Historic Landmark Commission - Regular Meeting
June 16, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Council Chambers
1200 E. Broad St., Mansfield, TX 76063

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

26-2340 Minutes - Approval of the April 21, 2026, Historic Landmark Commission Meeting Minutes
Attachments:
1. 04-21-26 Meeting Minutes

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens wishing to address the Commission on non-public hearing agenda items and items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Once the business portion of the meeting begins, only comments related to public hearings will be heard. All comments are limited to five (5) minutes.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

26-2341 HLC#26-002: Public Hearing and Consideration of a Historic Property Deemed Deserving of Official Recognition although not Designated as a Historic Landmark
Attachments:
1. Location Map
2. Supporting Information

5. PRESERVATION EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE

26-2346 Minutes - Approval of the April 21, 2026, Preservation Education Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Attachments:
1. 04-21-26 Sub-Committee Minutes

6. HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT

26-2374 Historic Preservation Officer’s Report for June 2026
Attachments:
1. Post Event Recap for Historic Preservation Month 2026

7. COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. ADJOURN

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above agenda was posted on the bulletin board next to the main entrance of City Hall on June 9, 2026, prior to 5:00 p.m. in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

_____
Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer

This building is wheelchair accessible. Disabled parking spaces are available. Request for sign interpreter services must be made 48 hours ahead of meeting to make arrangements. Call 817 473-0211 or TDD 1-800-RELAY TX, 1-800-735-2989.

City of Mansfield
Staff Report

Item ID: 26-2340

Agenda Date: June 16, 2026

Title
Minutes - Approval of the April 21, 2026, Historic Landmark Commission Meeting Minutes

Description/History
The minutes of the April 21, 2026, Historic Landmark Commission meeting are in DRAFT form and will not become effective until approved by the Commission at this meeting.

Strategic Initiative

Recommendation
N/A

Funding Source
N/A

Prepared By
Art Wright, Planning Manager - (817) 276-4226

Historic Landmark Commission - Regular Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Draft
Council Chambers
1200 E. Broad St., Mansfield, TX 76063

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Leach called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 1200 East Broad Street, with the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving date, place, and subject thereof, having been posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

Staff present:
Art Wright, Planning Manager/HPO

Commissioners:
Present: Jennifer Johnston, Thomas Leach, Mark Walker, Anne Weydeck, Eric Walraven
Absent: Bob Klenzendorf, David Littlefield

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

26-2111 Minutes - Approval of the March 17, 2026, Historic Landmark Commission Meeting Minutes
Attachments:
1. 03-17-26 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Leach called for a motion on the minutes of the March 17, 2026, meeting.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion, which carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5	Jennifer Johnston, Thomas Leach, Mark Walker, Anne Weydeck, Eric Walraven
Nay: 0	None
Abstain: 0	None

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens wishing to address the Commission on non-public hearing agenda items and items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Once the business portion of the meeting begins, only comments related to public hearings will be heard. All comments are limited to five (5) minutes.

None.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

26-2117 HLC#26-002: Discussion of Historic Properties Deemed Deserving of Official Recognition although not Designated as Historic Landmarks
Presenters:
Attachments:
1. Location Map
2. Supporting Information

Mr. Wright made a presentation on the Morison-Blissard House at 204 Tarrant Street, a nominee for official recognition as a historic resource. After discussion, the Commission directed Mr. Wright to contact the property owner to participate in the official recognition program.

26-2122 HLC#26-003: Discussion and Possible Action on the “Letters to 2076” Time Capsule
Attachments:
1. Draft Letter to 2076

Mr. Wright made a presentation on the "Letters to 2076" time capsule program sponsored by the Commission and was available for questions. The Commission reviewed a draft letter of its own to place in the time capsule. After discussion, the Commission approved the draft letter and directed Mr. Wright to proceed with the project.

5. PRESERVATION EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Commissioner Leach, chair of the Sub-Committee, gave the Commission a brief update on the Sub-Committee's activities and program for Historic Preservation Month 2026.

26-2113 Minutes - Approval of the March 17, 2026, Preservation Education Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Attachments:
1. 03-17-26 Sub-Committee Minutes

Chairman Leach called for a motion on the minutes of the March 17, 2026, sub-committee meeting.

Commissioner Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion, which carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3	Jennifer Johnston, Mark Walker, Thomas Leach
Nay: 0	None
Abstain: 0	None

6. HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Wright reported on the following items:

- *The city attorney made minor revisions to the Historic Designation Impact Statement for*

clarity.

- *The City Council will be presenting the Historic Preservation Month proclamation at their April 27, 2027, meeting, and the Commissioners were invited to attend.*
- *The Commission's meeting on May 19, 2026, has been canceled.*

7. COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

8. ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Leach adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

_____
Thomas Leach, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer

City of Mansfield
Staff Report

Item ID: 26-2341

Agenda Date: June 16, 2026

Title
HLC#26-002: Public Hearing and Consideration of a Historic Property Deemed Deserving of Official Recognition although not Designated as a Historic Landmark

Description/History
Section 155.069 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances requires the Historic Preservation Officer to submit a list of structures and other features deemed deserving of official recognition, although not designated as historic landmarks, to the Historic Landmark Commission for public hearing and approval and to take appropriate measures of recognition. The Commission must hold a public hearing before official recognition takes effect.

Architectural Evaluation
The Morison-Blissard House at 204 Tarrant Street is nominated for consideration as an officially recognized historic resource. The house, constructed c. 1880, is a center-passage residence now clad in modern siding. It is classified as a Medium-priority resource.

