

FP-001

1906 STONE MARKER FOR THE CENTENNIAL BUILDING

This 1906 stone marker is unusual for a couple of reasons.

First, it rests in front of the mammoth structure we now call the Centennial Building, the building which housed the Transportation Chrysler Exhibit during the Texas Centennial Exposition. But wait a minute, the Texas Centennial took place in 1936, not 1906, didn't it? That's right.

This marker is actually honoring the completion of an earlier Exhibition Building, which is hiding BEHIND the Art Deco façade workers added to that earlier structure for the 1936 fair. If you take a few steps toward the back of the building, you will clearly see the three pitched roofs of the original structure, built in the first decade of the 20th century.

But that's not the only thing odd about this marker. The fact is, there are multiple newspaper accounts of the original Exhibition Building having actually been completed and open in time for the 1905 State Fair of Texas. Why the marker refers to 1906 remains a mystery to this day.

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