

2015 CHC Annual Report

#77



COMPLETE

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PAGE 2: General Information

Q1: Please enter the name of your county.

Brown

Q2: Enter your primary CHC contact below as requested. List a co-chair if one exists; please do not list vice-presidents as co-chairs.

Name of 2015 CHC chair

Ronnie Lappe

Name of 2015 CHC co-chair (if there are 2 chairs)

Jerry Spain vice-chair

Name of 2016 CHC chair--comment if new chair not selected to date

Ronnie Lappe

Name of 2016 CHC co-chair (if there are 2 chairs)

Jerry Spain

Q3: Enter information if you have an official space, room, or building; please DO NOT ENTER a personal address or phone number.

Respondent skipped this question

Q4: We will direct inquiries about reporting answers to the person who fills out this report unless you direct us otherwise. Enter contact information as requested--name, email address, and phone number.

Contact info for person filling out report

Ronnie Lappe, 404 N. Fisk, Brownwood, Texas 76801, lappelaw@juno.com

PAGE 3: CHC Volunteer Hours

Q5: How many volunteer hours were contributed to CHC meetings, projects, and programs in 2015? Please enter numbers only for your answer; do not use punctuation, symbols or text. If you do not keep track of hours, enter an approximate number of hours. Enter the number "0" if your CHC is inactive.

Volunteer hours

15000

Q6: Provide the number of individuals who served as CHC appointees in 2015. Please enter numbers only for your answer; do not use punctuation, symbols or text; a comma is considered a symbol.

of CHC appointees

30

Q7: Provide any comments/clarifications about the volunteer hours you entered above. Please skip this question if you have no comments/clarifications.

We have members that volunteer with the Brown County Museum of History, The Blanket Museum, the Zephyr Historical Association restoration of old buildings, the Lenhis Train Museum, the Genealogical Research Library, the efforts to start a Bangs Museum, and the Brown County Historical Society projects. One of the major things that involved 6 of members this year was a large event for the 75th anniversary of the creation of Camp Bowie, a WW II training camp. This involved a much larger and improved display for the Brown County Museum of History, a three day seminar at Howard Payne University (co-sponsored by Tarleton University), tours of the Camp Bowie area, speeches to schools and civic organizations

April 4, 2016

(Exhibit #1)

PAGE 4: CHC Meetings and Appointee Participation

Q8: Indicate the number of full commission meetings your CHC held in 2015. Indicate the number of CHC committee meetings held separate and apart from full commission meetings. Both questions must be answered using numbers only; do not use symbols or text. Enter the number "0" in both boxes, if your CHC was inactive in 2015 (i.e., did not provide services to the county).

CHC full commission meetings in 2015 12
 CHC committee meetings in 2015 6

Q9: A majority of appointees must be present at a meeting to constitute a QUORUM. Check the circle next to the percentage that best reflects how often a QUORUM was present for your full commission meetings in 2015. Clicking a circle places a check the circle; clicking again will uncheck the circle.

100% of full commission meetings made quorum

PAGE 5: CHC Meetings and Appointee Participation (continued)

Q10: Check the percentage that best reflects the number of CHC appointees who have completed Open Meetings training. 51-75% of our CHC appointees have taken Open Meetings training

PAGE 6: CHC Financial Information

Q11: Which serves as the repository for CHC money? Check each answer that applies to your CHC. Private bank account

Q12: Enter the amount of money provided to your CHC next to each line item. Use numbers for the DOLLAR amount; please round down/up to the nearest dollar when necessary. Do not use symbols or text; commas and decimals are considered to be symbols. Each box requires an amount; enter the number "0" if no monies are associated with the line item.

Balance carried over from 2014: 1000
 Annual county allocation for 2015 (not including money for museums): 2400
 County money allotted for museums in 2015: 10000
 Any other money issued by county during 2015 (one-time amount for a special project, etc.): 500
 CHC fundraising proceeds (events, book sales, etc.) during 2015: 1500
 Grant money provided to CHC in 2015: 0
 Partner/nonprofit money donations made in 2015: 20000
 "Membership" dues (though not recommended, some CHCs do request dues): 0
 Any other money amounts for 2015 not already included above; do not include CHC appointee out-of-pocket expenses, which will be requested later in the report: 8000

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Q13: Provide any clarifications about above amounts; skip question if you have no comments.