The original front portion of the house remains intact, while the side porches have been enclosed and extended toward the rear. These alterations are evident when comparing the current aerial imagery to the building footprint shown on the 1921 Sanborn Map. The house is one of four center-passage residences in the historic downtown that retain its historic form.

Medium-priority resources usually have less architectural and physical integrity than High-priority or Selected Medium priority properties. They are almost always characterized by alterations or deterioration of materials that removed, changed or obscured original design features, or by less significant associations with the historic context. They are not usually eligible for listing as an Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. If included in a National Register historic district, they are almost always considered Contributing resources to the district.

Historic Associations
The house was originally the residence of Robert Emmett Morison and his wife, Florence. Emmett Morison served as Constable for Precinct 8, which included Mansfield, from 1890 to 1916, except for one term. In 1916, he was fatally shot on Main Street by Claude Patterson.

In 1936, the property was acquired by Elbert “Doc” and Stella Blissard. The Blissards were the parents of Harry D. Blissard, chief of Mansfield’s volunteer fire department, who died in 1968 while responding to an explosion at the Red Ball Gas House in Kennedale.

Designation Criteria
In reviewing this property, please keep the following criteria in mind when choosing a building or property to officially recognize:

- Character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City of Mansfield, State of Texas, or the United States.
- Embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

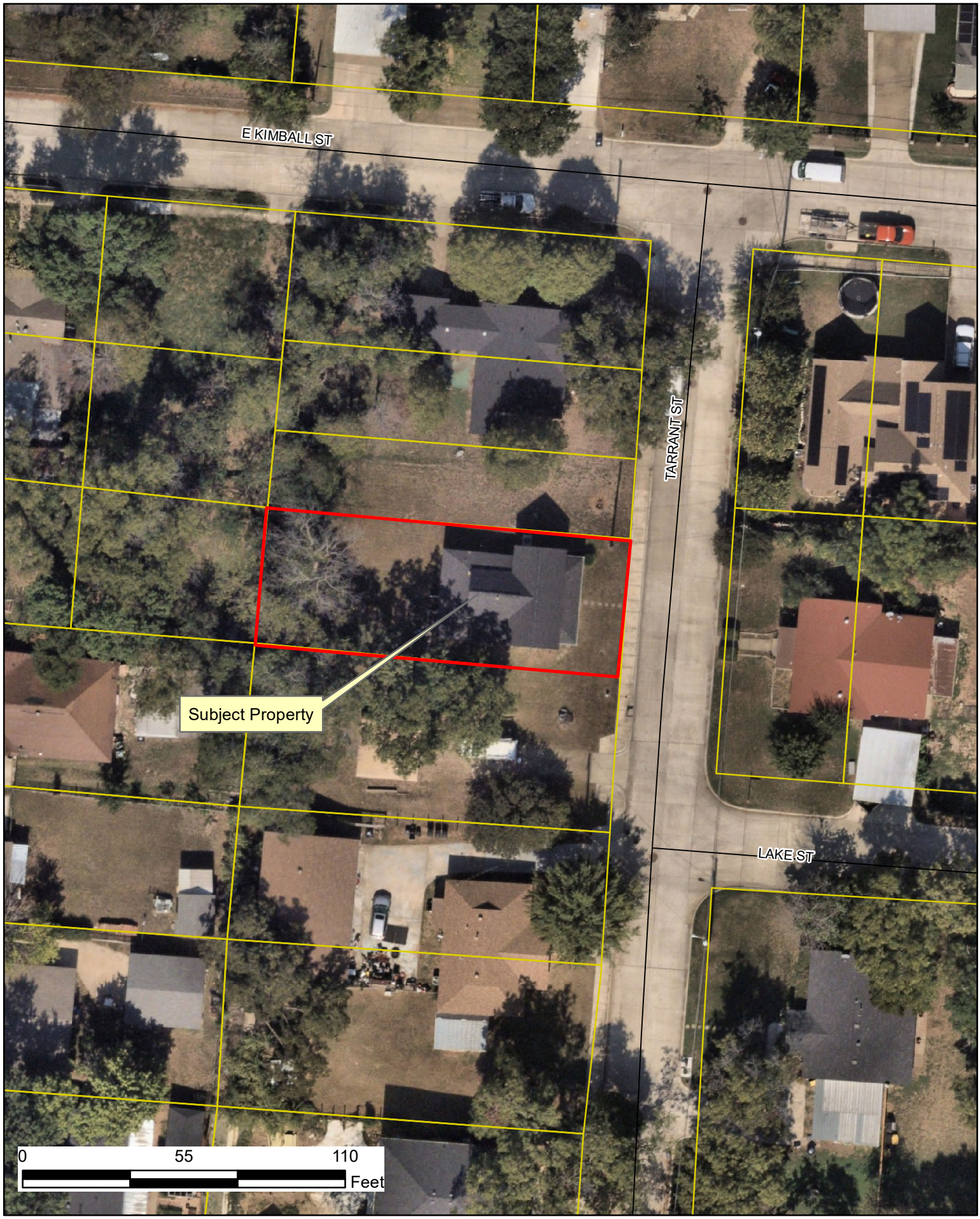
- Embodiment of elements of architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship, which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- Relationship to other distinctive buildings, sites or areas which are eligible for preservation as described based on architectural, historic or cultural motif.
- Portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an area of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- Identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture or development of the City, County, State or Nation.

