



HISTORIC FORT WORTH, INC.

## 2012 ENDANGERED LIST



### **Forest Park pool complex, including the bath houses**

Address: 2850 Park Place Avenue

Date built: 1922

Owner: City of Fort Worth

Comments: As the city's largest and most popular pool prior to its closing in 2010, reopening the Forest Park Pool complex has been a priority for Councilman Joel Burns and others. It is good that a private citizen has offered to fund a planning study for this historic and culturally-rich summer destination;

however, it will take as much as \$3 million to repair and restore

this public gem. The Olympic-scaled Forest Park pool creates opportunity for all citizens to excel in swimming.



### **Fort Worth Art Center, including the Scott Theater,**

Address: 1300 Gendy Street

Date built: 1954

Owner: City of Fort Worth

Comments: The original Fort Worth Art Center building was designed by Herbert Bayer, an Austrian graphic designer, architect and landscape designer. Mr. Bayer is known best for his buildings and landscapes in Aspen, Colorado, a place he shaped for over thirty years. The original Fort Worth Art Center

evolved from the Fort Worth Art Association that formed in 1938. Prior to becoming the first location for the Modern Art Museum, the Center was both a museum and an art school with administrative offices on the second floor. Expansions to the building were designed by O'Neil Ford and Associates. The building is now known as the Fort Worth Community Arts Center and is the headquarters of several art-affiliated groups. The onset of paid parking threatens the business plans of the arts groups that count on the public for support, which in turn, puts the building at risk.



### **Andrew & Geraldine Fuller House**

Address: 4161 Charron

Date built: 1953

Owner: In a trust at Frost Bank for Amon Carter, III

Comments: This geometric masterpiece is the design of internationally-acclaimed, Los Angeles architect A. Quincy Jones. The original décor was by another LA luminary, William Haines, who started his career as a Hollywood actor. The Fuller's affiliation with LA celebrities included Joan Crawford

and Gloria and Jimmy Stewart, who were representative of the Hollywood house guests one could meet at the Fort Worth Fuller House. Today, the house sits on 2.5 acres of what was once a 17 acre lot that fronted Edgehill Road, the original street address for the Fuller House.



### **Mitchell Cemetery**

Address: 1300 NE 28<sup>th</sup> Street

Date built: 1848

Owner: Pauline L. Jones, City of FW, Burlington Northern RR, DFW K&H Real Estate, LLC  
c/o Barry Zeff Rubin

Comments: Mitchell Cemetery is one of the oldest in the county and still contains 30 graves of the very first pioneers to settle in this area. One grave is for the first Tarrant County judge, Seaborn Gilmore, who attended grade school in Illinois, with Abraham Lincoln prior to coming to Texas and who fought in the Mexican War. Judge Gilmore's family, including

his son-in-law, the county's first sheriff, is also buried in Mitchell Cemetery. Located between two railroad tracks, this unfenced and unmarked cemetery is subject to vandalism. Its neglected condition has been the subject of numerous newspaper articles starting in 1935.



### **Old Renfro Drug Store**

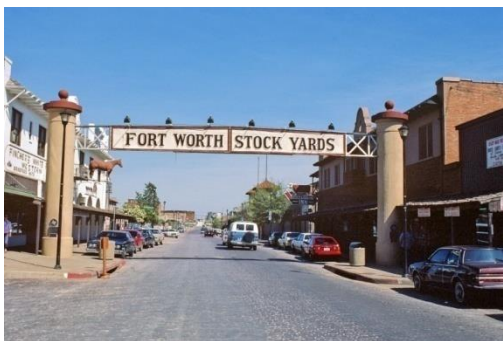
Address: 1200 Pennsylvania Ave/526-28 Henderson St

Date built: 1929

Owner: Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital

Comments: This one story, commercial building which is eligible for the National Register, has a cast-stone frieze and parapet that incorporates both a fine Gothic Revival triforium and an Art Deco zigzag band. The curving façade takes advantage of the intersection of two major streets. If Harris needs more square footage at this location, it should work to

incorporate the building's façade into its plan, as was done in New York in conjunction with the Villard House. <http://www.nyc-architecture.com/MID/MID010.htm>



### **Fort Worth's Stockyards National Register Historic District**

Location: Bounded by 23<sup>rd</sup>, Houston and 28<sup>th</sup> Streets

Date built: Varies between 1900-1924

Owners: Private and City of Fort Worth

Comments: It came as a 2011 surprise to some that Fort Worth's Armour Meatpacking Plant in the historic Stockyards would be demolished in an "honor the past and envision the future" demolition luncheon and without a hearing before Fort Worth's Historic & Cultural Landmarks Commission. For others, it was what they feared would happen without local

designation for one of Fort Worth's top tourist destinations. Fewer than 10% of the buildings in the Stockyards are designated local landmarks, which leaves the rest vulnerable to the same fate as the Armour Plant. It is time to designate the entire Stockyards as a local Historic & Cultural Historic District of the City of Fort Worth.



