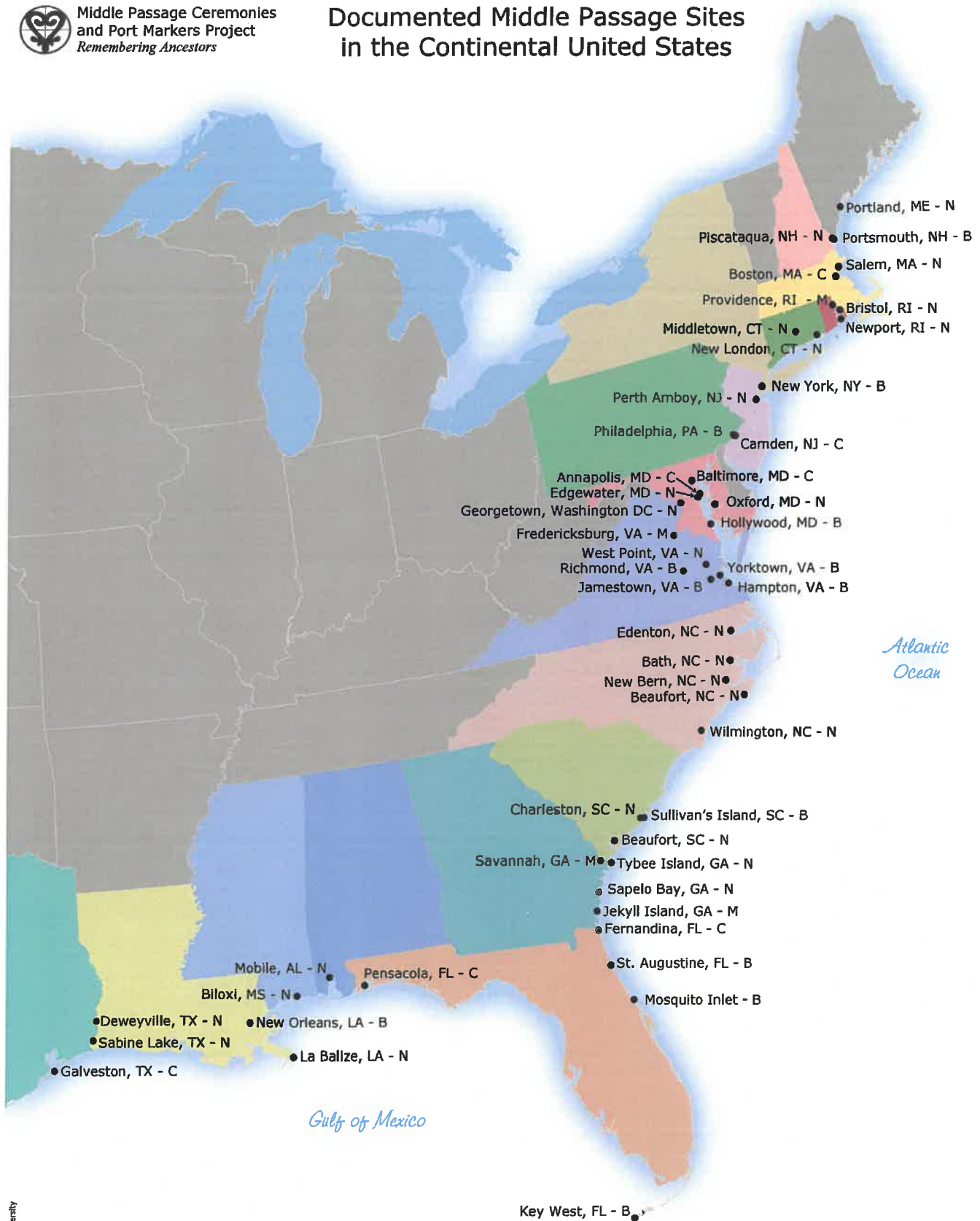




Documented Middle Passage Sites in the Continental United States



Atlantic Ocean

Gulf of Mexico

B
Ports where a marker has been placed
and a ceremony has been held

M
Ports where a marker
has been placed

C
Ports where a ceremony
has been held

N
Ports with neither a marker
nor a ceremony



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للترقية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

**Chief of Section
History and Memory for Dialogue Section
Social and Human Sciences Sector**

Ms Rhea Brown Lawson
Director
Library Department
500 McKinney
Houston, Texas 77002-2534
United States of America

E-mail: businessoffice@ambchouston.org

Ref.: SHS/PPD/HMD/19/27

8 March 2019

Dear Ms Brown Lawson,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 26 February 2019, by which you request the label "*Site of memory associated with the UNESCO Slave Route project*" to African American Library at the Gregory School, the first public school for freed slaves in the State of Texas.