The members working with the Brown County Museum of History for the 75 anniversary of Camp Bowie event raised a lot of donations and in kind support for HPU and Tarleton. The members working on the historical buildings restoration for the Zephyr Historical Association got grant from different that went to their organization and not through the historical commission but it was our efforts to raise the money. The ones with the genealogical research library got grants for their projects.

Q14: If your county employs an individual as a CHC liaison or as some other support position, please let us know if his/her salary comes out of the CHC county allocation or from some other budgetary line item. Also, let us know what responsibilities have been assigned to this individual. This information is frequently requested by CHCs.

One of our members is a paid employee of the Brown County Museum of History

PAGE 7: CHC Financial Information (continued)

Q15: Check each of the IN-KIND DONATIONS that was given to your CHC in 2015 by your COUNTY (county government). IN-KIND donations are goods and/or services provided to your organization at no charge.

Space for a CHC-operated museum,
Space for a CHC-sponsored exhibit (history, projects, photographs, etc.)
Exterior maintenance or heavy equipment,
Administrative supplies or services—postage, paper, ink, copier, etc.

Q16: Check each of the IN-KIND DONATIONS that was given to your CHC in 2015 by individuals or organizations (other than your COUNTY). Include in-kind donations made by CHC appointees.

Meeting and/or office space for CHC,
Space for a CHC-sponsored exhibit (history, projects, photographs, etc.)
Space for archive or records storage,
Computer hardware or software

PAGE 8: CHC Financial Information (continued)

Q17: Considering the IN-KIND answers checked in the previous questions, check the dollar range that best represents the amount of in-kind services and donations provided to your CHC.

\$5,001 - \$10,000

Q18: Check the dollar range that best represents the amount of out-of-pocket expenses incurred by your CHC appointees in 2015.

\$5,001 - \$10,000

PAGE 9: Planning CHC Projects and Programs

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Q19: A work plan defines project tasks, participants, time estimates, and a schedule. Check the option that best reflects how often is your CHC work plan updated.

Updated annually

Q20: Check each of the parties who participates in your CHC planning process.

CHC chair, CHC appointees, Partner organizations

PAGE 10: Statewide Preservation Plan for Texas—Goal 1: Survey and Online Inventory

Q21: Check the ONE statement/s that best reflects your county's involvement with survey work. Please reread the survey description above to ensure that you are providing an accurate answer.

No survey—CHC keeps inventories of county historic properties

Q22: If you have a historic and cultural resources survey, check the formats that apply to your survey.

Paper copy

PAGE 11: Goal 1: Survey and Online Inventory (continued)

Q23: Check the box if your CHC keeps track of the specified information.

A list of ENDANGERED cultural and historic resources in your county

Q24: Enter your county name and the names and locations of the ENDANGERED resources in your county—A property is considered endangered if it is under threat of demolition, structurally unstable, in an area of encroachment, etc. Skip this question if your CHC does not keep this information.

Brown county, old Brownwood hotel, corner of Fisk and Baker in Brownwood build in early 1900's has demolition notices attached; Iron truss bridge over Blanket creek South west part of the county between Zephyr and Blanket at the old Zephyr town site, "main street" bulidings in May, Texas and Bangs, Texas; old "mattress factory" at Fisk and 3rd street Brownwood, Texas; old grain silos at Lenhis train Museum on E. Adams, Brownwood, Texas ; 1950's fire station at Austin and Center, Brownwood, Texas; McDonald Field football stadium from the 1940's on Longhorn in Early; country hillsides going to wind turbines; the African Methodist Episcopal church (recorded Texas historic landmark) at Beaver Street and Cordell Street Brownwood is getting to be in bad shape. I don't think it is even being used any more.

Q25: Enter your county name and the names and locations of the cultural and historic resources DEMOLISHED in your county in 2015. Skip this question if your CHC doesn't keep this information.

Brown county; old rock house on W. Austin and Melwood (prior to 1920); "art deco" type school building that was an elementary school; old Cadillac dealer ship building, some of the walls were from the 1920's across from the courthouse, N. Fisk and N. Broadway, Brownwood; historic mountains and hilltops lost to wind turbines; numerous 1940'-1950's wood frame house being torn down all across Brownwood, for code violations

PAGE 12: Goal 1: Survey and Online Inventory (continued)

Q26: Check the work items in which your CHC was actively involved during 2015.

