

Recommendations from Confederate Monument Task Force

Cultural Affairs Commission
October 12, 2017

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Purpose:

- To share the process undertaken by the Confederate Monument Task Force
- To brief the Cultural Affairs Commission on the Confederate Monuments and Fair Park art work with Confederate images and symbols
- To review the recommendations of the Task Force and the Public Art Committee

Confederate Monuments Task Force:

- On September 6, 2017, City Council voted to immediately remove the *Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Soldier* and place it in storage
- The Confederate Monument Task Force met on these occasions:
 - August 31, 2017
 - September 7, 2017
 - September 15, 2017
 - September 19, 2017
 - September 22, 2017
- Public comments were allowed at the September 7th and September 15th meetings, and online comments were open for two weeks
- All Task Force materials (agendas, briefings, videos, meeting minutes) are available on www.dallasculture.org/confederatemonuments

Confederate Monuments Task Force:

- The Task Force was charged to make recommendations on the following:
 - Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Soldier
 - Confederate Monument
 - Fair Park Art
 - Streets with Confederate Names
 - Places with Confederate Names
 - Robert E. Lee Park
 - Confederate Cemetery
- Briefings presented to the Task Force to inform their deliberations included:
 - Public monuments honoring Confederates
 - Art at Fair Park with Confederate symbols
 - Parks with Confederate names and buildings
 - Landmarks process
 - Research regarding street names with confirmed Confederate linkages
 - Street name changing process
 - History of The Lost Cause
 - History of Dallas during the 1890s and 1930s – with a special emphasis on the history of Black Codes, Jim Crow, and segregation

Confederate Monuments Task Force:

- The Public Art Committee heard public comments at their meeting held on Tuesday, October 10th
- The Public Art Committee unanimously recommended the following:
 - 1a. (Task Force Recommendation #1) The Task Force –That the City of Dallas seek to place the statue of *Robert E. Lee* and the base of the sculpture on long-term loan or by donation to a museum, educational institution, or educational site located within North Texas so that it may be preserved and used for educational purposes through display within the full historical context of the Civil War, Reconstruction, ‘Lost Cause’ mythology, and the ‘Jim Crow’ era. If the City is unsuccessful in its efforts and the statues remain in storage after three years, the City Council should revisit this issue.

Confederate Monuments Task Force:

- The Public Art Committee heard public comments at their meeting held on Tuesday, October 10th
- The Public Art Committee unanimously recommended the following:

1b. (Task Force Recommendation #1) The Task Force –That the City of Dallas seek to place the Confederate Memorial on long-term loan or by donation to a museum, educational institution, or educational site located within North Texas so that it may be preserved and used for educational purposes through display within the full historical context of the Civil War, Reconstruction, ‘Lost Cause’ mythology, and the ‘Jim Crow’ era. If the City is unsuccessful in its efforts and the statues remain in storage after three years, the City Council should revisit this issue.

Confederate Monuments Task Force:

- The Public Art Committee heard public comments at their meeting held on Tuesday, October 10th
- The Public Art Committee unanimously recommended the following:

2. (Task Force Recommendation #2) The Task Force –That the historic art and architecture of Fair Park which contains symbols of, or references to, the Confederate States of America or persons associated therewith, remain in place as a piece of the history of Texas as presented at Fair Park. Appropriate signage, markers, digital tours guides, public art, educational programming, and/or exhibitions be added as necessary to provide the full context of the Civil War, Reconstruction, “Lost Cause” mythology, the “Jim Crow” era, and the creation of Fair Park for the 1936 Texas Centennial. Historical context should include reference to the many contributions of Mexicans, Tejanos, and indigenous peoples made during the colonization of Texas, the Texas Revolution, and during and after the Mexican War leading to the 20th Century, to also include the participation or exclusion of various communities in those historic events.

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Monuments

Monuments are common in America and have been supported, commissioned, and installed since the 1800s.

Address our desire to memorialize individuals, groups and events of significance.

- Washington Monument
- Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- JFK Memorial
- MLK Memorial
- Rosa Parks Plaza in Dallas

Make a public statement about the social and historical viewpoints of the individuals and groups who commission them.

Intentionally built to last – expecting that their significance will endure for a long time.

While they are made by artists, they are not independent artistic expressions.