Strategic Initiative

Recommendation
The Historic Preservation Officer recommends approval of the Morison-Blissard House at 204 Tarrant Street as an Officially Recognized Historic Resource due to its architectural type as one of the few center passage houses in the historic downtown, and for its association with Constable Emmett Morison and Fire Chief Harry D. Blissard.

Funding Source
N/A

Prepared By
Art Wright, Planning Manager - (817) 276-4226



MANSFIELD TEXAS

N W E S

HLC#26-002

204

Address	Priority					Photographic Reference		Date	Identification			Exterior	I.D.
Street Number and Name	H	SM	M	SL	L	Roll : Frame	Slide		Property Type	Subtype	Stylistic Influence	Materials	No.
0 ? N. Sycamore			X					1940	Religious	Church		Asbestos	550
107 N. Sycamore			X					1935	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Asbestos	281
209 N. Sycamore			X					1940	Domestic	Cross Gabled Bungalow		Asbestos	282
213 N. Sycamore			X					1935	Domestic	Cross Gabled Bungalow	Tudor Revival	Stone	283
217 N. Sycamore			X					1930	Domestic	Duplex		Wood	284
200 S. Tarrant					X			1950	Domestic			Vinyl Siding	349
204 S. Tarrant			X					1880	Domestic	Center Passage		Asbestos	350
300 S. Tarrant					X			1930	Domestic			Synthetic Siding	351
300 blk. S. Tarrant					X			1940	Domestic	Cross Gabled Bungalow		Vinyl Siding	355
311 S. Tarrant			X					1935	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Asbestos	352
313 S. Tarrant					X			1940	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Vinyl Siding	353
314 S. Tarrant					X			1930	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Wood	354
800 blk. N. Tate St.				X				1910	Domestic	Massed Plan Pyramidal		Wood	506
800 blk. N. Tate St.					X			1950	Domestic			Wood	507
800 blk. N. Tate St.					X			1940	Domestic	1 Room		Wood	508
100 blk. W. Van Worth St.				X				1895	Domestic	I-House		Vinyl Siding	257
100 blk. W. Van Worth St.					X			1925	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Wood/Stucco	259
106 W. Van Worth St.					X			1900	Domestic	L-Plan		T-111/Corrugated	256
107 W. Van Worth St.					X			1940	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Wood/Stucco	258
110 W. Van Worth St.					X			1925	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Wood	255
200 blk. W. Van Worth St.					X			1930	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Wood/Aluminum	251
301 W. Van Worth St.					X			1940	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Asbestos	252
305 W. Van Worth St.					X			1910	Domestic	Massed Plan Pyramidal		Wood	253
309 W. Van Worth St.					X			1950	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Wood	254
100 blk. N. Walnut			X					1930	Industrial	Lumber Yard		Wood/Corrugated	218
100 blk. N. Walnut					X			1940	Commercial	Garage		Yellow Brick	219
201 N. Walnut Creek					X			1900	Domestic			Wood	313
100 blk. N. Waxahachie					X			1950	Domestic	Garage Apartment		Stone	285
100 blk. S. Waxahachie			X					1905	Domestic	L-Plan		Wood	362A
100 blk. S. Waxahachie (rear)			X					1950	Domestic	Garage Apartment		Wood	362B
108 S. Waxahachie					X			1950	Domestic	Cross Gabled Bungalow		Wood	374
200 S. Waxahachie			X					1925	Domestic	Front Gabled Bungalow		Asbestos	373
200 blk. S. Waxahachie					X			1930	Domestic	Garage Apartment		Wood	365
200 blk. S. Waxahachie			X					1945	Domestic			Wood	366A
200 blk. S. Waxahachie (rear)			X					1935	Domestic			Wood	366B
201 S. Waxahachie					X			1935	Domestic	Cross Gabled Bungalow		Wood	363
203 S. Waxahachie					X			1945	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Wood	364
300 S. Waxahachie					X			1940	Domestic			Vinyl Siding	372
300 blk. S. Waxahachie					X			1910	Domestic	Center Passage		Red Brick	369
300 blk. S. Waxahachie					X			1950	Domestic	Side Gabled Bungalow		Wood	371

MANSFIELD ROOTS

Capt. Thomas Orville Moody (1821-1877)

Fifth in a series
BY JAN ANTON

This footnote in Mansfield's first family history should be of special interest as the surname "Moody" is familiar in Mansfield's current history.

Captain Thomas O. Moody is best remembered as the leader of Mansfield's Company K, Seventh Regiment, Texas Mounted Volunteers of the Sibley Brigade, CSA. Historical society records do not pinpoint the time of Moody's arrival in Mansfield, but records indicate that he enrolled his Confederate company in Mansfield on Oct. 26, 1861.

The unit mustered out on Nov. 15 of 1861 at Camp Pickett near San Antonio, and although the bulk of the Sibley Brigade was sent west, Company K was ordered to remain behind to escort the brigade paymaster. The unit caught up with its counterparts in Confederate Arizona in April or May of 1862, forming part of Colonel William Steele's rear guard ordered to evacuate Arizona and far West Texas in July, 1862.

John Peter Smith, distinquished Fort Worth educator and businessman, was listed as a second lieutenant in the company.

Capt. Moody resigned his commission Sept. 2, 1863 because of an old gunshot wound.

Before the war, Moody distinguished himself in Tarrant County affairs. One account of his life sets his migration to Texas somewhere between Oct. 1, 1837 and Jan. 1, 1842, landing in Tarrant County during the early 1850's. Masonic Lodge records verify that Moody joined the Fort Worth Lodge 148 in March, 1856, serving as Worshipful Master the following year. He transferred his membership to the Mansfield Lodge 331 Nov. 5, 1870 and was still a member when he died Jan. 1, 1877.

