of Strategic Initiatives staff provides historic review, property history, and exterior photos for the Commission's review at their monthly meetings.

All 19 properties listed in the table below were reviewed by the LPC at a public hearing. The "year constructed" is determined by the Tarrant Appraisal District (TAD) records. The 2007 Arlington Historic Resources Survey is used to establish a property's historical value assessment (or "priority") that determines its historical contribution to Arlington. The historic stays on all 19 applications were released by the LPC in 2023.

Demolition permit applications increased in 2023, up from ten in 2022 and 16 in 2021.

Address	Year Constructed	Priority	LPC Date
3403 E. Abram Street	1959	No	1/12/2023
511 N. Davis Street	1961	No	2/9/2023
2424 Lincoln Drive	1973	No	
213 Kerby Street	1948	No	
217 Kerby Street	1946	No	
204 N. Oak Street	1957	No	3/9/2023
207 N. Oak Street	1900	High	
207C N. Oak Street	1957	No	
209 N. Oak Street	1947	High	4/13/2023
900 Marcellus Court	1954	No	5/11/2023
2025 Glenhaven Street	1953	No	6/8/2023
307 Fuller Street	1946	No	7/13/2023
6920 Rutland Drive	1925	High	8/10/2023
205 Slaughter Street	1944	Low	9/14/2023
200 E. Fourth Street	1947	No	11/2/2023
4405 Larry Lane	1972	No	
1401 New Haven Street	1954	No	12/7/2023
4505 Kelly Elliott Road	1973	No	
1700 Rocky Canyon Road	1955	No	



511 N. Davis Drive



209 N. Oak Street



6920 Rutland Drive

# Dangerous and Substandard Structures

The Dangerous and Substandard Structures (DSS) team of the Code Compliance Department investigates dangerous buildings, the conditions of which endanger the life, health, property, or safety of the public. On occasion, the LPC must review the cases on which the DSS team is working due to the potential demolition of residential structures 50 years or older.

The properties listed in the table below were reviewed and released to the City of Arlington for the appropriate action. DSS team officers provided case information related to the review of all properties deemed dangerous or substandard.

The LPC released seven properties to the City for appropriate action. There were eight DSS cases in 2022 and four in 2021.

Address	LPC Date
2008 Brookshire Drive	4/13/2023
2112 W. Sublett Road	5/11/2023
711 Linda Vista Avenue, Bldg. 805	8/10/2023
711 Linda Vista Avenue	9/14/2023
1724 Joyce Street	
1703 Foster Drive	11/2/2023
1329 Biggs Terrace	12/7/2023



