I am a resident of McKinney and just learned at this late hour that stunningly, the removal of the statue of Governor Throckmorton, is on the City Council Agenda:

Please do not allow the removal of another statue in this country by allowing the statue of Governor Throckmorton to be taken down from the square. All over our great country, the people, either by inaction or by affirmative voting, are allowing the deletion of our history and what makes our country, states and cities as great as they are. Without our history, we are a blank page of nothingness. We learn so much from our history, and by removing statues of people who gave their time and energy to build our country to its present greatness, we are robbing our children and future generations of the ability to take the helm with the benefit of knowing and understanding our predecessors’ victories and mistakes.

We are all human which means we are not perfect, but we all have value to society and, as Tricia Haas stated in her online article about Governor Throckmorton entitled “James Webb Throckmorton – McKinney’s Courthouse Statue,” “deserve to be treated with respect”. Will you sandblast the walls of the Old Collin County Courthouse next to erase the reminders of segregation? PLEASE don’t allow the misguided voices of those few who are screaming for something that will do nothing to advance their agenda destroy all the hard work that has come before us and prevent our children from leading with the value of hindsight.

Shelley Hickey
Mayor Fuller and Members of the McKinney City Council, I want the statue of James Webb Throckmorton removed from the current location. It represents a person who worked to promote racial division. As Governor, he voted against the well-being of Black people. This statue is not what we want or need to represent our community.
From: Amy Jeter <ajeter@mckinneytexas.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:48 PM
To: Paul Grimes <pgrimes@mckinneytexas.org>
Cc: Kimberly Flom <kflom@mckinneytexas.org>
Subject: FW: Throckmorton Statue Public Input Survey

FYI

From: Marsha Hope <>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:41 PM
To: CityManager <citymgr@mckinneytexas.org>
Subject: Throckmorton Statue Public Input Survey

Mr. Grimes,

My name is Marsha Hope and I have been a resident of McKinney since 2000. I am writing to you because I just found out about the Throckmorton public input survey recently. I had known about the advisory council, but did not realize about the survey deadline of Sept. 25 until it was too late.

I have watched all the videos of the meeting the past few days. I applaud McKinney for at least taking the time to research and discuss this issue in a sane and respectful manner.

I am taking a shot and writing this just in case it can be counted in the public input since the survey is closed.

I support keeping the Throckmorton statue where it is and support the addition of a plaque if needed for additional contextual information. I also support honoring other people who have been instrumental in the growth of McKinney. From what I heard, Throckmorton was instrumental to the success of McKinney and helping it thrive. From what I have heard, I don’t believe the statue was erected as a monument to the Confederacy. I feel we can’t rewrite history nor can we expect those living in a different era to have the same beliefs that we now or the benefit that we have now of learning from their past mistakes. I fear that if we are to take down everything associated with our past, we will no longer have cities with names like Washington; we will not be allowed to learn about our founding fathers because they owned slaves like so many at that time; etc.

Also, as noted by so many people, until recently, most people visiting downtown never even
knew we had a statue nor had they really ever thought about Throckmorton. I feel that some people have chosen to take advantage of the divisiveness in this country and have made an issue out of something that was not there before.

Thank you for your time in serving our city and for serving on the advisory council.

Marsha Hope
McKinney, TX  75071
Distinguished City Council members,

Recently a friend of mine sent an article regarding the Throckmorton Statue and the desire by some residents and members of the City Council to have it removed from outside the Courthouse.

If you gentlemen decide to remove the statue it would be my honor to take it off your hands and relocate it to my home in Missouri!

In fact if the City wants to dispose of anything else bearing the Throckmorton name or depictions of Governor Throckmorton I’d be more than happy to take them off your hands and end any controversy they may be causing your fine city.

I thank you very much for your consideration and welcome your reply.

