



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Texas State Archives Unveils Historic Flag Collection Online

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas State Archives has unveiled its collection of historic flags in a new exhibit catalog online.

Part of the Archives and Information Services Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), the State Archives has – for the first time – digitized, annotated, and showcased its 40 historic flags in a colorful online exhibit now available on the TSLAC website:

<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/flags/index.html>

Together the flags evoke nearly two centuries of Texas and U.S. history. Many were carried by Texans into America’s bloodiest battles; indeed, the collection is replete with stories of honor lost and gained and transcendent pride in the face of war.

The earliest flags date from the Texas Revolution (1835-1836) and include the Mexican tricolored Matamoros Battalion Flag, which was flown over the Battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto during the Texas Revolution in 1836.

A majority of the flags date from the American Civil War (1861-1865) and includes the First Texas Infantry Regiment Flag bearing the St. Andrew’s Cross synonymous today with the Confederacy. The flag was carried into battle at Gettysburg in 1863 and was eventually captured in 1865 by a Union officer near Appomattox just one day before Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant.

“There’s always been a great deal of interest in our flag collection,” said State Archivist Jelain Chubb. “I’m very pleased that we can provide researchers throughout Texas and the world with access to these important historical artifacts.”

Each flag featured in the online exhibit catalog is accompanied by detailed documentation and a high-resolution image. Three of the flags online are also on display in the lobby of TSLAC’s Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, 1201 Brazos St., Austin.

The three flags on display are: [Granbury's Texas Brigade - 17th and 18th Texas Cavalry](#), [Gould's Battalion - 6th Texas Cavalry Battalion](#), and the [First Texas Infantry Regiment \(“Seven Pines/Gaines Farm”\)](#). The public is welcome to view them in person at any time during the lobby’s operating hours, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They will remain on exhibit until February 7, 2013.

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*Preserving yesterday,
informing today,
inspiring tomorrow.*

The public is also invited to watch TSLAC's website and follow its Facebook page for updates on when and where they can see flags from the collection in person. On Facebook the agency continues to spotlight individual flags on a weekly basis: <http://www.facebook.com/tslac>

PHOTOS ATTACHED

Caption 1: Matamoros Battalion Flag. Carried into battle during the Texas Revolution in 1836.

Online: <https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/flags/4032Matamoros.html>

Caption 2: First Texas Infantry Regiment Flag. Carried into Gettysburg during the Civil War in 1863.

Online: <https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/flags/4041FirstTexas.html>

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ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Formed in 1909, TSLAC is committed to giving Texans access to information and programs they can use to improve their lives and communities. We provide historical and genealogical search assistance, federal and state government documents, electronic research and library services to all Texans, including those who are unable to read standard print material because of physical or reading disabilities. For more information, visit www.tsl.state.tx.us

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