The Slave Route Project warmly welcomes this initiative, which endeavors to highlight the efforts of former slaves to establish schools, with few resources and in a hostile environment, and become educated following emancipation. Today African American Library continues as an educational center for local communities, and is known as a major repository for the thriving of African Americans culture in Houston and surrounding area.

I am therefore pleased to inform you to inform you that the label "*Site of Memory associated with the UNESCO Slave Route project*" is granted to African American Library at the Gregory School.

Please find enclosed the logo to be used in all materials related to African American Library, as well as the official text on the Slave Route that should accompany the logo when they are displayed at the site. Please note that this label is granted only for this site and should not be confused with UNESCO Patronage, which necessitates a different procedure to be granted.

Wishing every success to your initiative and looking forward to receiving information on the commemorative events and activities to be organized at the site, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Moussa Iye

Enc.



United Nations
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Organisation
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

**Chief of Section
History and Memory for Dialogue Section
Social and Human Sciences Sector**

**Pastor John F. Johnson
Senior Pastor
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
500 Clay Street
Houston, Texas 77002
United States of America**

E-mail: businessoffice@ambchouston.org

Ref.: SHS/PPD/HMD/19/26

8 March 2019

Dear Pastor Johnson,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 29 January 2019, by which you request the label "*Site of memory associated with the UNESCO Slave Route project*" to the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, located in Houston, Texas.

The Slave Route Project warmly congratulates you on this initiative, which draws attention to the major role played by African American Religious institutions in resisting slavery and acting as vectors for political and social action. Antioch Missionary Baptist Church was a significant space for spiritual support, educational opportunity, political activism and economic development for African Americans and remains the centerpiece of the community until today.

Given the symbolic importance of this site, I am pleased to inform you that the label "*Site of Memory associated with the UNESCO Slave Route project*" is granted to your Church.

Please find enclosed the logo to be used in all materials related to Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, as well as the official text on the Slave Route that should accompany the logo when they are displayed at the site. Please note that this label is granted only for this site and should not be confused with UNESCO Patronage, which necessitates a different procedure to be granted.

Wishing every success to your initiative and looking forward to receiving information on the commemorative events and activities to be organized at the site, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Moussa Iye

Enc.



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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للترقية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

**Chief of Section
History and Memory for Dialogue Section
Social and Human Sciences Sector**

Ms Eileen Lawal
Chairwoman
Freedmen's Town Preservation
Committee
Houston, Texas
United States of America

Ref.: SHS/PPD/HMD/19/20

25 February 2019

Dear Ms Lawal,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 12 February 2019, by which you request the label "Site of memory associated with the Slave Route" to "Emancipation Park" located in Houston, Texas.

UNESCO welcomes this initiative to mark the history of a gathering place founded by formerly enslaved people that remains a community landmark. Houston's Emancipation Park has great potential to encourage reflection on Juneteenth, as the day of emancipation from slavery of African Americans in Texas, and to keep the memory of the victims of slavery alive for younger generations.

Given the symbolic importance of this site, I am pleased to inform you that the label "Site of Memory associated with the Slave Route" is granted to your Memorial Park.

Please find enclosed the logo to be used in all materials related to this site, as well as the official text on the Slave Route that should accompany the logo when they are displayed at the site. This label is granted only for this site and should not be confused with UNESCO Patronage, which necessitates a different procedure to be granted.

Wishing every success to your initiative and looking forward to receiving information on the commemorative events and activities to be organized at the site, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Moussa Iye

*
cc: Permanent Delegation of the United States of America to UNESCO
U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Emancipation Park Conservancy

3018 Emancipation Ave • Houston, Texas 77004 • www.emancipationparkconservancy.org

Phone: 713-528-1872 • Fax: 713-522-1105 • info@emancipationparkconservancy.org

April 2, 2019

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Chairwoman - House Subcommittee National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Young
Ranking Member - House Subcommittee National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Haaland and Ranking Member Young:

I write to express strong support for H.R. 434, the Emancipation National Historic Trail Act, introduced by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. Enactment of this bill will make possible an Emancipation National Historic Trail, which will extend 51 miles from the historic Osterman Building and Reedy Chapel in Galveston, Texas, along Highway 3 and Interstate 45, north to Freedmen's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas. This trail follows the migration route taken by newly-freed slaves from the Galveston, Texas a major nineteenth century port to the vibrant settlement of Freedmen's Town, which is today the Fourth Ward of Houston, in the 18th Congressional District.