Respectfully yours,

Vince Throckmorton
Statue Comment

From: Barry and Joan Cotter <>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:22 AM
To: Contact-City Secretary <Contact-CitySecretary@mckinneytexas.org>
Subject: Throckmorton Statue

Please forward this to the ad hoc committee: we have appended a much shortened version to the survey form but didn't think it would accommodate this longer statement. If you can help us get this into the record, we'd be very grateful. Barry and Joan Cotter, McKinney --- 75069

THROCKMORTON STATUE: STATEMENT

1. Essential point: James W. Throckmorton was a white supremacist. He actively pursued legislation and policies which denied full civil rights to Afro-Americans. As governor he failed to provide adequate protection against physical violence and other forms of intimidation against the Freedmen. See Kenneth Wayne Howell: *Texas Confederate, Reconstruction Governor*, 2008, for full, detailed documentation, including personal Throckmorton correspondence; see Stephen Harrigan: *Big Wonderful Thing: a History of Texas*, 2020, esp. pp. 308 -320.

2. Throckmorton owned one slave and a "slave house," U.S. Census 1860.

3. Throckmorton believed in the complete removal of Native American peoples from their ancestral lands to territory north of the Red River in favor of white settlement.

4. Throckmorton accomplished good things for the white population of North Texas, including small farmers on the frontier, particularly through railroad development. These "distinguished public services" (language on the statue) Throckmorton performed within the systemically racist environment he supported.

5. There is no explicit evidence -- no markings on the statue -- to identify it as a CSA monument. Due to legitimate ill-health, Throckmorton did not have a distinguished military career during the Civil War. Certainly within his lights, he was a patriot.

6. In our opinion, the present controversy over this statue may feed in part on racist values like Throckmorton's which still persist in our culture. Having watched the complete sessions of the Ad
Hoc Committee, we do not believe any member thereof holds racist values like Throckmorton's.

7. Therefore, we think the statue should be removed from the Square and placed in the Collin County Historical Museum. There it would be protected adequately. Also, Throckmorton would be given the full, clear treatment he deserves as a notable historical figure in North Texas and Reconstructionist history: history preserved, not erased.

8. We are older white people who moved to McKinney from out of state in 2016 having visited McKinney annually for longer periods of time since 2006. We like the city and we like the people. But knowing what we have learned through our own research about Throckmorton, we find the statue offensive as a public monument.

Barry and Joan Cotter
McKinney, TX  75069
October 5, 2020

Mr. Mark Doty
Assistant Director of Planning, City of McKinney
221 N. Tennessee Street
McKinney, Texas 75069

Dear Mr. Doty:

As a Texas historian, I have some thoughts concerning the statue of Gov. James Throckmorton. Also, even though I am not a McKinney resident, I did spend a lot of time there from the 1960s into the 1980s, due to the fact that my family raised cattle in western Collin County. So, my interest in the statue stems from both of those reasons.

It seems to me that a reasonable solution to this controversy would be at least one interpretive plaque, as has been done in the case of several Confederate-related monuments in Atlanta. As has probably been noted in discussion of the statue, Throckmorton vigorously opposed secession and worked with Sam Houston to prevent Texas’s entry into the Confederacy. As one of only eight delegates who voted “nay” at the January 1861 secession convention, he received considerable abuse that day from the 166 delegates who voted to leave the Union. However, as did many Southerners who shared his views, Throckmorton chose to defend his state.

Ideally, any interpretive text would reflect the fact that, along with his public service (including, of course, his being the only Texas governor from McKinney), Throckmorton was strongly influenced by his culture and background, as are all human beings. As such, he made some decisions understandable in his time and place that may seem all but incomprehensible in contemporary America. Nevertheless, offering viewers of the statue a balanced assessment of Throckmorton would be preferable to removing it. Also, its creator, Pompeo Coppini, was one of the two or three best-known sculptors ever to work in Texas. For McKinney to have one of his works is significant in and of itself.

I greatly appreciate any consideration that can be given to my opinions in this matter.

Yours,
Sam Ratcliffe, Ph.D.