He, along with Julian Feild, A. D. Johnson and Dr. Carroll Peak, was a trustee of the first Fort Worth public school, established in 1856. Likewise, Moody joined Feild, Charles Turner and 35 other men in getting the Tarrant County seat moved from Birdville to Fort Worth by guaranteeing to build a courthouse at their own expense if voters concurred.

Thomas O. Moody was the fourth of five children of Epps Moody and his second wife, Matilda Johnson Rawlings Moody (married in 1811), having been born in Franklin County, Ala. on Nov. 13, 1821.

Epps Moody was described in one account as a sixth generation Virginian. Another piece of historical information may link Moody with a Thomas Moody of Derry County, Ireland.

Epps Moody married his first wife, Sarah Tabb, in Franklin County, N. C. in 1793. He relocated in Alabama where Capt. Moody was born and shortly thereafter moved to LaGrange in Hardeman County, Tenn.

As influential to Fort Worth and Mansfield history as Capt. Moody was, little information has surfaced pertaining to his family life. The name of his wife is unknown to the Mansfield Historical Society, however, an 1895 account says they had 12 children, all but three living at that time. The same account sets his wife's death at 1884.

Although Capt. Moody died at the age of 55, the longevity of his family line has proven remarkable, with a number of his relatives living and remaining active until their late nineties and beyond.

Capt. Moody was buried in the northwest corner of Mansfield Cemetery in a section where several graves are marked only with small nameless stones. A Confederate marker adorns his grave.

The whereabouts of his children, with the exception of his daughter Florence, remain a mystery.

The historical society has gleaned much of its information from Capt. Moody's great-grandson, Col. Thomas Orville Morison, Jr., USAF,Ret. His grandmother was Florence Moody (1864-1952).

In 1888, Florence Moody married Robert "Emmett" Morison (1858-1916) of Mansfield. Morison, already a successful landowner and merchant (Piles and Morison), was also city marshal. His father, J.W.S. Morison of Virginia, had brought his family to Texas in 1860, settling first in Johnson County, then Hood County and finally Tarrant County in 1865.

Col. Morison related the following description of his grandfather, Emmett Morison. He had been about five feet, 10 inches tall, sandy haired and slightly built. He was fond of children, didn't smoke or drink, and had an even temperament — firm, fair and impartial in his conduct and treatment of others.

Morison served as marshal in Mansfield from 1881 until his death in 1916, with the exception of one term.

The years around the turn of the century were "wild and wooly," and on several occasions, Marshal Morison found himself dodging bullets. One such incident involved Oliver P. House (1846-1926) and his son, Richard "Dick" House (1869-1900). Details are sketchy, but according to the Mansfield Historical Society, "Uncle Ol" House ran a saloon. During the Christmas season of 1900, on Water St. (Main St.) near where the Episcopal Church currently holds services, Morison shot and killed Dick House and wounded his father. After that, the House family kept their men away from town during Christmas.

The Oliver House family lived where the new Lee's Super Market is now located. Several House families lived in Mansfield at that time, and there is a road north of town named House Road.

Morison's luck ran out when he was shot and killed by Claude "Wampus" Patterson in 1916. He is buried in Mansfield Cemetery near the grave of his father-in-law, Capt. Moody.

Florence Morison moved to Fort Worth in 1917 or 1918 and died there Jan. 25, 1952, but she was buried next to her husband. They had two sons, John W.S. Morison and Thomas O. Morison (1893-1936). Both sons and their wives are buried in Mansfield Cemetery.

Emmett and Florence Morison lived at 204 Nugent St. (Tarrant St.) in a home that, according to abstract records, dates back to 1842. It was probably built near Britton by Joseph Nugent and moved to Mansfield at a later date.

In 1936, "Doc" and Stella Blissard pruchased the home and their daughter, Jane Lancaster, currently lives there. Mrs. Lancaster said the house remains much the same as it was originally, with the exception of two porches that have been closed in.

She said her father, a county employee, built the garage from a packing crate that housed the first bulldozer Tarrant County ever bought.

The Moody family history would be incomplete without mention of the black Moody families who got their start here.

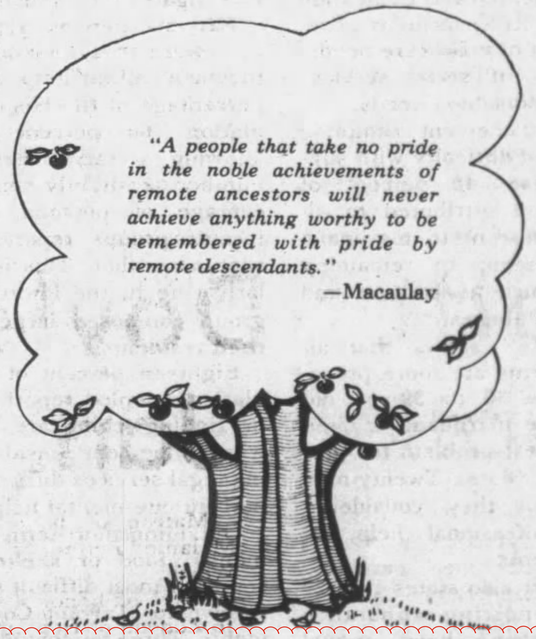
As affluent whites migrated to Texas, many brought slaves with them and Epps Moody was a slave-owner. A copy of his will showed that his estate included 45 Negros valued at $15,881, who were to be divided equally six ways upon his death. His son, Capt. Moody, was to have received seven on those slaves.