The Emancipation National Historic Trail would be the first trail in the southwest United States that recognizes the role of African Americans in the legacy of freedom in the United States. An Emancipation Historic Trail designation would bring national recognition to a period of history when our nation took significant strides to make real the promise of our nation's founding documents attesting to the rights of all to live free.

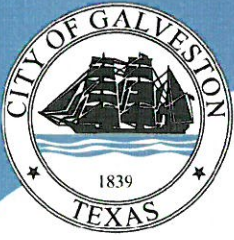
Sparked by the desire to have a place to commemorate the anniversary of their emancipation, known as Juneteenth, former slaves and community members in the Third and Fourth Wards led by Reverend Jack Yates, Richard Allen, Richard Brock, and Reverend Elias Dibble united to raise \$1,000 in 1872 to purchase 10 acres of park land to host Juneteenth Celebrations. Emancipation Park is the most historic and culturally significant park in the city of Houston and was formerly one of the only communal spaces for Blacks in Houston. Over the years, Emancipation Park's immediate surrounding area experienced an economic boom, where many Black owned and frequented businesses, financial institutions and venues flourished in Houston's Third Ward. Emancipation Park is significant, not only as a ritual of remembrance and celebration, but also as an early act of exercising the rights of property ownership, commerce and cooperative economics amongst Blacks, which were formerly denied, known in our nation's founding documents as "*life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness*". The Emancipation National Historic Trail would serve as an invaluable opportunity to share rich cultural, social, historical and economic strides that have shaped society in the past and present. Thank you for your consideration in this designation.

Sincerely,



Ramon Manning, Board Chairman - Emancipation Park Conservancy

Cc: Lucy Bremond, Executive Director - Emancipation Park Conservancy



City of Galveston

James Yarbrough, Mayor
jyarbrough@galvestontx.gov | 409.797.3510

March 27, 2019

Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. House of Representative
2160 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act

Dear Congresswoman Jackson Lee:

We have learned with great enthusiasm of your efforts in introducing H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act. I am writing this letter to express our (i.e. The City of Galveston, Texas) support of the passage of this bill.

More specifically Galveston is home to the birthplace of the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order Number 3 in the South, freeing African American Slaves on June 19, 1865 by U.S. Major General Gordon Granger and 2,000 Union soldiers.

We have held public celebrations in Galveston for the past 40 years and support your efforts of the proposed Emancipation Trail which would begin in Galveston and end in the Freedmen's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston.

This Emancipation National Historic Act if and when enacted will become the first national historic trail in Southwest United States that recognizes the significant role played by African Americans in the legacy of freedom and we are proud to support your efforts.

We are deeply thankful for your leadership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,


James Yarbrough
Mayor of Galveston, Texas





Health Policy & Legislative Affairs
Frost Bank Building, Suite 11.104
301 University Blvd.
Galveston, Texas 77555-0916
O 409.747.2788 F 409.747.2795

March 28, 2019

Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. House of Representative
2160 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act

Dear Congresswoman Jackson Lee:

As Assistant Vice President of Government Relations at The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) which opened in 1891 as the nation's first public medical school and hospital under unified leadership, UTMB School of Nursing was established in 1890 and UTMB opened the first state-funded hospital for African Americans in Texas in 1902, UTMB is proud to support H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act.

For the past 22 years UTMB has participated in the annual Galveston Juneteenth Activities and I have attached four pictures:

- The historic 1858 Ashton Villa Mansion and the state funded Juneteenth Holiday Statue in Galveston where two Emancipation celebrations are held,
- June 19, 2015 at our 150th Juneteenth Anniversary, U.S. Reps. Randy Weber & Sheila Jackson Lee presented UTMB President Dr. Callender with Juneteenth Resolutions,
- At our 150th Anniversary, U.S. Senator John Cornyn and his wife, U.S. Rep. Randy Weber and State Rep. Wayne Faircloth are pictured/participated.
- 2016 Juneteenth Celebration picture illustrating General Gordon Granger reading the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order Number 3.