- Reviewed applications for historical MARKERS,
- Maintain an inventory of subject MARKERS in your county
- ,
- Periodically assess the condition of subject MARKERS in your county
- ,
- Cleaned or repaired MARKERS,
- Provided an inventory of subject MARKERS for public use (brochure, website posting, etc.)
- ,
- Maintain an inventory of properties that are DESIGNATED by Texas or the Secretary of the Interior as historic (i.e., National Register, Historic Texas Cemetery, Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, or State Archeological Landmark)
- ,
- Periodically assess the condition of properties DESIGNATED by Texas or the Secretary of the Interior as historic
- ,
- Provided an inventory of properties that are DESIGNATED as historic for public use (brochure, website posting, etc.)
- ,
- Maintain an inventory of CEMETERIES in your county
- ,
- Periodically assess the condition of CEMETERIES in your county
- ,
- Provided an inventory of CEMETERIES for public use (brochure, website posting, etc.)
- ,
- Maintain an inventory of CEMETERY ORGANIZATIONS in your county

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Q27: Check the box next to each work item in which your CHC was actively involved during 2015.

Identified and/or researched areas of development within your county that could impact cultural and historic resources

Identified and/or researched historic highways, roads, and trails in your county

Identified and/or researched historic farms and ranches in your county

Identified and/or researched historic bridges and/or bridge types in your county

Identified and/or researched parks and/or open spaces

Other work involving these cultural landscape themes:

working on identifying a stagecoach route through the county; working on preserving old Zephyr picnic grounds and getting access to old cemetery located there; working with developers around old Brown family cemetery not to encroach upon the graves; working with TxDOT and county commissioners; assisting with applications for historical family farm applications;

Q28: Check the box next to each work item in which your CHC was actively involved during 2015.

Participated in work that altered your historic county courthouse square

Comment on work involving these cultural landscapes:

researching history of Jimmy Campbell Cadillac building that was being demolished and the rock walls that was part of the building across from the courthouse to see if it were an old livery stable.

Q29: Provide a list of the different landscapes that were involved in your 2015 body of work. A sample response to this request would be if Kaufman CHC noted that they pursued funding to maintain and promote interpretation of the Kaufman County Poor Farm.

We keep doing research on the old 'fair grounds' "pic-nic grounds" of the old Zephyr town site including the grave site of up to 33 persons. We are looking at the hillsides where the wind turbines are going up; reviewing with TxDot location of an old cemetery that was moved in the 1940's for the air port to be built to see how close it came to highway construction; reviewing 4 sites for communications towers to be built; reviewing several rural landscapes for water pipeline projects to go in

Q30: How familiar is your CHC with the following topics?

The role a CHC can have in a federal Section 106 review	Very
The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties	Somewhat
The Certified Local Government Program	Very
THC's review authority over publicly-owned historic property	Very

Q31: Have you used the listserv and web information provided to familiarize your CHC about the following topics?

The role a CHC can have in a federal Section 106 review	Used info to improve CHC's understanding and participation
The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties	Shared information with CHC appointees
The Certified Local Government Program	Shared information with CHC appointees
THC's review authority over publicly-owned historic property	Used info to improve CHC's understanding and participation

Q32: Check the box next to each of the comments that apply to your CHC's 2015 body of work.

CHC participated in community planning activities to ensure historic and cultural resources were considered when development or zoning is discussed by city officials

CHC uses the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties to determine appropriate repair and new construction when making recommendations for exemptions or incentives

CHC participated as a consulting party in a federal Section 106 undertaking review

Tell us more about your CHC's involvement in the areas checked above. Skip commenting if no boxes are checked.
 TxDot and city of Brownwood calls us for input on projects that involve federal funds; review with county commissioners and county judge developer's plan around an historic cemetery; meeting with St. John's Episcopal church (recorded historic landmark) architect about how to incorporate a disability access ramp and not destroy the historic integrity of the building;

Q33: Check the box if the statement applies to your CHC.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 16: Statewide Preservation Plan for Texas—Goal 4: Leverage Economic Development Tools for Preservation

Q34: Check the box for each work item in which your CHC was actively involved in 2015.