It was customary for slaves to take the name of their owners, and, consequently, the black Moody families still in Mansfield can trace some of their roots through the pages of white history.

Nathan Moody, although bequeathed to L.H. Millikin (possibly Epps Moody's son-in-law), is remembered in Mansfield as Capt. Moody's slave. The will, dated Oct. 9, 1847, listed him as 20-years old.

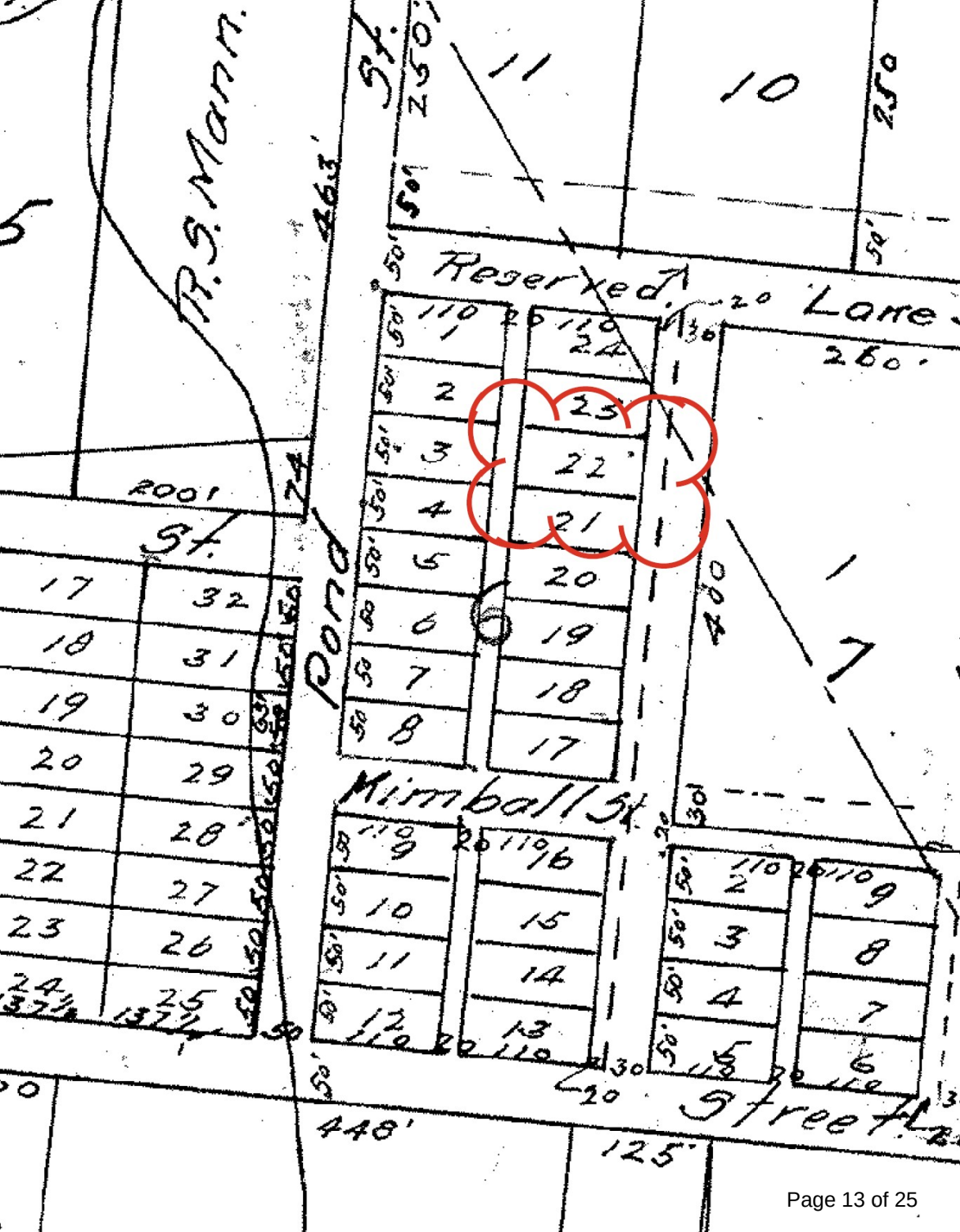
Uncle Nathan was Capt. Moody's head carpenter and

See Moody, page 7



MORISON-BLISSARD HOUSE — Early Mansfield landowner, merchant and marshal Robert "Emmett" Morison lived with his wife, Florence Moody Morison, in this house at 204 Tarrant St. The home, much the same as it was, is now occupied by Jane Lancaster, daughter of Doc and Stella Blissard.

