

# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

March 16, 2022

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2022-073  
**ADDRESS:** 105 PLAZA DE ARMAS  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 117 BLK LOT A6 OR 4  
**ZONING:** D, H  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 1  
**DISTRICT:** Main/Military Plaza Historic District  
**LANDMARK:** Spanish Governor's Palace  
**APPLICANT:** Katherine Johanns/Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
**OWNER:** CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Marker installation  
**APPLICATION RECEIVED:** January 25, 2022  
**60-DAY REVIEW:** Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders  
**CASE MANAGER:** Rachel Rettaliata

## REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install a historical marker at 105 Plaza de Armas.

## APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

*Sec. 35-645. - Signs and Billboards on Public Property or Right-of-Way.*

(a) General Provisions. All non-regulatory signage on public property, on the public right-of-way, or overhanging the public right-of-way shall conform to all city codes and must be approved by the historic preservation officer prior to installation. Permits must be obtained following approval of the application. The historic preservation officer may submit an application under this section to the historic and design review commission for their recommendation prior to approving, denying, or approving with conditions the application. Memorials, markers, naming rights of public property, and recognition of charitable donations given to the City of San Antonio shall be additionally governed by existing policies for memorials and markers and/or any formal action passed by city council. Temporary displays approved by the department exercising control of the public property are authorized if in accordance with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas.

## FINDINGS:

- a. The site addressed as 105 Plaza de Armas is the location of the Spanish Governor's Palace, a local, state, and federal landmark. The Spanish Governor's Palace was constructed in the early 1700s and was restored in the 1930s. The site features a courtyard, stucco walls, and several other hardscaping and landscaping features. The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to install an adorned bronze plaque mounted to the interior courtyard wall to commemorate the men and women who achieved American independence. The National Society's goal is to place at least one marker in every state in advance of the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary in 2026.
- b. **MARKER DESIGN** – The applicant is requesting approval to install an adorned bronze plaque. The plaque is part of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) America 250! Patriots Marker Project. The proposed marker is 24"x24" and will read "Revolutionary War Patriots/This marker commemorates the men and women who achieved American independence./These Patriots, believing in the noble cause of liberty, fought valiantly to found a new nation./1775 – 1783/Presented by Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution/in honor of the 250th anniversary of the United States. Staff finds that the proposed plaque is in accordance with UDC Section 35-645 and is appropriate.
- c. **MARKER LOCATION** – The applicant has proposed to install the marker on the west side of the site grounds, along the west elevation of the interior courtyard wall. The proposed area for installation is on a section of stucco wall that was constructed during the 1930s restoration and is not original to the site. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) reviewed the proposal and the proposed location of the plaque due to the site's status as a

State Antiquities Landmark and determined that THC review was not required. Staff finds the proposal consistent with the UDC.

