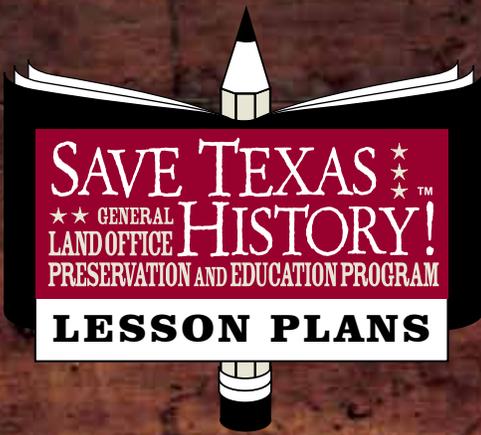


3

CALL TO ARMS

A Service Project



Students can learn valuable lessons by participating in a service project to preserve our state's historic maps. The Texas General Land Office Archives and Records Collection has many maps in critical need of restoration. These important primary sources are faded and crumbling due to overuse and the ravages of time. If steps aren't taken to restore these maps, much of the land history of Texas will be lost to future generations.

The process of restoring historic documents and maps is labor intensive and requires a high degree of expertise. As a result the process can be very expensive.

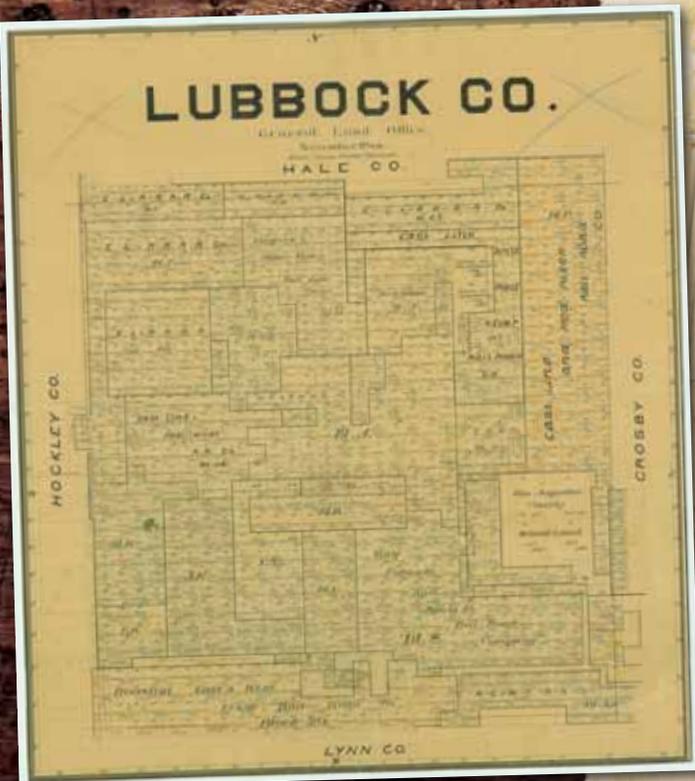
The cost of restoration depends on many variables, including:

- ★ The size of the map.
- ★ The degree of degradation.
- ★ The type of ink used.

TEKS

SS, CITIZENSHIP 7.16

- B. Explain and analyze civic responsibilities of Texas citizens and the importance of civic participation.



Call to Arms—A Service Project

INSTRUCTIONS

Because no taxpayer money is available for conservation of these historic maps, the Land Office relies on the generosity of the public. Once restored, the preserved maps are digitally scanned and electronically stored. Reproductions of the maps are then made available for purchase. One hundred percent of the purchase price of map reproductions goes into saving other maps and documents in the collection.

The Land Office needs your help to preserve our important historical land records for future generations of Texans. Here's how you can help.

GETTING STARTED

For an overview of the Save Texas History program and to view a video on the preservation process, please visit savetexashistory.org

SELECTING A MAP

Choosing a map can be a fun and interesting experience for you and your students. You may want to select a map that has a connection to where you live or the school you attend, or you may choose one with a broader historical appeal.

1. To view maps in need of preservation, go to: www.glo.texas.gov/cf/ArcMaps/ArcMapsLookup.cfm?Customer=48336161-10356
2. Type "Save Texas History" into the Keyword field and click the "Search" button. The maps that appear are in need of immediate attention.

OR you may contact Susan Dorsey at 512.463.5274 at the General Land Office Archives for help in selecting the right map for you and your students. Ms. Dorsey can also give you additional information about the map preservation process and the cost of preservation.

EXTENSION

Would you like a fundraising alternative to selling candy and washing cars? Try some of the following suggestions to raise money for map preservation.

DISPLAY: Students research a map's historical significance to Texas or your region. In a high traffic area of your school, display a copy of the map and information about your students' efforts to save the original.

PRESERVATION STATION: Students research the process of how historical documents and maps are conserved, then create a presentation that shows the steps in the process.

LEARNING LUNCHES: Invite local area businesses and civic groups to your school for lunch for a presentation of your map conservation efforts.

TEES FOR TEXAS: Obtain an image of the map and have a local tee shirt company place the image on inexpensive tee shirts. Add information as needed about your map and fundraiser.

DIGITAL DAY: Have students organize a day to digitally scan documents and photographs for students and faculty. (This is the perfect vehicle for sharing the importance of preserving our past.)

"SAVE THE MAP" WEBSITE: Create a fundraising website complete with images and details about the map.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Contact local civic and business organizations to schedule off-campus visits to share your map's story and preservation efforts.

Did your students enjoy this lesson? Let us know! The Texas General Land Office values your thoughts and feedback. Please report oversights, errors and omissions to the Texas General Land Office Archives at archives@glo.texas.gov.

Texas General Land Office, Jerry Patterson Commissioner
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WWW.SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG | 1.800.998.4GLO