Please know that UTMB supports the proposed Emancipation National Historic Act which will begin in Galveston and end in Freedmen's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston and will become the first historic trail in the Southwest United States.

Thank you for your leadership and support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas W. Matthews".

Douglas W. Matthews

Assistant Vice President for Government Relations



Galveston, Texas “The Birthplace of Juneteenth” 154 years ago

On June 19, 1865, Union Army Major General Gordon Granger along with 2000 federal troops announced and enforced the emancipation of the slaves in Galveston.

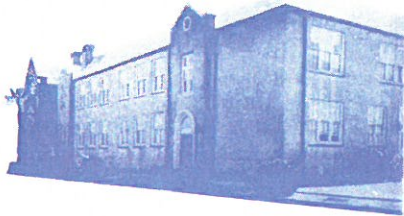
Ashton Villa Mansion served as the residence of the Confederate army officers during the Civil War.

On June 19, 2006, the State of Texas dedicated a Juneteenth Lawmaker Statue (\$100,000) at this site in honor of State Representative Al Edwards of Houston for sponsoring the legislation making Juneteenth a State Holiday, signed into law on June 13, 1979 by then Governor William Clements. .









Old Central Cultural Center, Inc.

Save Old Central

P.O. BOX 2111 / GALVESTON / TEXAS / 77553

March 28, 2019

Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. House of Representative
2160 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act

Dear Congresswoman Jackson Lee:

As Board President of Old Central Cultural Center located in Galveston, Texas and former Central High School which once served as the first African American High School in Texas established in 1885 – 1968 and the first public library for African Americans in the State of Texas established in 1904, it is my honor to write this letter of support for H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act.

Old Central Cultural Center is a 501c3 nonprofit organization was established in October 1973 and received our Tax Exempt Status in March 1974. We have proudly supported the Galveston Emancipation Celebration of African American Slaves' freedom during our annual Juneteenth activities for the past 40 years. Also, we are proud that Galveston is the birthplace of the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order Number 3 in the South, freeing African American Slaves on June 19, 1865 by U.S. Major General Gordon Granger and 2,000 Union soldiers.

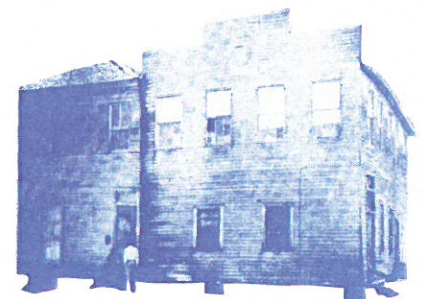
With the leadership and collaboration of former Texas State Rep. Al Edwards, we have celebrated annual Juneteenth Emancipation for the last 40 years.

We have learned that the proposed Emancipation National Historic Trail will begin in Galveston and end in the Freeman's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston, which our board supports. We appreciate your leadership and support in this matter.

Sincerely,

George Henley

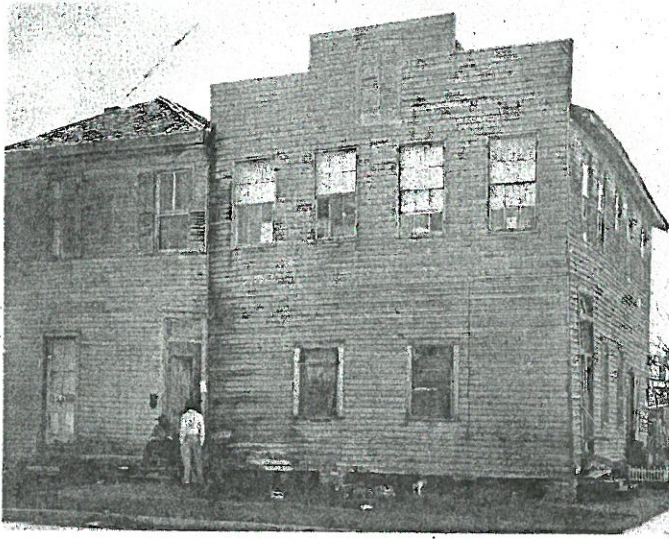
George Henley, President
Old Central Cultural Center Board