Author of *Painting Texas History to 1900* (University of Texas Press, 1992) and
Retired head of Jerry Bywaters Special Collections, Hamon Arts Library, SMU

ALTHOUGH HE UPHeld THE RIGHT OF SECESSION, HE WAS ONE OF SEVEN MEN WHO VOTED AGAINST TEXAS LEAVING THE UNION AT THE FEB. 1861 SECESSION CONVENTION. DURING THE CIVIL WAR (1861-65), HE Fought IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY. ELECTED GOVERNOR IN THE SUMMER OF 1866, HE GRAPPELED WITH POSTWAR PROBLEMS OF FRONTIER DEFENSE AND FEDERAL MILITARY OCCUPATION. IN JULY 1867 GEN. PHILIP H. SHERIDAN, COMMANDER OF THE 5TH MILITARY DISTRICT TO WHICH TEXAS WAS ASSIGNED, REMOVED THROCKMORTON FROM OFFICE AS "AN IMPEDIMENT TO RECONSTRUCTION" AND NAMED E. M. PEASE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR. THROCKMORTON CONTINUED HIS POLITICAL CAREER IN THE U.S. CONGRESS,

SERVING HIS NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT IN 1875-79 AND 1883-87.

*3/4 inch lettering
**1/2 inch lettering
***1/4 inch lettering
August 29, 1977

Mr. John G. Keller  
District Engineer  
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mr. Keller:

Attached herewith is a copy of correspondence from the Texas Historical Commission requesting us to erect the historical marker "Governor James Webb Throckmorton" on US 75 in Collin County.

It is requested that you erect this marker along with the advance informational signs in accordance with the established policy.

Sincerely yours,

B. L. DeBerry  
Engineer-Director

By: Byron C. Blaschke, Chief Engineer  
of Maintenance Operations

KDC: cc  
Attachment  
cc: Mr. Truett Latimer

This marker should be shipped to:

Mr. John G. Keller  
District Engineer  
State Department of Highways  
and Public Transportation  
9700 East R. L. Thornton  
Dallas, Texas 75221
May 6, 1975

Mr. Leland H. Robinson, Jr.
1612 Williamsburg
Plano, TX 75074

Dear Mr. Robinson:

For sometime the Commission has been aware that there are ten Governors of the State of Texas whose careers have not been commemorated with an historical marker. Recently the Commission voted to correct the situation and instructed the staff to perform the necessary research and enlist the cooperation of respective county historical commission's in the location and placement of these markers.

Accordingly, this letter is to officially notify you that a 27"x 42" official Texas Historical marker will be awarded to your county to commemorate the public career of Governor James Webb Throckmorton. This marker will be financed with state funds and the only expense we ask that you incur is that of having it installed at an appropriate location. In this regard, we have the following recommended location: Courthouse Square in McKinney.

If you think another location would be more appropriate, please let us know and give us your reasons for your recommendation.

We would appreciate it very much if you would acknowledge receipt of this letter and tell us if your committee will accept the responsibility of installing the marker at the appropriate location.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

BY: [Signature]
Bob Watson
Director of Programs

TL: km
It was a popular movement among the Negroes that each man be given "40 acres and a mule." Milton told them to go to work and acquire property for themselves because the government could not do it. The problem was how to get the Southern states to ratify the Constitution of 1845 and its amendments.

In Washington, President Johnson's plan for reconstruction required the states to ratify the Constitution of 1845 and its amendments. The constitutional convention was called. It was overwhelmingly radical and opposed President Johnson's plan for reconstruction and what was termed the "Free and Equal" policy. Hamilton's plan for the Southern states to ratify the Constitution of 1845 and its amendments was adopted by a 37 to 26 vote.

The constitutional convention dragged to a close on Nov. 30, 1866—seven months after its beginning. Davis was nominated for governor by the Radical Republicans. Hamilton was nominated by the conservatives. Governor Pease said at the time that Hamilton was supported by eight-tenths of the people and all Democrats and that Davis was supported by less than 900 votes. Few believed the election fair in any way. Federal military authorities were accused of fraud in the election. Hamilton finally succeeded in keeping the presidency for the radical Davis. He was a leader in the "Non-Partisan Tax-Payers Convention" in 1871 that fought the reorganization of the state. Davis was defeated in 1871 when the radical Republican Governor Pease tried to keep him in office by going to the courts and being supported by 50,000 Republicans.

Hamilton died at his home on April 11, 1875. He is buried in the State Cemetery in Austin.
as newspaper wrote, "The South loves its soldiers and will not forget them or admit that the 'lost cause' was treason."

When Roberts and Burnet presented themselves at the Capital they were refused their seats in Congress, their credentials were ignored and they were made to watch the actions of Congress from the galleries.