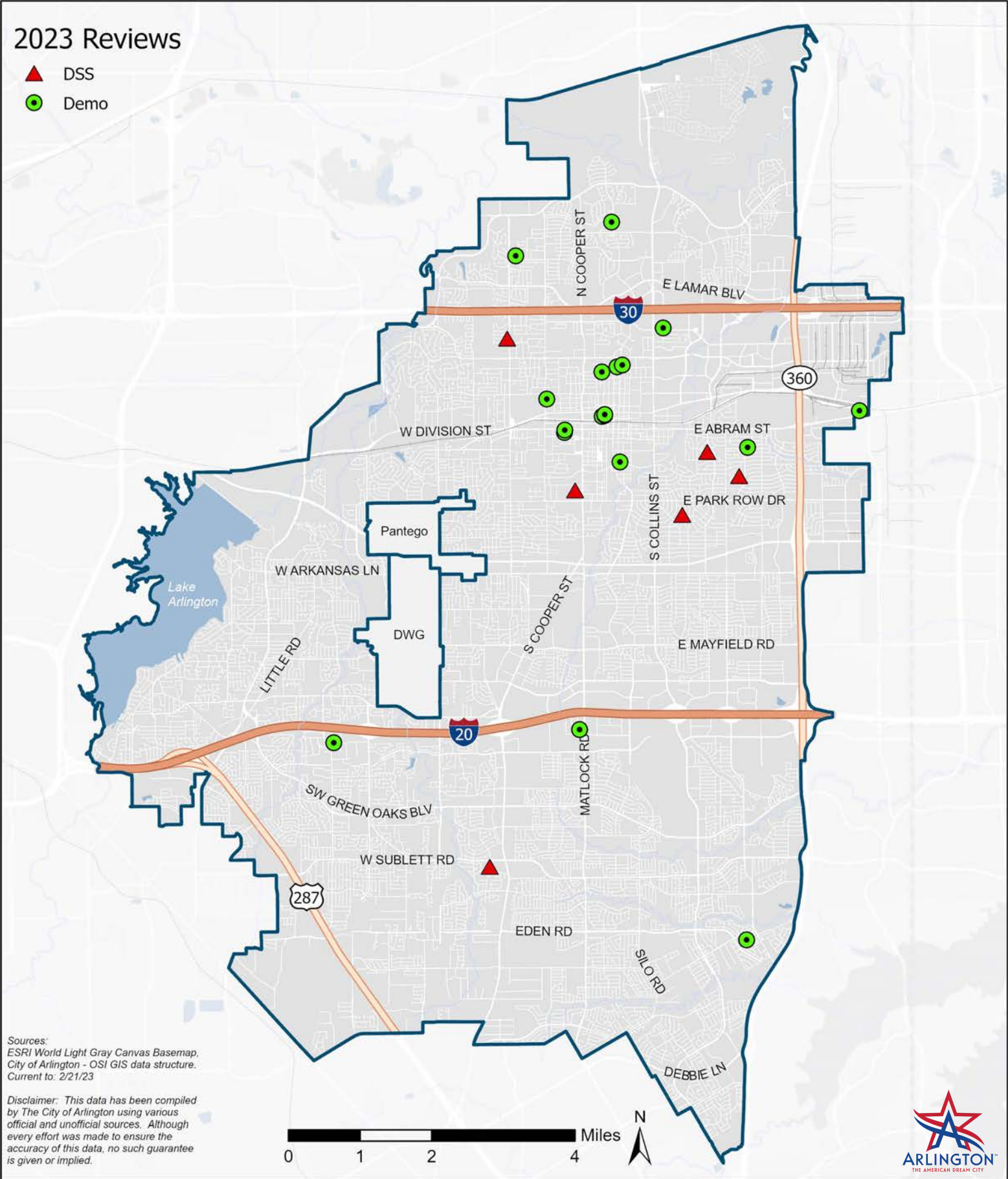
711 Linda Vista Avenue



1703 Foster Drive



# 2023 Demolition Permit and Dangerous Structure Cases



# Commissioners Honored by Tarrant County Historical Commission

In October, the Tarrant County Historical Commission awarded three Arlington Landmark Preservation Commissioners for their impacts on historic preservation efforts throughout the county.

- **Kristina Rumans** received the Tom Vandergriff Award, which recognizes an individual for long-term exemplary public / community service contributing to the history of Tarrant County.
- **Geraldine Mills** received the Susie Pritchett Lifetime Achievement Award in Preservation, which recognizes an individual who has devoted their life to promoting the preservation and contributing to the heritage of Tarrant County.
- **Jason Sullivan** received the Debbie Reynolds Hazen Award, which recognizes an individual younger than 50 years of age who has shown leadership in collecting and preserving the history of Tarrant County.

The Commissioners' achievements were also recognized by Mayor Ross at the November 28th City Council meeting.



From left, LPC Chair Kristina Rumans, Floreen Henry (Arlington Historical Society), Commissioner Geraldine Mills, and former Commissioner Jason Sullivan show off their awards

## In Other News

- [Arlington's 'Unofficial Historian' Publishes New Essays on City's Notable Women, Black History](#)
- [A Memorial Honoring Fallen Service Members](#)
- [New Plaza and Art Installation will be Built in Arlington to Commemorate Old Mineral Well](#)

# Arlington, Bad Königshofen Celebrate 72 Years of Friendship

With the sweep of a pen and a warm handshake, Mayors Jim Ross and Thomas Helbling formalized the Sister Cities relationship between the City of Arlington and Bad Königshofen, Germany, that began out of an act of kindness 72 years earlier.

The recommitment ceremony, which included an exchanging of gifts and the dedication of a state historical marker, was held Sept. 27 beside the historic train depot platform in Downtown where Arlington residents first gathered in 1952 to begin shipping off supplies to help refugees in the small north Bavarian town. More than two dozen delegates visiting from Bad Königshofen attended Wednesday's event, which celebrated one of the longest-lasting Sister Cities relationships that exists in the world today and a friendship "solid as a rock."