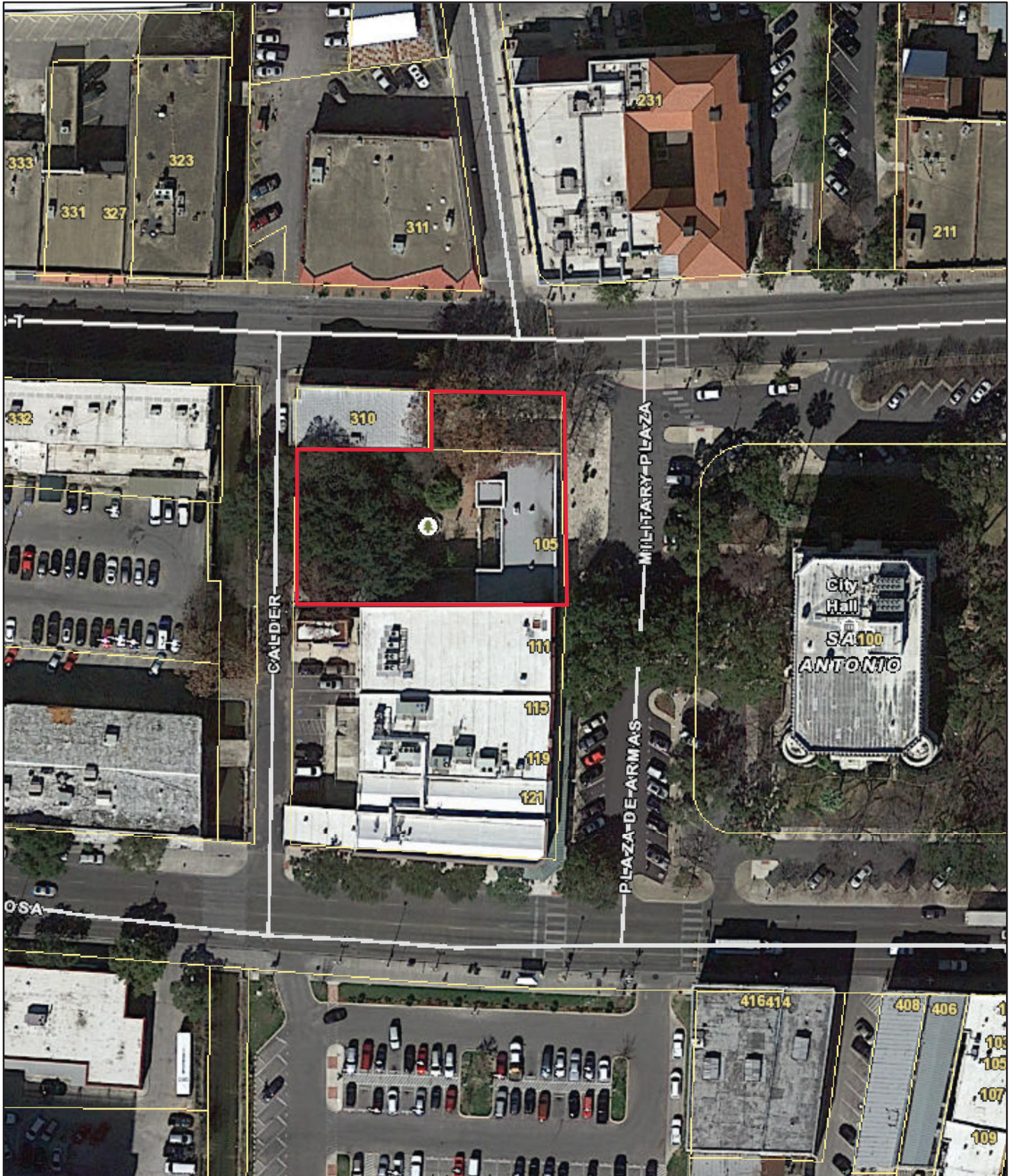
- d. **MARKER POLICY** – The applicant has met all requirements of the City of San Antonio Monuments, Memorials, Markers and Plaques Policy. The applicant has assumed financial responsibility for the complete design, manufacturing, installation, and maintenance endowment to ensure the adequate quality care for the marker. The applicant has provided evidence of existing funding for the proposed adorned bronze plaque and all associated costs. Improvements made on City lands become the property of the City of San Antonio. The final text on the plaque will be reviewed by the City’s Cultural Historian.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval based on findings a through d.