Meantime, in Austin, Governor Throckmorton was interpreting President Johnson's peace message as having legally ended the war. He believed that it clearly established the supremacy of civilian government in Texas over military law. He worked hard for some reconstruction and the restoration of Texas as a full-time partner in the Union with equal civil liberties.

But in Washington, Congress didn't like President Johnson's idea of reconstruction. The Congress threatened to impeach him and threw out his reconstruction plan, substituting instead the hated "Congressional Reconstruction" which disfranchised every Southerner who had supported the Confederacy.

When President Johnson's reconstruction program went into the Washington waste basket, out went Throckmorton and his civil administration. Congress put the military on the job in Texas again and Federal officers appointed Texas' fourth governor, Elisha M. Pease, to head that government and to form another constitution to be adopted, as history puts it, "by the votes of scalawags and those who renounced any part in the Confederate cause." Gen. Phil Sheridan was made commander of the Fifth Military District which included Louisiana and Texas. General Charles Griffin was placed in charge of Texas by Sheridan.

Sheridan's order removing Throckmorton from office called him an "impediment to reconstruction." With "Congressional Reconstruction" out went all hopes of rebuilding Texas without placing the state in political bondage and out went the suffrage of anyone who had aided the Confederacy. In came the breed of E. J. Davis and the Republicans, who wanted to disfranchise all who had a part or sympathized with the Confederate government.

Throckmorton's family came to Texas in the early days of the Republic. He fought in the Mexican War with Colonel Jack Hay's famed Ranger regiment. In politics, he was a Whig for a time but changed over to the party of Jefferson. As a Democrat he was elected to the State Legislature ten consecutive times.

When the Secession Convention was held in Austin, Jan. 10, 1861, Throckmorton was one of the immortal seven voting against the secession ordinance. When the roll call vote was taken, Throckmorton answered in these words: "Mr. President, in view of the responsibility, in reverence of God and my country, unawed to the wild spirit of revolution around me, I vote, No!"

A hiss sounded from the gallery immediately above Throckmorton after his "no" vote. Throckmorton jumped to his feet, pointed to the hisser and shouted: "Mr. President, the rabble may hiss while patriots tremble!"

Even though Throckmorton knew the Southern cause was hopeless and had voted against secession, when the fighting started he raised a company and fought for the Confederacy.

In 1873, Throckmorton had his political disabilities as a disfranchised Confederate removed and was elected to Congress and re-elected in 1876. He is said to have been one of the best Texas representatives ever to sit in Congress.

In 1878 he deadlocked with Oran M. Roberts for governor in the nominating convention. Roberts won the nomination. He tried again in 1892 but withdrew in the face of the young political giant, Jim Hogg. Soon after his last try for governor, Throckmorton's health failed and he died on April 21, 1894.

IF A STATE could blush, the entire expanse of Texas would turn a bright crimson at the memory of the Edmund J. Davis administration.

Davis was the thirteenth Governor of Texas—from 1870 until 1874—and the people of Texas had very little to say about it.

When Congress took the reins of reconstruction away from President Johnson and instituted "Congressional Reconstruction" in Texas, one of the first congressional acts was to put the military back in control. And as soon as the military, headed by Gen. Phil Sheridan, got control in 1867, one of the first acts was to remove Gov. James W. Throckmorton as governor for being an "impediment to reconstruction."

To fill Throckmorton's place, Sheridan appointed the man who had been the fourth and one of the most popular governors of Texas—Elisha Pease—to be provisional governor. Pease took the job and plunked all with Congress for the disfranchisement of all who had been affiliated with the Confederacy. That was the end of Pease's popularity. Finally in September of 1870, Pease did an about-face with the military despotism, Texas, he resigned.

For three and a half months, Davis took over, Texas had no government other than an adjutant charge of civil affairs.