The Confederate Monuments were donations to the City of Dallas before a public art process for the review of donations existed.

Confederate Monuments in Dallas

Title of Work	Artist	Date	Location	Information
Confederate Monument	Frank Teich	1896-97	Pioneer Cemetery, Young Street	Donated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy Has Dallas Landmark Status 1897 installed at Old City Park Relocated 1961
Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Soldier	Alexander P. Proctor	1936	Lee Park, 3400 Turtle Creek Blvd	Donated by the Southern Memorial Association On Park Property

Confederate Monuments in Dallas



Frank Teich, *Confederate Monument*, 1896-97



Alexander Phimister Proctor, *Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Soldier*, 1936

Additional Representations of the Confederacy in Fair Park

Artwork at Fair Park is under Dallas Landmark, State of Texas Landmark and National Historic Landmark Protection

Title	Artist	Date	Location	Information
Female Figure as the Confederacy	Laurence Tenney Stevens	1936	Fair Park, Esplanade	One of six figures depicting Texas History
Roundel depicting the Confederate Flag with 7 stars	Not known	1936	Fair Park, Esplanade	One of six roundels depicting the flags of Texas History
Great Seal of Texas	Joseph Renie	1936	Hall of State, Far end of the Great Hall	Female figures representing the six historic republics of Texas
History of Texas Mural	Eugene Savage, Reveau Basseit, James Buchanan Winn	1936	Hall of State, Great Hall	Each of the six flags of Texas is included in the mural
Bronze Lanterns	Not known	1936	Hall of State, Entrance	Figures of soldiers representing the 6 historic republics of Texas

Additional Representations of the Confederacy in Fair Park



Laurence Tenney Stevens, *The Confederacy*, 1936



Confederate Roundel, 1936

Additional Representations of the Confederacy in Fair Park



Joseph Renie, *The Great Seal of Texas*, 1936

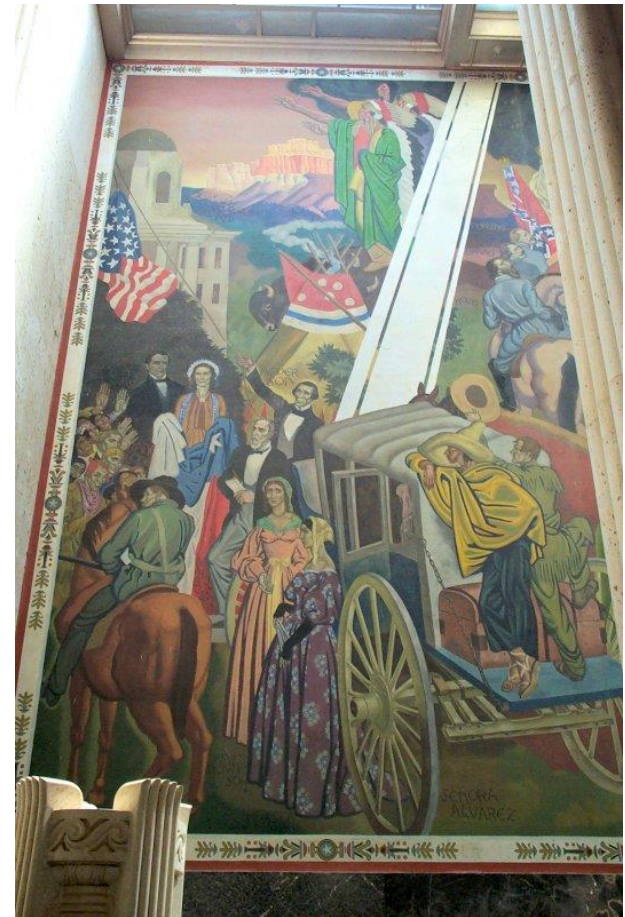
Detail of the Confederacy figure –right



Additional Representations of the Confederacy in Fair Park



The Confederate Soldier, 1936



Detail of the State of Texas
History Mural with flags

Texas History Mural in the Great Hall



Role of the Cultural Affairs Commission:

- Review the Confederate Monument Task Force recommendations (#1 and #2)
- Consider Task Force and Public Arts Committee recommendations on the following:
 - *Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Soldier*
 - *Confederate Monument*
 - Fair Park artwork and symbols

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