Promoted historic and cultural sites to develop and sustain heritage tourism initiatives

Secured private grant money to fund or partially fund a CHC project

Secured other state or federal money to fund/partially fund a CHC project

Involved in local economic development plans/projects/organizations

Used hotel/motel tax revenue to fund preservation projects

Tell us a bit more about your CHC's involvement in the areas you have checked above. we spent a large amount time this year with many volunteers to hold a seminar about the 75th anniversary of Camp Bowie, a WWII training camp. We did a lot of publicity and greatly increased the exhibit on Camp Bowie in the Brown County Museum of history. We got grants and public donations from local charities and got two universities involved and they got funding to help promote it. We get hotel/motel tax for the county museum of history. We got grants to repair and work on the school house old post office and old Presbyterian church (community building) being restored by the Zephyr Historical association. Involved Brownwood economic develop corp. in 75th anniversary of Camp Bowie with help for military re-enactors. We got hotel money from the Early Chamber of commerce for the Pioneer days celebration.

Q35: List the public entities or private organizations that have provided grants or funding opportunities for your preservation projects. Skip this question if it does not apply to your CHC.

Brownwood Chamber of Commerce; Early Chamber of Commerce; Beadel Foundation, Woodruff Foundation. Brownwood Economic Foundation, Howard Payne University, Tarleton University, Lower Colorado River Authority

PAGE 17: Statewide Preservation Plan for Texas—Goal 5: Learn and Experience History through Place

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Q36: Check the box for each work item in which your CHC was actively involved in 2015.

Provided educational events/presentations/information on historic preservation and local history to audiences outside your CHC

Provided educational events/presentations/information on historic preservation and local history geared toward youth/schools

Initiated projects to diversify interpretation of historic and cultural resources

Participated in a regional preservation or tourism event (Texas Archeology Month event, Preservation Month event, history conference, cultural heritage festival, etc.)

Coordinated a regional preservation or tourism event

Supported activities sponsored by one or more of the Texas Heritage Trails regions

Provided tours of other historic buildings and/or sites within the county

Q37: List events in which your CHC was involved that are associated with boxes checked above. Provide details for selected activities in the Project Description section at the end of this report.

We had an archeology awareness month program with a discussion of arrowheads and the different historic time frame, such as the Clovis people, that was open to the public and published in newspapers and radio. We had a Black history month program that was advertised and brought in the public. It featured restoration efforts on an all Black school that existed during segregation. We also did a Black history exhibit in the public library. Our big public awareness program for the public and schools was a three day seminar and military re-enactment about the 75th anniversary of Camp Bowie, a WW II training camp and prisoner of war camp. It took over a year to plan. We hosted a program for the Texas Forts Trail regional seminar. We researched historical figures for and assisted with a "talking tombstone" event at two local cemeteries where important historical figures "come to life" and tell a little of their life history. The schools sent buses to these events. We collected African American history for the genealogy research library. We had volunteers to work with the Early Pioneer days. We hosted learning days at the Brown County Museum of History. During the Camp Bowie symposium we took participants on a tour of the former Camp Bowie site and the building that are still there and gave some history with the guide..

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Q38: Partnering is more than just attending meetings of other organizations. Effective partnerships build a stronger and more diverse preservation community. Check each of the individuals and organizations with which your CHC partnered during 2015.

County officials, City officials,
Local law enforcement, Local businesses,
Educational institutions (school districts, community colleges, universities)
,
Libraries, Museums, Cemetery organizations,
Archeology organizations,
Texas Heritage Trails Program,
Tourism organizations / visitors bureau / chambers of commerce / downtown business association
,
Other nonprofit organizations not already listed above (societies, associations, etc.)

PAGE 19: Goal 6: Connect Preservation to Related Fields (continued)

Q39: Check the boxes that reflect your CHC's role with museums.

CHC appointees volunteer with museum/s,
CHC appointees sit on board of a county museum

Q40: Enter your county name and provide the name and location for each of the museums your CHC operates. Please skip this question if your CHC does not operate museums.

The Brown County Museum of History was first created as a committee of the county historical commission. Eventually a separate organization was set up for the museum and a board of directors. It still operated under the control of the museum. Their by-laws have to be approved by us. All of their board members and officers have to be approved by us. The county historical commission chair is a permanent member of the museum board. We review their minutes and financial reports at our meetings.

Q41: When considering your overall workload, check the range that applies to your CHC.

51-75% of CHC time spent on museum related work

PAGE 20: Statewide Preservation Plan for Texas—Goal 7: Cultivate Political Commitment

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Q42: Check each way your CHC officially reported 2015 activities to your county officials.

Presented/will present summary of 2015 accomplishments to commissioners court in late 2015/early 2016

Presented to county commissioners court about a particular project/s

Attended county commissioners court regularly,

Met with the county judge,

Met with county commissioners,

Submitted CHC meeting minutes,

Submitted a CHC budget,

Provided suggested CHC appointments

PAGE 21: Goal 7: Cultivate Political Commitment (continued)

Q43: Check the elected officials that your CHC regularly invited to events and activities in 2015.