Davis had beaten Andrew J. Fallot, Texas' eleventh governor, pointed by Washington, in an election which no one believed. Accusations of fraud and intimidation were tossed at the military leaders in T and at the Republicans conducting election. Davis won over Hamilton, a vote of 39,901 to 39,092, but hi-
CHRONOLOGY

1. Born at Sparta, Tennessee, February 1, 1825.
2. Emigrated to Texas in 1841.
3. Member of Captain Jesse Stiff's Ranging Company in 1842.
4. Member of Major Mike Chevallie's regiment in the Mexican War, 1847.
6. Member of the Whig Electoral ticket, 1852.
8. Member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, 1858.
9. Soldier in the Civil War, rising to rank of Brigadier-General in the Confederate Service.
10. Confederate Commissioner to treat with the Indians, 1865.
11. President of the Constitutional Convention, 1866.
12. Governor, 1866-1867.
13. Member of the State Democratic Executive Committee appointed by the Democratic Convention at Houston, 1868.
14. President of the Democratic State Convention which met at Bryan, 1868.
15. Member of the State Democratic Executive Committee appointed by the Democratic Convention at Bryan, 1868.
16. Member of the Committee on platform at the State Democratic Convention at Austin, 1873.
17. Delegate from Texas to the National Democratic Convention, 1880.
18. Representative to Federal Congress, 1875-1879 and 1883-1887.
19. Presidential Elector from State at Large, 1880.
20. President of the State Democratic Convention, 1888.
21. Candidate for Governor, 1890.
22. Permanent Chairman of the State Democratic Convention at Lampasas, 1892.
24. Died at McKinney, April 21, 1894.
Mrs. Elizabeth Pink
600 Mimosa
Frisco, TX 75034

RE: Governor James Webb Throckmorton
    Design E, 27"x 42", w/post

Dear Mrs. Pink:

Before we order casting of the enclosed marker inscription, we would like for you to please review and verify the history set forth in the text, as approved by the State Marker Committee.

Will you please signify your approval of the inscription as submitted by signing and returning the enclosed card at your earliest convenience. You may retain the marker copy for your files.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

By:

Anice Read
Director of Programs
Citizen Emails and Research | Page 17 of 30

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 6/20/77
27" x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker with post
Collin County (SF) Location: Courthouse square, McKinney
GOVERNOR JAMES WEBB THROCKMORTON*
(FEBRUARY 1, 1825-APRIL 21, 1894)***

A DOCTOR'S SON, JAMES W. THROCKMORTON WAS BORN IN
TENNESSEE. HE MIGRATED TO TEXAS WITH HIS PARENTS IN
1841 AND SETTLED NEAR MELISSA (5 MI. N.) AT AGE 17, HE
BECAME HUNTER AND SCOUT FOR HIS PIONEER NEIGHBORS. HE

SERVED IN THE MEXICAN WAR (1846-48). IN 1848 HE MARRIED
ANNIE RATTAN (1828-1895) AND BUILT A HOME NEAR MCKINNEY.

TRAINED AS A PHYSICIAN, THROCKMORTON DISLIKED MEDICINE
AND IN 1851 ENTERED LAW AND POLITICS. HE SERVED 1851-57
IN THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE, WHERE HE PROMOTED RAILROAD
BUILDING. LATER HE BECAME ATTORNEY FOR TEXAS & PACIFIC

ALTHOUGH HE UPHOLD THE RIGHT OF SECESSION, HE WAS
ONE OF SEVEN MEN WHO VOTED AGAINST TEXAS LEAVING
THE UNION AT THE FEB. 1861 SECESSION CONVENTION. DURING
THE CIVIL WAR (1861-65), HE FUGHT IN THE CONFEDERATE
ARMY. ELECTED GOVERNOR IN THE SUMMER OF 1866, HE
GRAPpled WITH POSTWAR PROBLEMS OF FRONTIER DEFENSE
AND FEDERAL MILITARY OCCUPATION IN JULY 1867 GEN. PHILIP
H. SHERIDAN, COMMANDER OF THE 5TH MILITARY DISTRICT
TO WHICH TEXAS WAS ASSIGNED, REMOVED THROCKMORTON
FROM OFFICE AS "AN IMPEDIMENT TO RECONSTRUCTION" AND
NAMED E. M. PEASE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR. THROCKMORTON
CONTINUED HIS POLITICAL CAREER IN THE U.S. CONGRESS,

SERVING HIS NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT IN 1875-79 AND 1883-87.**

* 3/4 inch lettering
** 1/2 inch lettering
*** 1/4 inch lettering

(1977)
This area is the location of the first settlement in Collin County. .3 mile to the NNE in the clump of trees lies the Throckmorton Cemetery. Several springs nearby provided water for the pioneer first settlers. (James Throckmorton's father is buried in the Cemetery.)