—News-Mirror Staffoto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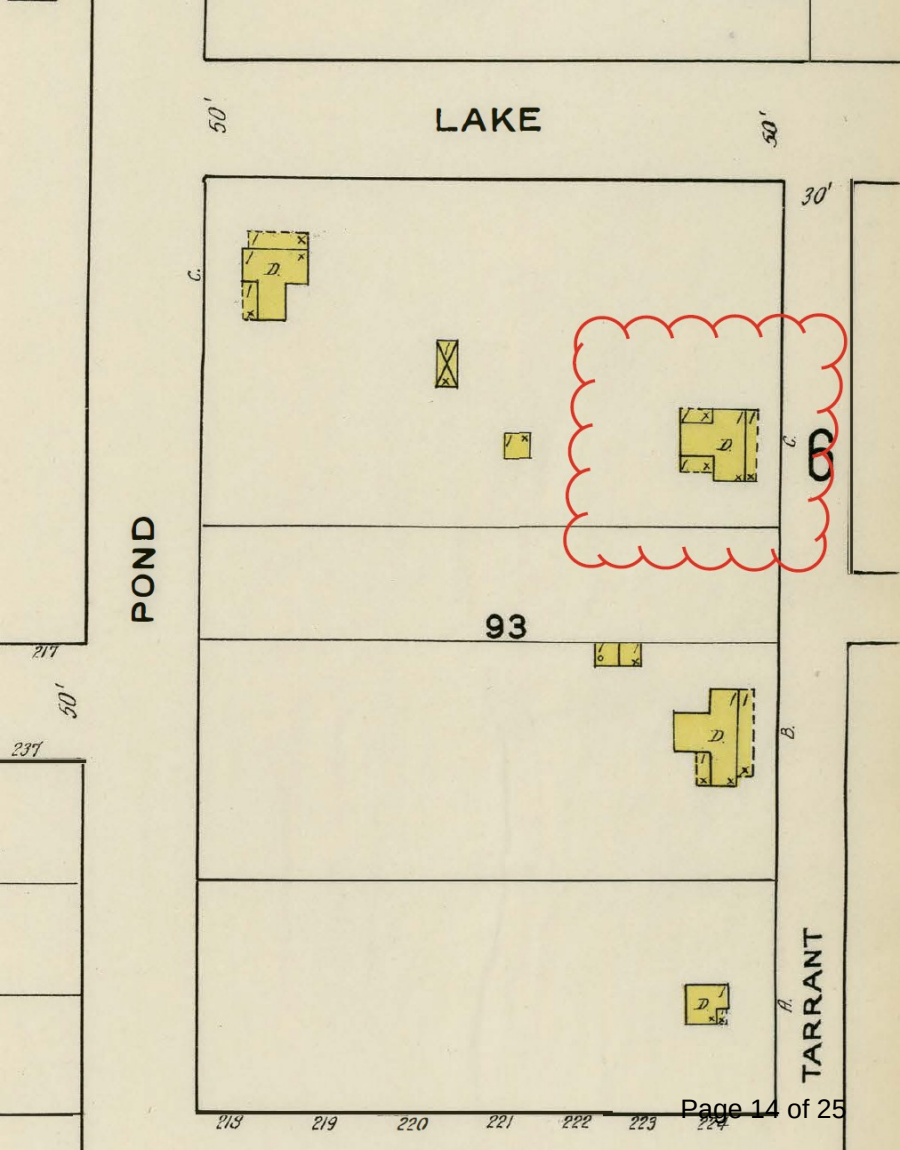
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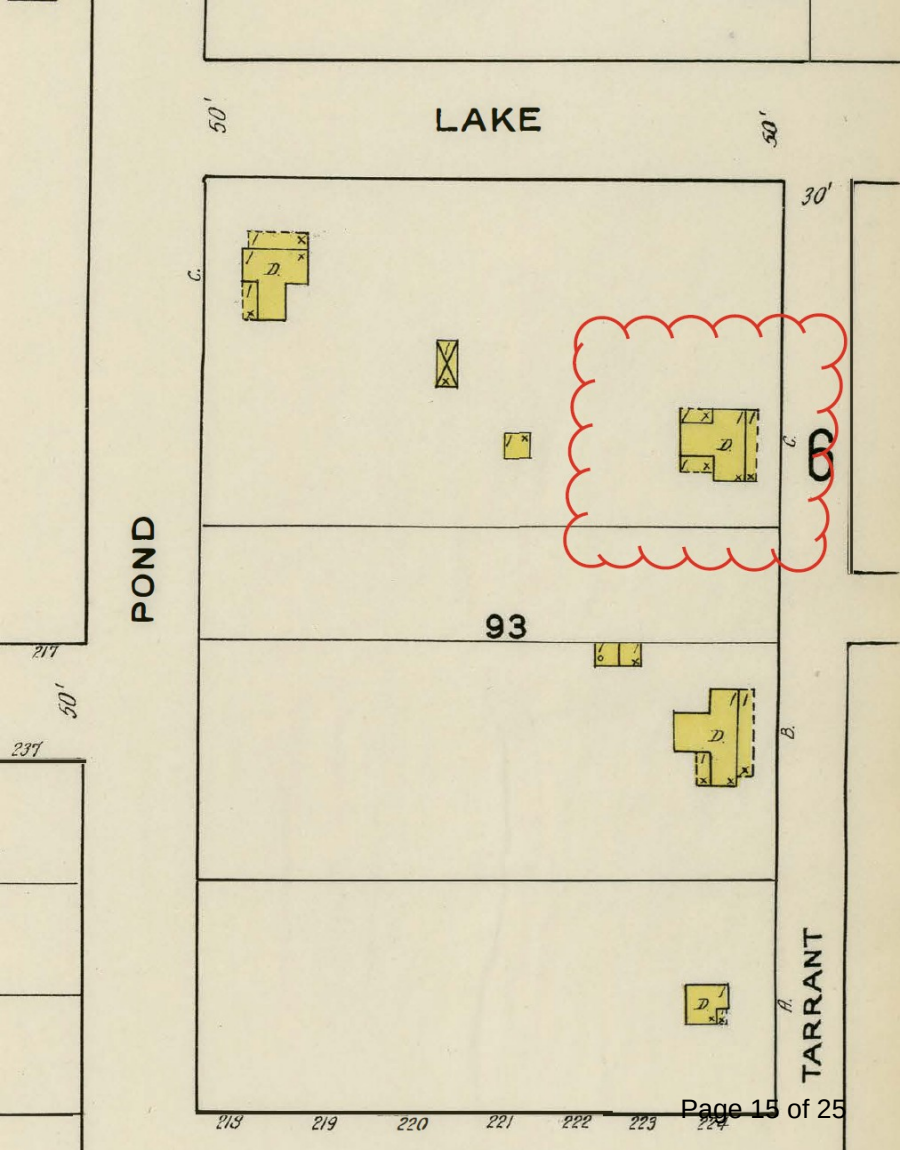
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4	East Side			Kate	Wife	wf	F	W	49	M1	20	2	2
5				Frank	Son		M	W	19	S			
6				Thos J. Jr	Son		M	W	11	S			
7	Pearl St	24	24	Man Edwin H	Head		M	W	33	M1	7	1	1
8				Mary Ann	Wife	wf	F	W	27	M1	7		
9				Norma H	Daughter		F	W	4	S			
10		25	25	Mitchell Wesley W	Head		M	W	54	M1	27		
11				Mary Jane	Wife	wf	F	W	47	M1	27		
12				Cennie O	Daughter		F	W	20	S			
13				Fannie B	Daughter		F	W	17	S			
14				Ora M	Daughter		F	W	15	S			
15				Chas D	Son		M	W	4	S			
16		26	26	Wilson Squire H	Head		M	W	44	M1	17		
17				Minnie E	Wife	wf	F	W	49	M1	17		
18				Guilford E	Son		M	W	15	S			
19		27	27	Gentry Colvin B	Head		M	W	81	M3	2		
20				Lorena A	Wife	wf	F	W	66	M3	2	11	3
21		28	28	Morrison Robert E	Head		M	W	53	M1	22		
22				Florence	Wife	wf	F	W	43	M1	22	2	2
23				Thomas O	Son		M	W	17	S			
24		29	29	Baerk Etta M	Head-d		F	W	25	D		2	1
25				Harvey H	Son		M	W	8				
26		30	30	Stone Thomas	Head-x		M	B	56	WD			