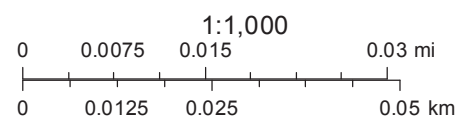


# City of San Antonio One Stop



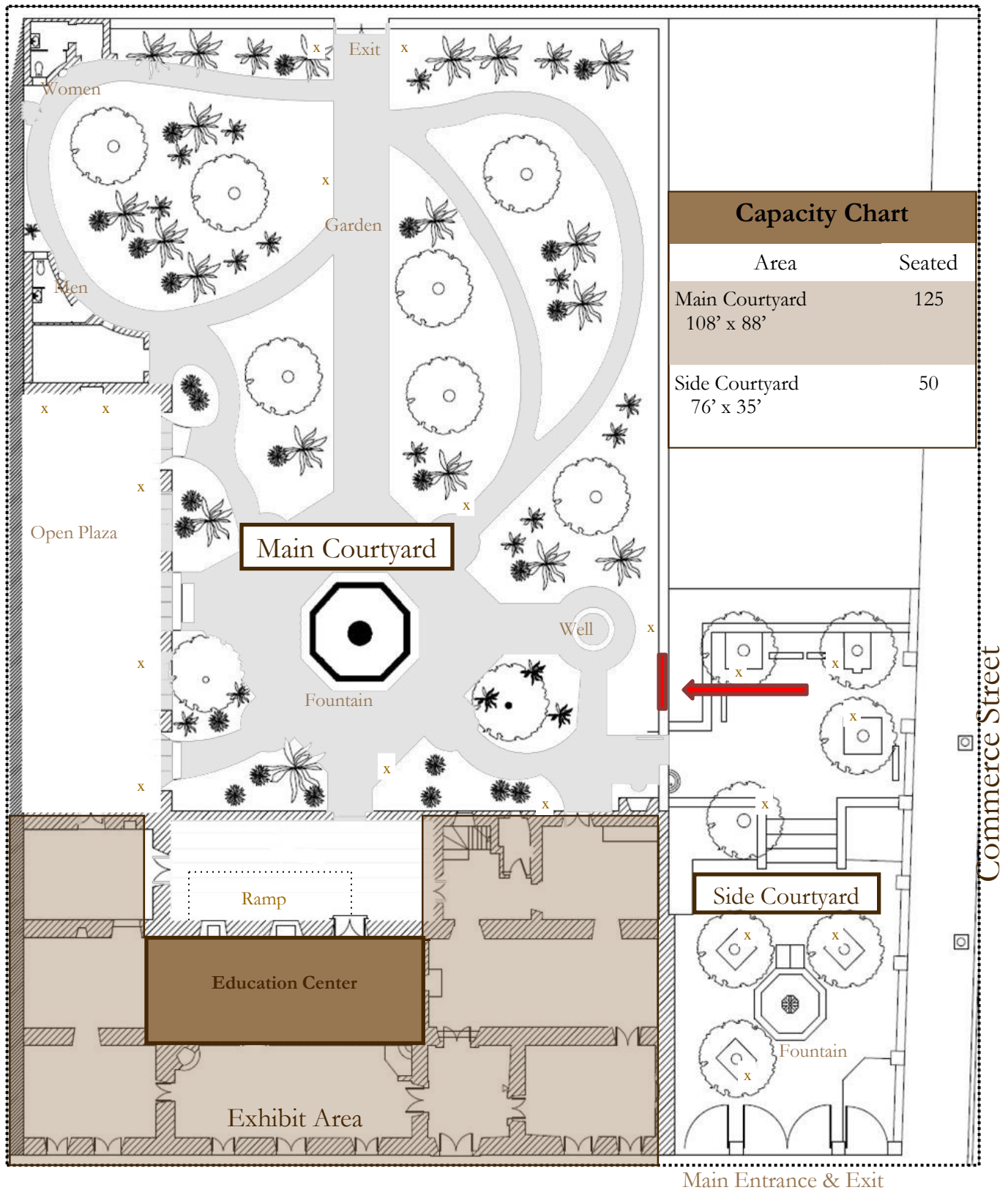
March 11, 2022

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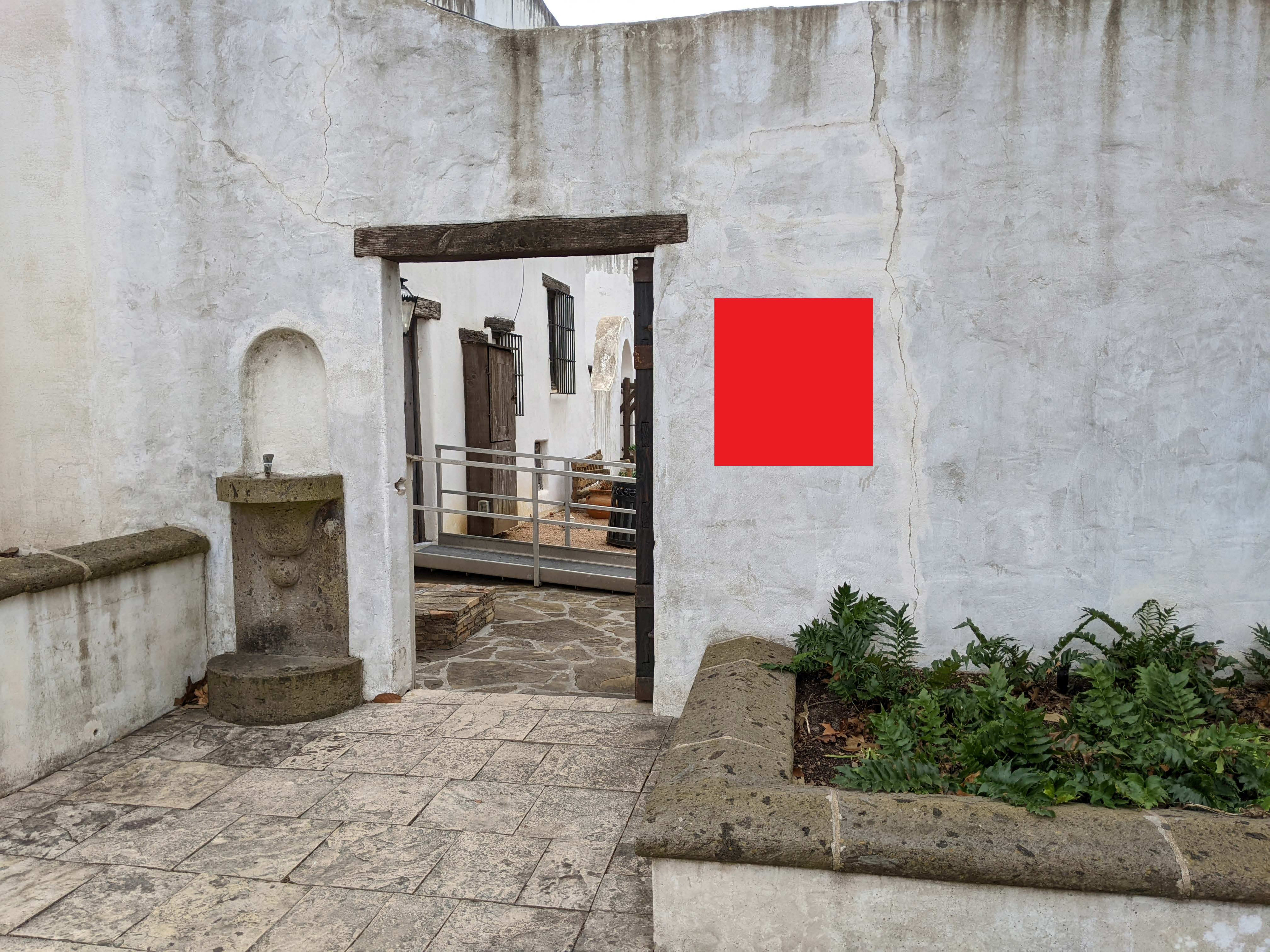




# SITE PLAN











# Revolutionary War Patriots

This marker commemorates the  
men and women who achieved  
American independence.  
These Patriots, believing in the  
noble cause of liberty, fought  
valiantly to found a new nation.

1775 - 1783

Presented by  
New York State Organization  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
in honor of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States.



The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) America 250! Patriots Marker project has been established to raise public awareness of the men and women who achieved American independence. The National Society's goal is to place at least one marker in every state in advance of the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary in 2026.

The Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution (TXDAR) seeks permission to place the first America 250! Marker in Texas at the Spanish Governor's Palace, 105 Plaza De Armas, San Antonio, TX 78205, in recognition of the Tejano ranchers who, under the direction of Gen. Bernardo de Gálvez, aided the Americans in their quest for independence from the British. The Handbook of Texas from the Texas State Historical Association details the ranchers' contributions and the connection to Presidio San Antonio de Bédar:

"... Spain formally declared war against Great Britain on June 21, 1779, and King Carlos III commissioned Gálvez to raise a force of men and conduct a campaign against the British along the Mississippi River and the Gulf Coast. In order to feed his troops, Gálvez sent an emissary, Francisco García, with a letter to Texas governor Domingo Cabello y Robles requesting the delivery of Texas cattle to Spanish forces in Louisiana. Accordingly, between 1779 and 1782, cattle were purchased from ranches belonging to citizens and missions of Bexar and La Bahía. From Presidio La Bahía, the assembly point, Texas rancheros and their vaqueros trailed these herds to Nacogdoches, Natchitoches, and Opelousas for distribution to Gálvez's forces. Providing escorts for these herds were soldiers from Presidio San Antonio de Bédar, Presidio La Bahía, and El Fuerte del Cíbolo, and several hundred horses were also sent along for artillery and cavalry purposes. Fueled in part by Texas beef, Gálvez, with 1,400 men, took to the field in the fall of 1779 and defeated the British in minor engagements at Manchac, Baton Rouge, and Natchez."

Among the artifacts at the Bullock Museum are letters describing the contributions of these Tejano Patriots:

- Croix to Cabello approving Cabello's action in furnishing stock to the Governor of Louisiana, November 24, 1779. In this letter, Croix, the commanding general of New Spain, acknowledges that Texas governor Cabello has sent the requested cattle to Gálvez and his troops in Louisiana.
- Croix to Cabello, giving instructions to assist Francisco García to secure stock requested by the Governor of Louisiana, August 16, 1779. In this earlier letter, Croix tells Cabello to gather the requested cattle to send to Louisiana to aid Spanish troops fighting in the American Revolution.
- Croix to Cabello, giving instructions to assist Francisco García to secure stock requested by the Governor of Louisiana, August 16, 1779. "Because dispatching this livestock to the aforementioned governor is expedient to the service of the king, I dispose that Your Lordship proceed immediately to its purchase and roundup, taking care that the number of beasts includes sufficient bulls so that the stock may procreate in that region."
- Croix to Cabello, giving instructions to assist Francisco García to secure stock requested by the Governor of Louisiana, August 16, 1779. The letter states the cattle should be rounded up from among

the missions and residents and further instructs, "Your Lordship is to render, with preference over all, whatever other services the aforementioned governor [Galvez] might request of you."

The proposed marker is a 24' x 24' bronze plaque. An example graphic is uploaded. The marker proposed for placement at the Spanish Governor's Palace would read:

Revolutionary War Patriots

This marker commemorates the men and women who achieved American independence.

These Patriots, believing in the noble cause of liberty, fought valiantly to found a new nation.

1775 - 1783

Presented by Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution

in honor of the 250th anniversary of the United States.

The site proposed for placement of the marker at the Spanish Governor's Palace is a wall in the side courtyard. Please see the included map and photographs of the site.