It is marked by the State.

Spring O

Spring O

Throckmorton Road

Throckmorton Creek

Roadside Park

We feel this would be a good spot.
Citizen Emails and Research | Page 19 of 30

Collin

approve of the inscription for Governor James Webb Throckmorton
Site of Boyhood home
sent to me August 16, 1977

Elizabeth P. Pink
Signed
Accessed Helen Hall
Collin County H.E.

FIELD SERVICES DEPARTMENT

AUG 19 1977

RECEIVED

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

RECEIVED
AUG 22 1977

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
August 24, 1977

Mr. Byron C. Blaschke, Chief Engineer
Maintenance Operations Division
State Dept. of Hwys. & Public Transp.
11th & Brazos
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Blaschke:

In accordance with Administrative Order No. 55-63 of the State Dept. of Hwys. and Public Transp., the Texas Historical Commission recommends the placement of an Official Texas Historical Marker in Collin County commemorating:

GOVERNOR JAMES WEBB THROCKMORTON

to be erected on US 75 access road, via Throckmorton Rd. exit, 7.7 mi. N of McKinney. Please request your District Engineer to contact Mrs. Elizabeth Pink, Chairman, Collin County Historical Commission, 600 Mimosa, Frisco, TX 75034 for exact placement directions. Also, please remind the District Engineer that in the event this location is not on highway right-of-way, then Mrs. Pink is to assume the responsibility of getting the marker erected.

This is a Design E, 27"x 42" marker and will be mounted on a post. Attached is a copy of the inscription for your files. For your convenience we are enclosing a copy of this letter and the inscription to be forwarded to the District Engineer.

We also request the placement of the appropriate signs which state: "Historical Marker on the Right (left) one Mile"; and Historical Marker (with arrow pointing to the marker), so the traveling public may have the proper notice of the marker.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

By: Anice Read
Director of Programs

TL:km
cc: Mrs. Elizabeth Pink
Encl.
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, TX  78711

PURCHASE ORDER # 14  
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKERS

TO:  THE SOUTHWELL COMPANY  
P.O. DRAWER 299  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78291

GENTLEMEN:

In accordance with the provisions of your contract for Official Texas Historical Markers, Board of Control Order No. 09811 and Requisition No. THC-6-94-D, the following markers, at their respective unit costs are hereby ordered:

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<th>MARKER TITLE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>UNIT COST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Governor James W. Throckmorton</td>
<td>Collin County</td>
<td>87&quot;x 42&quot;</td>
<td>$58.45</td>
</tr>
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TOTAL this order $ 58.45

Marker inscriptions and shipping instructions are attached.

Request for payment should be made on official State of Texas Purchase Voucher form.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
DATE: August 31, 1977

Truett Balch, Executive Director
# PROCEDURE FOR STATE FINANCED MARKERS

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<th>INITIAL</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>CW</td>
<td>4-10-75</td>
<td>1. Folder labeled, blue sheet inserted, and procedure sheet affixed to folder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-5-75</td>
<td>2. County notified of award, history requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>3. Folder checked by research department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>4. Additional history requested, if necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>5. Recorded in permanent record (designate SFM), listed and filed in current marker work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>6. Checked out to inscription writer</td>
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<td>7. Sent for State Marker Committee approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>8. Inscription submitted for County approval</td>
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<td>6-1-75</td>
<td>9. Highway permission secured, if necessary</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>10. Order sent to Southwell</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>11. Rubbing checked</td>
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<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>12. Stencil cut</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>13. Recorded for Marker Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>14. News release sent, w/copy to TSHSC President (Recorded Landmark Certificate sent, if necessary)</td>
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<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>15. Notice of shipment sent</td>
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<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>16. Extraneous material deleted, folder given to architectural historian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>10-25-78</td>
<td>17. Folder placed in completed marker file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After the Civil War ended and Texas was placed under martial law, in accordance with the Military Reconstruction Act of 1867, Throckmorton was elected as Collin County’s representative to the Constitutional Convention of 1866, and was then chosen to be chairman of the convention, largely due to his centrist political positions. It was hoped that he would be able to successfully negotiate with both the secessionists and those who supported the Union during the war. He ran for Governor of Texas in 1866 and won easily. However, his time in office was short. He only served as Governor for one year.