46							—, Linda G.	Daughter	2	F	W	1	S	No	0		Texas		
47	NUGENT		217	O	200		Lanning, Arthur E.	Head	0	M	W	42	M	No	7	7	Texas		
48							—, Ruby A.	Wife	1	F	W	32	M	No	4-3	20	Texas		
49			218	R	2		Rawdon, Pearl B.	Head	0	F	W	32	M	No	7	7	Texas		
50							—, Johnnie M.	Daughter	2	F	W	10	S	No	3	3	Texas		
51			219	R	8.50		Stewart, William W	Head	0	M	W	55	M	No	7	7	Texas		
52							—, Annie M.	Wife	1	F	W	54	M	No	7	7	Texas		
53							Bailey, Dorothy	Daughter	2	F	W	20	D	No	6	6	Texas		
54							—, Roger	Grandson	4	M	W	1	S	No	0		Texas		
PRL EST. 55			220	O	500		Back, Etta M.	Head	0	F	W	55	wd	No	7	7	Texas		
56			221	O	4.50		Blessard, Elbert	Head	0	M	W	46	M	No	6	6	Texas		
57							—, Stella M.	Wife	1	F	W	40	M	No	4-3	24	Arkansas		
58							—, Harry L.	Son	2	M	W	12	S	Yes	6	6	Texas		
59							—, Evelyn G.	Daughter	2	F	W	10	S	Yes	3	3	Texas		
PRL EST. 60			222	R	6		Strempel, Emma E	Head	0	F	W	46	wd	No	2	2	Texas		
61							—, Lora A.	Daughter	2	F	W	17	S	No	6	6	Texas		
62							—, William L	Son	2	M	W	16	S	No	6	6	California		

HLC - Preservation Education Sub-Committee - Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026 - 4:15 PM
Draft
Development Services Conference Room
1200 E. Broad St., Mansfield, TX 76063

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Leach called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. in the Development Services Conference Room of City Hall, 1200 East Broad Street, with the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting, giving the date, place, and subject thereof, having been posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

Staff Present:
Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer

Preservation Volunteers:
James Johnston
Amanda Kowalski
Carolyn Wright

Commissioners:
Present: Jennifer Johnston, Thomas Leach, Mark Walker
Absent: None

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion on the following items: A) Educational videos for the Mansfield Independent School District; B) Historic Preservation Month events; C) America 250 events; D) Decade Days festival in 2027; E) Preservation activities, educational events, outreach events and programs for 2026.

The sub-committee discussed the following items:

A. *Ms. Kowalski introduced Joe Carpenter, Oral Historian and Multimedia Coordinator at the University of Texas at Arlington to the sub-committee. The sub-committee reviewed the MISD educational video project with Mr. Carpenter, who said he may be able to assist with the video production after he confirms with the university.*

B. *The sub-committee reviewed the preparations for the upcoming Historic Preservation Month events, including the car show trophies created by Mr. Johnston and the props for the scavenger hunt.*

C. *Mr. Wright reported that the Communications Department would be posting a video*

inviting Mansfield residents to participate in the "Letters to 2076" time capsule.

D. *Mr. Wright confirmed that the draft budget for the Decade Days festival had been submitted to management for consideration in the 2026-2027 city budget.*

E. *In the absence of the museum staff, the discussion on other events was deferred to the next meeting.*

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2026, at 4:15 p.m.

3. ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Leach adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

_____
Thomas Leach, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Art Wright, Historic Preservation Officer

City of Mansfield
Staff Report

Item ID: 26-2374

Agenda Date: June 16, 2026

Title
Historic Preservation Officer's Report for June 2026

Description/History
The purpose of this report is to provide the Commission with information on preservation topics that were discussed at or have arisen since the Commission's last meeting. These items are informational and do not require action by the Commission.

A. Historic Preservation Month 2026 Report
Please see the attached Event Recap Report for details on Historic Preservation Month 2026. Staff will make a brief presentation on this information at the Commission's June 16, 2026, meeting.

B. Update on the Letters to 2076 time capsule and Historic Photograph Recreation contest

Strategic Initiative

Recommendation
N/A

Funding Source
N/A

Prepared By
Art Wright, Planning Manager - (817) 276-4226

EVENT RECAP REPORT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH 2026

Mansfield Historic Landmark Commission

EVENT RECAP REPORT
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH 2026

Summary

Historic Preservation Month is a month-long celebration of Mansfield's unique heritage. For the past four years, the Historic Landmark Commission (Commission), the Historic Preservation Officer (HPO), and the Historical Services staff have hosted several events and presentations throughout the month to showcase the City's best historic resources. This year's events were designed with America 250 themes.

The Commission offered three core events for Historic Preservation Month 2026 to broaden our residents' and visitors' interest in Historic Downtown Mansfield and provide opportunities to support our downtown businesses. In addition, other preservation events were held throughout the month. The City Council provided the Commission with a special event fund of $21,380.00 for 2026 for the Commission's events.

Event Objectives

Mansfield's Historic Preservation Month events were designed to bring residents and visitors to Historic Downtown Mansfield to participate in fun family events that showcase the City's heritage and to provide opportunities for visitors and downtown businesses to interact. The event program included three main events that were funded by City Council: the Historic Downtown Mansfield Car Show, the Historic Mansfield Chalk the Walk Contest, and the Mansfield History Hunters Scavenger Hunt. These were supported by other activities such as a guided walking tour and the This Place Matters: 31 Days of May campaign. The target audiences were families and youth to spur interest in Mansfield history and our historic downtown.

Events

Mansfield History Hunters Scavenger Hunt – April 25, 2026, from 9:00pm to 2:00pm
In this event, teams of history hunters met costumed guides, solved clues and completed challenges for points while learning the history of Mansfield over the past 170 years.

- The event was held at ten locations downtown.
- Participants looked for clues and solved puzzles at each location.
- Lone Star Strings provided musical entertainment at the Farr Best Theater and was also part of the hunt.
- The prizes for teams were based on scores, rather than time.

Historic Mansfield Chalk the Walk Contest – May 2, 2026, from 12:00pm to 4:00pm
This family event promoted artistic expression on the sidewalks of Main Street on the theme of "From Sea to Shining Sea". The chalk art contest took place immediately before the Music Alley festival on Walnut Street.

- The contest used the sidewalk on east side Main Street.

- Art spaces of 4'x4' in size were provided for youth and adults, and 2'x2' spaces for children.

- A community art space was provided for artists or spectators who wanted to draw but did not compete.

- Prizes were awarded for the best artwork.

Historic Downtown Mansfield Car Show – May 9, 2024, from 9:00am to 2:00pm
This event celebrated Mansfield's automotive heritage from 1906 through the present under the theme, "American Roads: 100 Years of Motors and Memories".

- It was held in the Walnut Street parking lot and on Walnut Street.

- Information boards on the history of the automobile in Mansfield were posted throughout the site.

- Prizes were presented for the best vehicles in several categories. In addition, five special America 250 trophies were also awarded.

- Musical performances featured Riley Gilbreath and Harold Huertas.

- A mustache contest was held during the car show.

Participant Data
The projected attendance for the month-long program was 500 participants and visitors. The actual attendance was as follows:

Mansfield History Hunters Scavenger Hunt: 24 participants
- Seven teams registered for the scavenger hunt, including couples and family groups.

- There were 12 volunteer guides dressed in period outfits who interacted with the participants and passers-by.

Historic Mansfield Chalk the Walk Contest: 5 participants
- Five contestants: two adults and two families.

- Several non-contestants drew in the community art space, including adults and children.

Historic Downtown Mansfield Car Show: 400+ attendees
- Over 65 vehicles were exhibited, the largest show yet.

- The audience included car enthusiasts, families and individuals.

This Place Matters: 31 Days of May
- Signs were placed at 31 historic locations in Mansfield. The locations were marked on a special online map, together with a photograph and history of each property.

- The site received 625 views from May 1 to May 31.

Attendance was not as high as expected, partly due to other events taking place at the same time.

Financial Report

A financial report showing the actual costs of the Historic Preservation Month events is attached.

Marketing

The Historic Preservation Month program was promoted through a variety of methods, including:

- The City's social media and Community Calendar
- Posters and Flyers
- In-person promotions at Arts Week Kids Day and Music Alley

Attachments:

Financial Report

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH EVENT FINANCIAL REPORT – 2026

	Expenditure	Notes	Event
	$ 240.00	Mustache cups (8 at $30 each)	Car Show
	$ 350.00	Riley Gilbreath	Car Show
	$ 800.00	Harold Huertas	Car Show
	$ 560.00	Portable Toilets/Sinks	Car Show
	$ 450.00	Lone Star Strings	Scavenger Hunt
	$ 412.70	MHHSH prizes	Scavenger Hunt
	$ 360.70	Chalk the Walk prizes	Chalk the Walk
	$ 330.34	Promotional Items	General
Total Spent	**$ 3,503.74**		