### **Urban Villages**

Locations: Hemphill & Berry Streets  
6000 and 6100 blocks of Camp Bowie Blvd.

Owners: Varies

Comments: Neighborhood volunteers, design professionals and City of Fort Worth staff have worked together for several years to establish a concept known as “Urban Villages.” Urban Villages create economic vitality by allowing for a variety of business types and residential usages that typically have been separated in different zones. (Think New York City.) Much of

the vitality on Magnolia Avenue is a result of the mixed zoning in this exemplary Urban Village. It is unfortunate that a large retailer with the sophistication and resources to adapt its project to Urban Village design guidelines was not made to do so at Berry and Hemphill Streets, another Urban Village site. What must not have been understood is that by lowering the design bar for this retailer, other prospective businesses will expect the same sweetheart deal. Now, in the 6000 and 6100 blocks of Camp Bowie, the leadership wants to totally eliminate a business type that contributes to the success of Magnolia Avenue: bars, which when selectively used, attract patrons of differing stages and ages. With this type of meddling at council meetings, the Urban Village concept may soon be damaged beyond repair.



### **Farrington Field**

Address: 1501 University Drive

Date built: 1939

Owner: Fort Worth Independent School District

Comments: With the demolition of the Amon Carter Stadium at TCU, Farrington Field remains the city’s only remaining Art Deco stadium. Farrington Field was a Depression-era relief project that employed about 500 workers, and Preston M. Geren served as the consulting architect for this Classical-Moderne structure. With fluted piers, star capitals

and bas-relief panels of athletic figures designed by Fort Worth artist Evaline Sellors, Farrington Field remains a beloved and popular landmark. Due to intense development between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Lancaster Avenue, the beautifully-maintained Farrington Field is vulnerable without designation protection. The citizens of Fort Worth and the FWISD would be well-served if Farrington Field was designated as an Historic & Cultural Landmark of the City of Fort Worth and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.





### **Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum, Auditorium & Pioneer Tower & sculpture of Will Rogers riding Soapsuds**

Address: 3301 West Lancaster Avenue

Date built: 1936

Owner: City of Fort Worth

Comments: Built for the Texas Centennial in 1936 and designed by Wyatt C. Hedrick, these iconic buildings are not designated landmarks of the City of Fort Worth. They reflect a mixture of Classical Revival and Moderne styles and include mosaic tile friezes on the facades of the two buildings that

depict the history and products of Texas of this time period. The undesignated Will Rogers Coliseum, Auditorium and Pioneer Tower reflected hope during the Depression and remain the center of civic pride in the Cultural District. A duplicate sculpture on the Texas Tech campus was placed in the National Register, yet Fort Worth's sculpture has no recognition.



### **The Fort Worth Power & Light Plant (Recently the TXU Power Plant)**

Address: 101 North Main Street

Date built: 1912

Owner: Tarrant County College District

Comments: Designed and constructed by the Cleveland Construction Company of Cleveland, Ohio, this commanding ochre brick structure sits on the north bank of the confluence of the east and west branches of the Trinity River. In an

agreement for purchase by the Tarrant County College District, the smokestacks were demolished in 2005, and the building has been languishing ever since. There are holes in the roof that allow water to collect inside and many windows are broken. If TCCD has no immediate plans for the building, it should be professionally mothballed by repairing the roof and boarding up the windows.



### **Texas & Pacific Warehouse Building**

Address: 401 West Lancaster Avenue

Date built: 1931

Owner: Cleopatra Investments, Ltd.

Comments: Although the commanding T&P Warehouse Building is designated a Highly-Significant Endangered Landmark of Fort Worth, a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark of the State, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the project planned for this building has been stalled due

to street realignment. For years water has been standing in the basement, and a tree is growing on the roof. Opportunity for the reuse of this 600 ft. long by 100 ft. wide building was created a little over ten years ago when a lawsuit to bring down the I-30 overhead succeeded. The building remains vacant, today.