Admittedly, the job of being Governor during the Reconstruction period was a difficult one, so perhaps his short time in office was inevitable. Political tensions were high, and it couldn’t have been an easy job to lead a state back into the Union it fought so passionately to leave. His job was further complicated by his desire to support the positions and ideals of his state, against the wishes of the United States Congress.

The Fourteenth Amendment, one of the three “Reconstruction Amendments,” says that

“All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

This Amendment was not supported by the government of the State of Texas, who believed former slaves were inferior to whites, and laws should not be applied to them equally. As Governor, Throckmorton supported this position and was subsequently removed from office for not providing adequate protection for African-American Texans through the state government. After his removal, he was barred from holding public office and returned to McKinney, where he went back to practicing law.
Governor J.W. Throckmorton was a big part of that history. Biographical Sketch

James Webb Throckmorton served as governor of Texas from August 9, 1866 to August 8, 1867. The son of a physician, James Throckmorton was born in Tennessee in 1825. As a boy he moved to Arkansas in 1836, then to Fannin County, Texas in 1841, and again to Collin County. In 1844, he left the Rangers to study medicine in Kentucky with his uncle. He served as an army surgeon in the Mexican War, but received a medical discharge. Disliking the practice of medicine, he turned to law and politics. After five years each as a state representative and state senator, he was elected a delegate to the Secession Convention of 1861, where he numbered among the seven who voted against secession. Although a Unionist, he joined the Confederate army when war came, and eventually served as brigadier general in charge of troops guarding the Texas frontier, and Confederate commissioner to the Indians.

When presidential reconstruction gave way to congressional reconstruction in March 1867, Throckmorton and the U.S. military differed: he disagreed with their deployment of troops in the interior rather than on the frontier of the state, and they accused him of failing to punish crimes against blacks and Unionists. In July, General Philip Sheridan removed Throckmorton from the governorship as "an impediment to reconstruction." E.M. Pease was appointed in his place. After fighting against radicalism in the early 1870s, Throckmorton was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives (1874-1888), where he argued among other things for government encouragement of and government regulation of railroads. He ran for governor twice more, in 1878 and 1890 before he died in McKinney on April 21, 1894.
JAMES WEBB THROCKMORTON was born in Sparta, Tennessee. His family moved to Arkansas when he was eleven and to Texas five years later. At the age of nineteen Throckmorton traveled to Princeton, Kentucky to study medicine with his uncle. He also studied law and was admitted to the Bar. He volunteered to serve in the Mexican War as a private and was later commissioned a surgeon. He served in the Texas legislature prior to the Civil War. Although he opposed secession from the Union, he raised troops to serve in the Confederate Army, in which he ultimately rose to the rank of Brigadier-General of Texas troops. He was elected governor under the new state Constitution adopted after the Civil War ended. During his administration, Texas was placed under military rule as part of the Congressional Reconstruction Plan. In addition, the famous cattle drives northward from Texas began while Throckmorton was in office. One year after taking office, he was removed as an “impediment to reconstruction” by the Union military commander in Texas, following which he returned to the practice of law, which he had favored over medicine. He went on to win election to four non-consecutive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He later made unsuccessful bids for the governorship and the U.S. Senate. He died in McKinney, Texas, on April 21, 1894.

https://www.nga.org/governor/james-webb-throckmorton/
1) An Association was approved by the Commissioners Court and established in 1898. The following newspaper articles give the articles of the association and members of committees. The information on the City Council website states that the SCV formed a committee in 1904. Different organizations took the lead on the fundraising during the time from 1898-1911 mostly the McKinney Federation of Women's Clubs who presented the finished statue.

The Democrat. (McKinney, Tex.), Vol. 15, No. 36, Ed. 1 Thursday, October 6, 1898, newspaper, October 6, 1898; McKinney, Texas. (https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth192035/

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION Of the Throckmorton Memorial Monument Association

The Democrat, (McKinney, Texas) Thursday, October, 13, 1898

https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth192036/

“Monument Goes Upward and Onward, All Members of The Committee Appointed Yesterday”

The Reporter (a publication dedicated to granite and marble), published New York

September 1899 – page 31

“The Commissioners Court has granted the Throckmorton Memorial Association the privilege of erecting a monument to the late ex-governor Throckmorton at McKinney, Texas.”