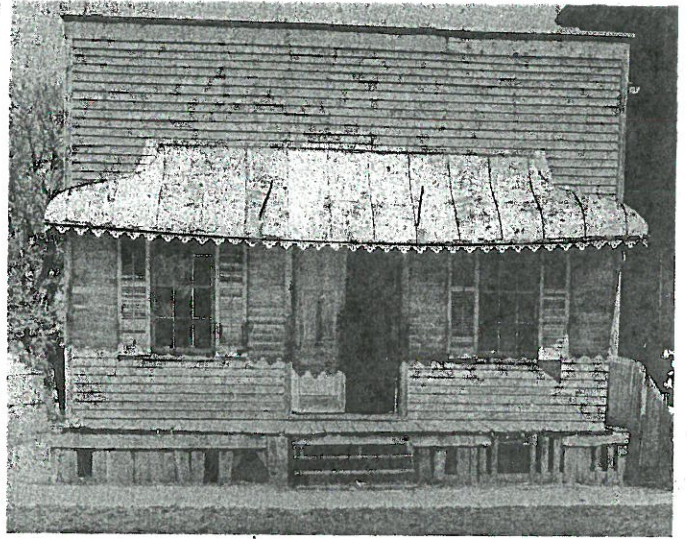
The Five Central High School Buildings

(The first Negro High School in Texas)

