

## **FP-026**

### **FOOD & FIBER BUILDING**

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Like many of the structures at Fair Park, this Food and Fiber Building was constructed for the Texas Centennial Exposition in 1936. It is one of the 30 historic structures at Fair Park that remain from that fair. Architect George Dahl designed it and the Embarcadero Building across the way to serve as mirror images of one another, announcing the entrance to the fair's Agrarian Section. Back then, this building actually housed agricultural exhibits.

Today, however, the 25,000-square-foot building rents out year-round as a grand site for charity galas and antique shows. And during the State Fair of Texas, you'll find it to be the home of a wealth of foods made in Texas.

The building itself fell into disrepair during the latter half of the 20th century. However, in 1999 several sources contributed funds to restore the structure to its former glory. Over time, most experts have said the colorful murals beneath the porticoes belong to the artist Carlo Ciampaglia, who is also responsible for many of the other murals throughout Fair Park.

These murals also deteriorated greatly in the latter half of the 20th century. However, the city's parks department funded their restoration in 2000.

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