During the ceremony, the Texas Historical Commission unveiled a state historical marker beside the wooden platform that is all that remains of Arlington's former Texas & Pacific railroad depot. The new marker, which became Tarrant County's 49th official state historical marker, is located just north of the George W. Hawkes Downtown Library.

As part of this year's cultural exchange with Bad Königshofen, delegates visited various city departments, parks, schools, restaurants, and entertainment venues during their stay. After the recommitment agreement was signed, the City presented the delegation with a brass train station bell inscribed with the motto Friendship: Solid as a Rock to take back home.



Members of the Bad Königshofen fire department stand near the newly-revealed state historical marker at the wooden platform of the former T&P train depot



# “Echoes from the Hill” Makes Television Debut on PBS’ “Frame of Mind” Series

“Echoes from The Hill,” a compelling documentary that explores what life was like for Black residents in a small Arlington community known as The Hill, marked its television debut on KERA’s acclaimed program, “Frame of Mind,” in October.

Now in its 31st year on the air, “Frame of Mind” features films about Texas by Texans - distinct Texas stories from Texas filmmakers.

“Echoes from The Hill” is a planned five-part documentary that will focus on life in The Hill, the only historic addition platted specifically for Arlington’s African American residents. The first episode, “A Place of Our Own,” features photos, maps, documents and excerpts from interviews with Black residents and their descendants who lived in this community.

Interviews include the Rev. Carl Pointer, Bob Ray Sanders, Randy Parker, Bertha Jones, Geraldine Mills, and Beverly Jackson on topics ranging from segregation to influential church and business leaders to the vibrant nightlife in The Hill. The film also features scholars Gene B. Preuss, Ph.D., and W. Marvin Dulaney, Ph.D., who explore African American life in North Texas after emancipation as well as the history of racial control that would evolve into Jim Crow laws.

The Arlington Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee, which sponsored the first episode, hosted a public screening of “A Place of Our Own” during the 2022 Arlington Juneteenth Jubilee. The episode was also featured during the 2023 Denton Black Film Festival.

King Hollis and Lindell Singleton directed the documentary. It was produced by Southroad Pictures, with associate producers Geraldine Mills, Anthony Cisneros, and Shirley Adams and executive producers Lemuel Randolph, Lisa Thompson, Jennifer Wichmann, King Hollis, and Lindell Singleton. The project was funded by the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation.



# 2023 LPC Work Plan

The Landmark Preservation Commission Work Plan serves as a guide to the Landmark Preservation Commission for the work they accomplish each year. In general, the LPC has wide-ranging goals and objectives based on the goals of the City Council and the adopted 2010 *Historic Preservation Plan for the City of Arlington*.

## 1. Local Marker Program

- Market and implement the program
- Assist in preparing local marker application nominations for additional high priority properties as Arlington landmarks

## 2. Outreach

- Increase awareness of Arlington landmark preservation efforts with local, state, and national preservation organizations
- Update LPC pages on the City website
- Continue to promote Arlington history on City social media pages

## 3. Incentives

- Propose an incentive program for consideration by Council

## 4. Landmark Preservation (LP) Overlay

- Evaluate existing overlay and study opportunities for including additional properties, buildings, and sites for increased preservation
- Explore how LP Overlay properties can coordinate with potential incentives
- Recommend changes/updates to LP Overlay to Planning and Zoning Commission

## 5. Tourism

- Study possibility of walking tour of local landmarks, including a smartphone application
- Create and market an interactive map of all local marker sites to add to the City website and other appropriate online networks

## 6. Training and Networking

- Seek opportunities for training related to preservation
- Ensure all Commissioners have current ethics and open meeting trainings
- Attend other historic group meetings and network with other historic interest groups
- Explore hosting a Texas Historic Commission training event

## 7. Commission

- Actively recruit LPC members when necessary
- Improve communications with the City to assist the LPC in effectively fulfilling its role

## 8. Staff Support

- Keep Commissioners informed about community preservation events and initiatives
- Continue staff functions, including:
  - Assist with case reports for demolition permits that are referred to the LPC by PDS
  - Review applicable zoning cases for their potential effect on historic properties and inform the Commission
  - Prepare annual CLG and other grant applications on behalf of the LPC
  - Coordinate training opportunities for the LPC and staff, including THC-approved events
  - Network and coordinate with the private sector, the community, and other City departments on preservation issues and efforts