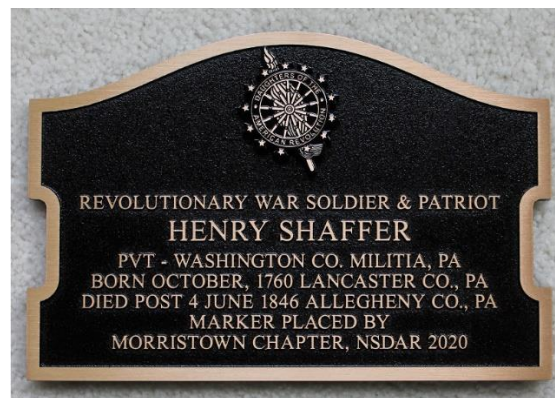
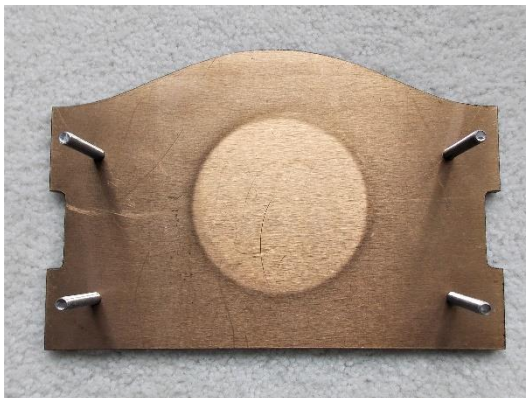
The cost of the proposed marker is \$2,400. TXDAR will pay for the marker and its installation and the hosting of a dedication ceremony, as well as make a donation to ensure the marker's ongoing maintenance.

We thank the Office of Historic Preservation for its consideration of our proposal.



## Plaque installation instructions: Hidden mounting hardware, Type A:

1. This type of installation is usually done on stone, cement or brick/masonry surfaces. The common materials of masonry construction are brick, building stone such as marble, granite, travertine, and limestone, cast stone, concrete block.
2. Drill holes into surface that match up with the stud positions on the back of the plaque. A template will be provided. For example, if you have 1/4" diameter studs, use a hammer drill and drill bit will make holes slightly larger than the 1/4" diameter studs. If you are drilling into a brick surface, align the top holes into the mortar between the bricks.
3. Blow out the dust and residue from the holes.
4. Insert the studs in the back of the plaque. Hand tighten only. Dry-fit the plaque before using epoxy.
5. If the fit is OK, insert epoxy into the holes and apply epoxy to the studs and mount plaque.
6. Attach plaque to surface by inserting studs into the holes. If the plaque is very large, you may want to make a support to hold the plaque up and in place while the epoxy cures.



### Classic Bronze Resources LLC

4628 Whispering Oak Trail

Cincinnati, OH 45247

Phone: 513-600-9048

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Website: [www.classicbronzeresources.com](http://www.classicbronzeresources.com)



Please Choose: ☐ RTHL Review  
☒ SAL Project

☐ Easement/Covenant Review  
☐ Courthouse Law

## GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Please complete the following.

### 1. Property Name and Location

NAME OF HISTORIC PROPERTY **Spanish Governor's Palace**

ADDRESS **105 Military Plaza** CITY **San Antonio** COUNTY **Bexar** ZIP CODE **78205**

DATE RECEIVED **2/18/2022**

DATE RESPONDED **2/24/2022**

### 2. Applicant (owner)

OWNER **City of San Antonio**

ADDRESS **114 W. Commerce St.** CITY **San Antonio** STATE **Texas** ZIP CODE **78205**

PHONE **210-207-1454** EMAIL **miranda.garrison@sanantonio.com**

### 3. Proposed Project NAME OR BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT WORK

Installation of new 24"x24" marker on the north wall in the side courtyard. This wall is from the 1930s "restoration" of the SGP. The wall is the same construction as the back courtyard wall that was recently replaced. It was made up of old CMU block with a stucco-like coating. Please go to this link <https://blog.dar.org/introducing-new-dar-america-250-patriots-marker> to see what the plaque would look like. Because the marker is proposed to be installed on a facade that is not prominent, it will not have any detrimental effect to the property's historic significance.

### 4. Involvement in Other Programs PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL OTHER PROGRAMS REQUIRE SEPARATE SUBMISSIONS

ARE FEDERAL FUNDING, PROPERTY, OR PERMITS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT? ☐ YES ☒ NO

IF YES, WHAT FEDERAL AGENCY? **N/A**

ARE YOU PLANNING TO APPLY FOR STATE AND/OR FEDERAL TAX CREDITS? ☐ YES ☒ NO

IF YES, HAVE YOU ALREADY SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION? ☐ YES ☒ NO