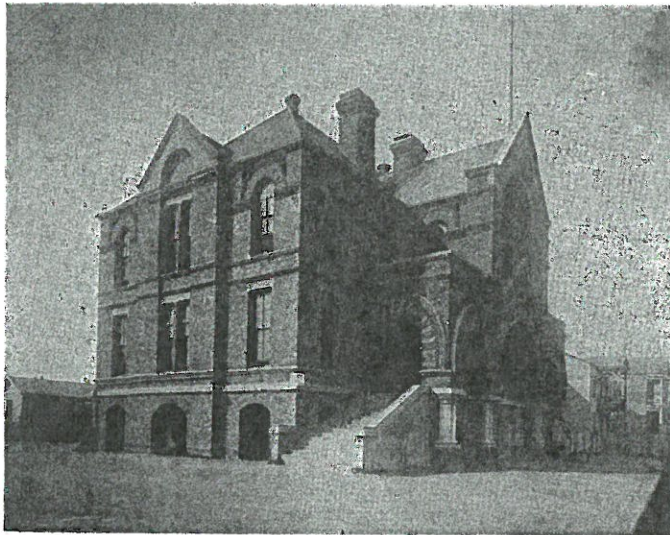
1885 - 1886



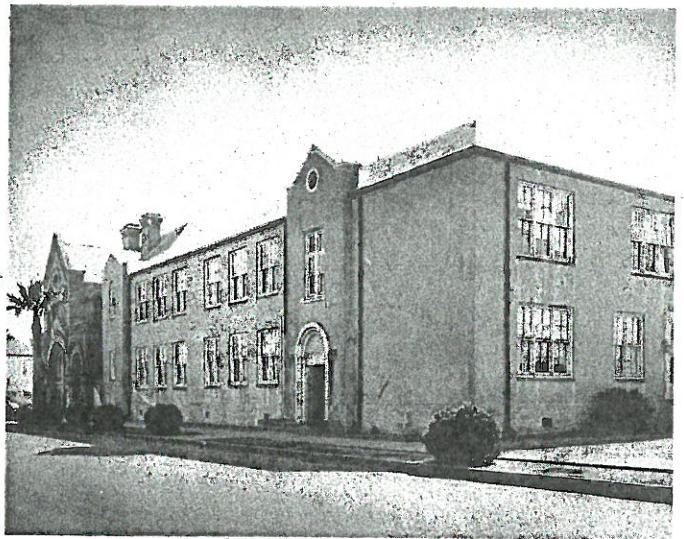
1886 - 1893



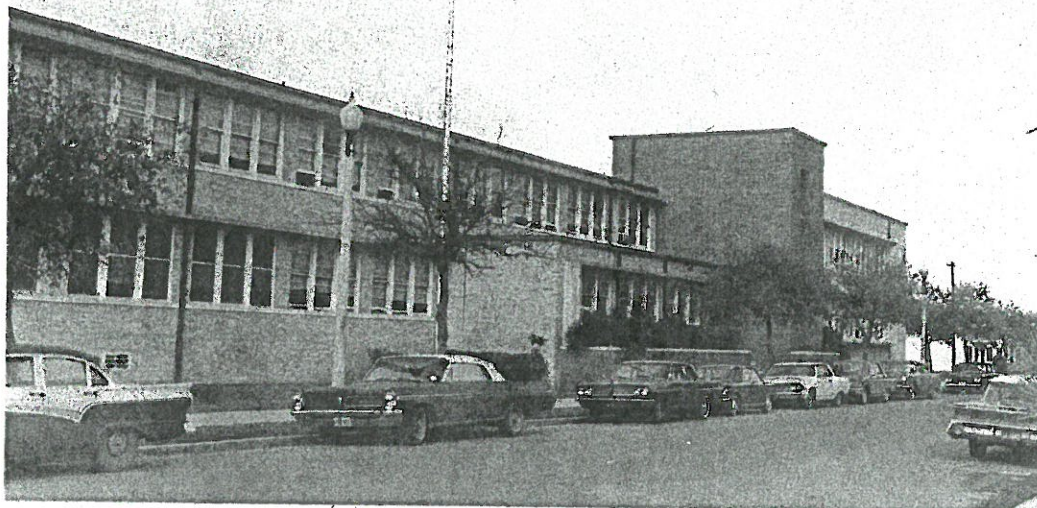
1893 - 1927

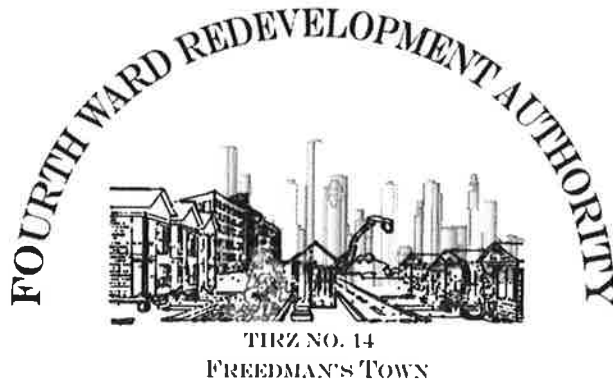


1927 - 1954



1954 - 1968





April 1, 2019

The Honorable Deb Haaland, Chairwoman
House Subcommittee National Parks, Forests and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 434, the Emancipation National Historic Trail Act

Dear Chairwoman Haaland:

On behalf of the Boards of Directors for Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Fourteen, City of Houston, Texas ("TIRZ #14") and Fourth Ward Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority"), please allow this correspondence to serve as our expression of support for H.R. 434, the Emancipation National Historic Trail Act, introduced by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

It is our understanding that the enactment of this bill will make possible an Emancipation National Historic Trail which will extend 51 miles from the historic Osterman Building and Reedy Chapel in Galveston, Texas along Highway 3 and Interstate 45 north to Freedman's Town and Emancipation Park located in Houston, Texas. The trail will follow the migration route taken by newly-freed slaves from Galveston, Texas, a major nineteenth century port, to the vibrant settlement of Freedmen's Town, which today is also referenced as the Fourth Ward Houston within the 18th Congressional District.

The Emancipation National Historic Trail would be the first trail in the southwest region of the United States that recognizes the role of African Americans in the legacy of freedom in the United States. An Emancipation Historic Trail designation would bring national recognition to the period of time when our nation took significant strides to make real the promise of our nation's founding documents attesting to the rights of all men to live free.

Freedmen's Town is contained within the boundaries of TIRZ #14 and within our zone we have significant structures that are directly related to the founders of Emancipation Park. Of note are the historic brick streets that were laid by freed

Chair
Jacqueline Bostic

Vice Chair
Dallas Jones

Secretary
Carvana Cloud

Treasurer
Dr. Samuel Smith

Directors
Marian Davenport
Adrian Garcia
Anthony Hall, III
Judge Bill Littlejohn
Jesse Saenz

Executive Director
Vanessa Sampson

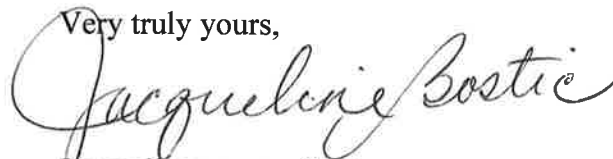
The Honorable Deb Haaland, Chairwoman
House Subcommittee National Parks, Forests and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Page 2

slaves; Bethel Church founded by Jack Yates which has been restored as an open space park; and The African American Library at Gregory School which originally served as the first public school for black students. Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, the oldest African American church in Houston (1876) whereby Jack Yates served as pastor still resides in the historic boundaries of Freedmen's Town just east of the TIRZ boundaries.