County judge, County commissioners,

Mayor/s of cities in your county,

City council members from cities within your county

Q44: Please enter your county name and the names of elected officials who attended one or more of your CHC events in 2015. Skip this question if no elected officials attended your events.

one of the county commissioners came to one of our meeting. We had many city officials, mayors etc. who came to our Camp Bowie 75th anniversary event, city manager of Brownwood, mayor of Brownwood, mayor of Early, city council members

PAGE 22: Goal 7: Cultivate Political Commitment (continued)

Q45: Check the activities and communications undertaken by your CHC in 2015 in support of Texas history and preservation.

Issued information to the public at large—newsletters, email, press releases, etc.

Submitted articles and/or letters to media outlets,

Worked with preservation nonprofits who advocate for specific projects

Wrote letters/email to state legislators

PAGE 23: Statewide Preservation Plan for Texas—Goal 8: Build Capacity of Preservation Community

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Q46: Check all of the ways in which your CHC tried to improve appointee participation in 2015.

Initiated projects to diversify CHC membership,
Provided educational presentations for your CHC appointees
,
Used the THC website information to educate appointees
,
Used the CHC Handbook to educate appointees ,
Met regionally with other CHCs to share experiences and efforts

Q47: If you organized a CHC regional meeting in 2015, please indicate:-- the counties that participated (including your county);-- topics or themes discussed; and -- how many times you have met formally as a group over the years. Please skip if the question does not apply to your CHC.

We have members of the Mills county historical commission and Coleman county historical commission and Comanche county historical commission come to our events and occasionally to our monthly meetings. We sent them notices of our monthly meetings.

Q48: List workshops that your CHC hosted in 2015, including information on the educational topic. Please skip if the question does not apply to your CHC.

We had a regional workshop for the Texas Forts Trail in Brownwood where Day Tripper TV show personality was the featured speaker. We hosted genealogy research sessions.

PAGE 24: Goal 8: Build Capacity of Preservation Community (continued)

Q49: Reflecting 2015 activity, enter the number of CHC appointees that attended a training offered by the organization listed. Please use numbers only; do not use text or symbols.

THC regional workshop	3
THC marker workshop	1
THC oral history workshop	3
THC/Texas Archeology Month event	6
Texas Heritage Trails Program	8
Texas Association of Museums (other than THC partnered training listed above)	5
Texas State Historical Association (TSHA)	2
Any other history-related opportunity that was offered locally/regionally	20

PAGE 25: Goal 8: Build Capacity of Preservation Community (continued)

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Q50: Rank the degree to which select THC services have helped your CHC expand their programming.

CHC listserv weekly messages	Helped a lot
General THC website information	Helped a lot
THC website information specific to CHCs	Helped a lot
Historical marker webinars	Helped a lot

Q51: Share your thoughts on THC services that have helped your CHC.

The web-site is very informative. The webinars are very good. The staff is very helpful. The only problems I have is sometimes the phone rings and isn't answered. And the historical marker applications are not reviewed for years. We had two cemetery markers that are 2 years in the process.

Q52: Check the ways in which your CHC made concerted efforts in 2015 to improve work relative to previous years.

CHC planning, Membership and attendance,
Preservation education for appointees, Partnerships,
Community outreach to adults ,
Community outreach to young people ,
Presence of CHC and/or county history on Internet ,
Relationship with county commissioners court,
Initiated a new CHC project

PAGE 26: Project Description #1 (of 3) for CHC work from 2015

Q53: Project Description #1--Expand upon your answers to question 52 about improving your CHC during the 2015 year of service. Describe the efforts made to improve an aspect of your CHC. Include the following: - your county name- the specific area of improvement- why the improvement effort was made- what actions were taken to make improvements- the results of those actionsIf you were not able to make improvements in 2015, document your challenges and what improvements you'd make if you had the time, manpower, or money required.