The Weekly Democrat-Gazette

August 30, 1906, Page 1

https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth291957/m1/1/zoom/?q=Throckmorton&resolution=2&lat=2343.032573696966&lon=954.4644307320264

Quotes from speech by Judge Tom J. Brown, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, former citizen of Collin County
“He [Judge Brown] paid tribute to the memories of Houston and Throckmorton…Houston was against secession because he thought it impolitic at the time as did Throckmorton, Joe Dixon, and a majority of the people of Collin County.

“Tribute to Throckmorton – Throckmorton was chosen governor in 1866, and the gubernatorial chair was never occupied by more faithful, conscientious servant of the people than James W. Throckmorton. Judge Brown was intimately associated with him as intimate friend and law partner, and is, therefore, well acquainted with his public services and private life, and recounted some of the public services rendered by Throckmorton. His greatest service in the Legislature was presenting the Peters Colony compromise by which one-half of the land in North Texas was saved to its actual settlers. He [Brown] commended the effort of complete the statue of Collin’s most distinguished son and eloquently entreated his old friends and neighbors to speedily complete it…”

“Characteristics of Throckmorton – He [Brown] reveres the memory of Throckmorton as that of his own father. He recounted several incidents showing Throckmorton’s true character. About 40 Union bushwacker suspects were due to be shot. Executioners were already found. No man had spoken against such a course or dared speak. Although not a citizen of that county, Throckmorton went to Sherman and interposed his life between those that were condemned and death, and plead for a trial of the suspected to first ascertain, if possible, their guilt by law. His counsel was heeded. Investigation established the innocence of the men, and they were set free. Another incident was told, that during the war, he sent a courier by his fleetest horse to warn a man, a bitter enemy, who had attempted his own life, to flee from the approach of wronged soldiers who were bent on revenge. The man fled north and came back after the war and made a good citizen. He [Throckmorton] was a man of big heart, broad character and philanthropy and the finest advocate with whom he [Brown] was ever associated. If anything, he worked harder for the poor client unable to pay him than the client able to pay him a big fee. His brotherly love was magnificent and our citizenship honors itself in completing the statue to his memory, the unfinished pedestal which standing on our public square is really a monument to our failure and ingratitude, in its present form.”

“Memorial Association- At the conclusion of Judge Brown’s address, Col. J. L. Doggett announced that, today, would be organized a Throckmorton Memorial Association. It is the intention of the organization to extend it through school districts throughout the county in an effort to raise the means for completing the monument. Also to keep before the children of the county the fame and public services of Collin County’s most honored citizen.” (School children were asked to contribute a nickel.)

Weekly Democrat

May 30, 1907
“The Throckmorton statue must be completed. The school children will see to it.”

January 30, 1910

“The Daughters of the Confederacy have taken on the uncompleted task of finishing the Throckmorton statue on our courthouse plaza. Any person, so inclined, is invited to help them in a financial way in this work of honoring the memory of Collin County’s most eminent citizen, soldier, statesman, and patriot – The McKinney Courier Gazette”

“With a new three-story city hall, a $200,000 cotton factory, a $65,000 federal building and other substantial improvements coming to McKinney in this good year of 1910, the people of the town can well afford to do honor to themselves, their county, and the state by completing the proposed monument to J.W. Throckmorton, who was indeed, “a most honorable citizen, soldier, statesman, and patriot”, who was loved by all of Texas as well as the people of Collin County, among whom he lived for so long and where he was best known – Ft. Worth Star-Telegram”

Dallas Morning News,
2) The statue is NOT a Confederate statue. Nowhere is it listed as such. The State of Texas does not list it. The Smithsonian (survey of statues) does not list it. It is a statue of a statesman to honor his service to the county and North Texas.
JAMES WEBB THROCKMORTON: THE LIFE AND CAREER OF A SOUTHERN FRONTIER POLITICIAN, 1825-1894

Dissertation by

KENNETH WAYNE HOWELL

https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/4269481.pdf