Through our project plan that directs TIRZ #14 to allocate its funds to historical preservation, among other designated projects, the Authority has set its priorities on preserving and renovating the institutional vestiges of Freedman's Town to assure that for generations to come the story of the African-American experience in Houston can be retold and personally experienced. We strongly believe that The Emancipation National Historic Trail will lend itself to act as the impetus by which the nation will come to know and experience the tenacity and strength of the freed slave to build, thrive and prosper in its own community.

Therefore, it is an honor to lend our support to the H.R. 434, The Emancipation National Historic Trail Act.

Very truly yours,



Jacqueline Bostic, Chair
Fourth Ward Redevelopment Authority

cc: Board of Directors
Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #14, City of Houston, Texas
Fourth Ward Redevelopment Authority



MID COUNTY ANNEX

9850-A Emmett F. Lowry Expressway, Suite A100
Texas City, Texas 77591
(409) 770-5806
(281) 316-8300 ext. 5806
(409) 770-5844 FAX
Stephen.Holmes@co.galveston.tx.us

REPRESENTING

Galveston
Hitchcock
La Marque
Texas City
Dickinson

STEPHEN D. HOLMES
Galveston County Commissioner
Precinct Three

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Chairwoman,
House Subcommittee National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Young
Ranking Member,
House Subcommittee National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands
Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Haaland and Ranking Member Young:

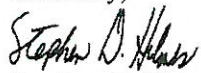
I write to express strong support for H.R. 434, the Emancipation National Historic Trail Act, introduced by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. Enactment of this bill will make possible an Emancipation National Historic Trail, which will extend 51 miles from the historic Osterman Building and Reedy Chapel in Galveston, Texas, along Highway 3 and Interstate 45, north to Freedmen's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas. This trail follows the migration route taken by newly-freed slaves from the Galveston, Texas a major nineteenth century port to the vibrant settlement of Freedmen's Town, which is today the Fourth Ward of Houston, in the 18th Congressional District.

The Emancipation National Historic Trail would be the first trail in the southwest United States that recognizes the role of African Americans in the legacy of freedom in the United States. An Emancipation Historic Trail designation would bring national recognition to a period of history when our nation took significant strides to make real the promise of our nation's founding documents attesting to the rights of all to live free.

Throughout Galveston County we celebrate annually the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation, General Order Number 3, and U.S. Major General Gordon Granger with 2,000 Army soldiers arrival in Galveston to enforce the end of slavery in the South on June 19, 1865. We believe firmly that passage and implementation of H.R. 434 honors our past while recognizing our future.

Thanking you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen D. Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S".

Stephen D. Holmes
Galveston County Commissioner
Precinct Three

McFATRIDGE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

E. Douglas McLeod
Of Counsel

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
2228 SHIP-S MECHANIC ROW, SUITE 200
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550
(409) 766-7966
(713) 797-0694 (HOUSTON)
FACSIMILE (409) 766-7955
cccccc

E-Mail: dmcleod@mbslawyer.com

March 30, 2019

**Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U.S. House of Representative
2160 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**

Subject: H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act

Dear Congresswoman Jackson Lee:

As Board Chairman of Moody Gardens on Galveston Island for the past 36 years and as a former Texas State Legislator, who signed on in support of the Texas Juneteenth State Paid Holiday which passed in Austin, Texas in 1978, I have learned of your efforts in introducing H.R. 434 Emancipation National Historic Trail Act and that Congressman Randy Weber is supporting this bill. Therefore, I write this letter to express my support of its passage.

I am proud that Galveston is home or the birthplace of the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation and General Order Number 3 in the South, freeing African American Slaves on June 19, 1865 by U.S. Major General Gordon Granger and 2,000 Union soldiers and I was delighted to sign on and support the Texas State Legislation (House Bill 1016) which made Juneteenth a state paid holiday.

I have been told that the proposed Emancipation National Historic Trail will begin in Galveston and end in the Freeman's Town and Emancipation Park in Houston, which I support. Thanks again for your leadership.

Sincerely,



**E. Douglas McLeod, Board Chairman
Moody Gardens, Inc.**