Brown county

Some of the improvements that we had this year was in attendance at museum training workshops and archival storage training

We try to recruit members from all around the county, to cover all museum and historical associations and cover all the cultures in the area. However, we get a lot of promises but people don't follow through. We have difficulty getting participants from some cultures. we do more research about their history than we do. We got some participation this year for historical marker research this year for the Emanuel Chapel Methodist Church. Our county history research is very lacking in African American History. We have done an historical marker for the African American Episcopal Church in the past with a lot of history of African American Citizens. This year we were able to collect a large file of African American history for the genealogical research library. We actually got some groups involved to share family histories. We got the Hardin Museum to name more board members and get active again. This is for the creation of a Black history exhibit in the Black school building that will house a community center and history exhibit. It has been pared down from the original black history museum. We have a maker about the Hardin School (a black school during segregation) and we have worked with the group to get several grants to stop the deterioration of the building and preserve. Now the group is meeting again to begin the process for the exhibit and use of the building. We got a lot of publicity this year form our events and questions from the public about our projects.

PAGE 27: Project Description #2 (of 3) for CHC work from 2015

Q54: Project Description #2—Share a project, effort, or service that shows the best of how your CHC interacts with the public. Please include your county name in the answer. Project, effort, or service must adhere to the following requirements:— its primary association is with history/preservation— it has broad CHC appointee support (rather than the participation of only 1 or 2 people)— is an ongoing effort or one that was completed in 2015

Several of our members have been working along with the Zephyr Historical Association for several years to save and restore old buildings from Zephyr. This has involved moving the old school house and the old post office to a location where the community center is (Old Zephyr Presbyterian Church --see the topic historical marker) We have gotten old wind mills and farm equipment moved to the location. We have gotten the rock from the old bank donated if we can find a picture to go by to re-create it. One of our members is the project manager and the whole project is her efforts. Other members have been researching the history and helping to apply for grants and going to the commissioners for support. Part of the same project has been witching out graves at the old town site location. We knew of a plaque saying there were 3 graves there ,and we knew of possibly 3-4 more. One of our members has been witching out graves there and has found about 30 graves. Th problem is that the graves and the old fair grounds are on private property and we have had several members working with the county surveyor to get access. We are also working with the county commissioner and TxDot to save a metal truss bridge also at the location. We have had several members working with fund raisers and getting grants We have gotten donations of chain link fence to go up around the location and to get labor to put it up. The town of Zephyr is very small compared to what it used to be and we want to save what we can while it is available

PAGE 28: Project Description #3 (of 3) for CHC work from 2015

Q55: Project Description #3—Expand upon your CHC's contribution to heritage tourism efforts in your region. Refer to question 36 for heritage tourism examples. Highlight your most effective heritage tourism effort in 2015:— your county name— describe event and your role in it— partners and community involvement in planning and/or implementation— impact of the event (attendance, participation, profit, etc.)

Brown County.

This was the result of a two year project for the 75th anniversary of Camp Bowie, a WW II training camp. We held a 3 day seminar at Howard Payne University. We had a co-chair from Tarleton university. We got HPU professors and HPU staff involved. We did tours of the Camp Bowie area and the buildings that are still there. We had a lot of support from the public, media, schools, HPU students, civic groups, Brown County Museum of History, and others. We had a military re-enactment with groups from schools present. We had 10 of our members involved. one of our members was the main originator, planner, and organizer of the event. We had about 75 participants in the seminar from a wide region. We had about 200 participants with the military re-enactments including students. We had about 50 involved in the tours, and countless people who read the press release information. We had TV and radio involved. We told the story of Camp Bowie to new generations who didn't know the meaning of it. We ended up with a much expanded exhibit in the Brown County Museum of History to tell the story of Camp Bowie and WW II to visitors, especially students who wouldn't have know about the story before. We had participation from the city manager of Brownwood, the Brownwood and Early Chambers of Commerce, the economic development corporation, the Brown County historical society, the different museums in the county and other historical associations, the schools, two colleges, the national guard, etc.

PAGE 29: CHC Comments for the THC

Q56: Please let us know more about your preservation successes and/or challenges.

The city of Brownwood has a vigorous campaign to tear down older houses that set vacant for awhile. In the last ten years we have lost probably 200 from the 1940's and 1950's and earlier, wood frame houses with ship lap siding, because they "no longer meet code requirements." We would like to get grants to allow the home owners or others who would like to buy the houses to fix up.

We have been able to get more publicity and more participation with the public and contractor to call for information. We have been trying for years to save the early 1900s hotel (10 floors) that the city of Brownwood would have already torn down except for the cost of imploding it. (\$60,000.00 - \$90,000.00) .It has set vacant since 1980. The windows are falling out etc.

We are losing a lot of older people from WW II era without getting their stories told.