Transform 1012

Citation of Honor



Texas Society of Architects Honor Awards Program 2023

Submitted By: AIA Fort Worth June 2, 2023

Nomination Letter



May 31, 2023

Marcel Quimby, FAIA
Chair, Honor Awards Committee
Texas Society of Architects
500 Chicon Street
Austin, TX 78702-2754

RE: Submission for 2023 Citation of Honor Award for Transform 1012, Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Marcel,

It is with profound pleasure and respect that the AIA Fort Worth Chapter submits Transform 1012 for consideration of acknowledgment as a Citation of Honor. This endeavor, which proposes to occupy and repurpose the extant 1924 Ku Klux Klan Auditorium on North Main in Fort Worth in order to give a home to entities who were / would be denied agency in this culture and who would now show the value of love and tolerance from within the same volume in a way that only architecture and the arts can manifest and make real.

The groups noted in the submittal all understand the meaning and difficulty intrinsic in such an act. They remain steadfast in the hope that such an investment in built fabric will prove symbolic of a reversal of the original intentions and beliefs. For decades the structure served as the Ellis Pecan Building, further proving that such memories may be displaced and overwritten, both by use and by design.

Thank you again for your consideration of this submittal.

Sincerely,

W. Mayor Glewer, MA

W. Mark Gunderson, AIA Honors Committee, Member

Amanda Schulte, AIA Honors Committee, Chair

The American Institute of Architects

AIA Fort Worth 1201 Evans Ave. #107 Fort Worth, TX 76104

Statement of Contributions

TRANSFORM 1012 STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

MISSION

Transforming the former Ku Klux Klan auditorium in Fort Worth, TX into The Fred Rouse Center for Arts and Community Healing.

To transform this monument to hate into a beacon of truth-telling, reconciliation, and liberation for the nation.

The Fred Rouse Center for Arts and Community Healing, a reparative justice project, will honor the life and memory of Mr. Fred Rouse, a Black butcher who was lynched by a white mob in Fort Worth in 1921, by returning resources to the communities that were targeted for marginalization and violence by the Ku Klux Klan.

ABOUT

Transform 1012 N. Main Street was founded by eight local community groups bringing together leaders in the arts, social justice programming, and building design to catalyze transformational civic engagement and community partnerships. Transform 1012 is a movement of reparative justice and memorial activism.

"We cannot undo what has been done. We can learn from it." - Dr. Opal Lee, Opal Lee Foundation

Transform 1012 N. Main Street is a Texas-based, non-profit coalition of local arts, grassroots, and service organizations and groups: DNAWORKS, LGBTQ SAVES, Opal Lee Foundation, SOL Ballet Folklorico, Tarrant County Coalition for Peace and Justice, The Welman Project, Window to Your World, and the 1012 Youth Council. Our partners include: MASS Design Group, Post L Group, JL Powers & Associates, The Projects Group, SpawGlass, Saira Jasmine Concepts and United Way of Tarrant County.

We represent groups of people in Fort Worth who were targeted by the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920's, specifically Black, Catholic, Hispanic, Immigrant, Jewish, and LGBTQQ2SPIAA+ populations.

"This is an opportunity to connect the past and present, interpret history through the power of place, engage the public in programs that stimulate dialogue on pressing social issues, share opportunities for public action on the issues raised at the site, and promote universal cultures of human rights." - Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director International Coalition of Sites of Conscience.

CONTEXT: 1924 TO THE PRESENT

In 1924, construction began on Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101's Auditorium as a monument to hate and terror. Then, as well as now, members of targeted cultural groups needed to pass the building to access the North Side and surrounding areas when traveling to and from downtown Fort Worth.

The building was a daily reminder of power and politics; the looming edifice was yet another form of policing behavior, movement, culture, and proving again how architecture is capable of violence.

TRANSFORM THE BUILDING, TRANSFORM THE CITY: When the Ku Klux Klan Auditorium opened in 1924, then located at 1006 N. Main Street, Fort Worth had one of the largest KKK memberships in the United States and the building was the KKK's headquarters in Texas. The brick behemoth was designed and located to intimidate Northside Black, Hispanic, and immigrant residents returning home from the city center.

PROGRAMS

Transform 1012 offers different programs and activities with an emphasis on educational components, featuring the history of the building and race relations in the region, including the story of Mr. Fred Rouse. These programs aim to help us to interpret North Texas history, stimulate dialogue, share opportunities for community involvement and positive action, and promote justice and human rights.

FORT WORTH LYNCHING TOUR: HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. FRED (FWLT) is an interactive, bike, car, and
virtual tour to four sites associated with the December 11, 1921 racial terror lynching of Mr. Fred Rouse in Fort

Worth, TX. The tour is accompanied by a downloadable, augmented reality, phone/tablet app that is used at each of the four sites—or remotely—to understand and process the history of the murder of Mr. Rouse at the hands of a white mob. https://www.dnaworks.org/fwlt

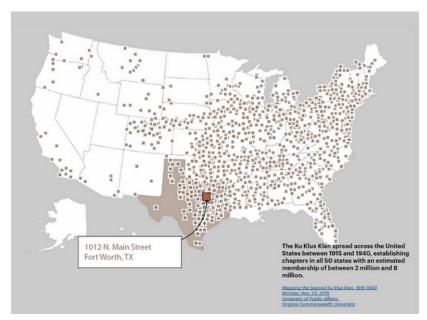
- NORTH TEXAS HISTORIES: HISTORIAS DE NORTH TEXAS
- REDESIGNING THE DESIGN COMPETITION

SUPPORT

- The project has received widespread support including Fort Worth and Texas chapters of the NAACP,
 Congressman Marc Veasey (D-TX), National Trust for Historic Preservation, City of Fort Worth leadership, local
 clergy, local arts organizations, faculty from Texas Christian University and the University of Texas-Arlington,
 President of Minnesota College of Art and Design, Curator of Jewish Museum of Milwaukee, and the
 International Coalition for Sites of Conscience, of which we are a member.
- In October 2021, Transform 1012 received Urban Land Institute of Dallas-Fort Worth's 2021 Next Big Idea Award, recognizing innovative ideas that can positively impact the region's quality of life.
- Project support comes from Rainwater Charitable Foundation; Atmos Energy, as part of their Fueling Safe and
 Thriving Communities initiative 2022 & 2023; Tecovas Foundation; The Ford Foundation 2022 & 2023; North
 Texas Community Foundation, Fund to Advance Racial Equity; Congressional Community Project Funding 2022 &
 2023; MASS Design Group, Catalyst Grant; Mellon Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts 2022 & 2023;
 Turning Point Foundation; Ben E. Keith Foundation; as well as over 100 individual donors.

LEADERSHIP

- Transform 1012 N. Main Street is a non-profit coalition of local arts, grassroots, and service organizations as well
 as pro bono partners and individuals working to transform 1012 N. Main Street into The Fred Rouse Center for
 Arts and Community Healing. The Transform 1012 Board models a pluricultural and shared leadership approach
 to acquiring, programming, and managing The Fred Rouse Center. This coalition ensures that the building will be
 led and programmed by representatives of the cultural groups that were targeted for violence and economic
 marginalization by the KKK, thereby returning resources to these communities.
- The Transform 1012 leadership continues to speak and listen about the project among its constituency members, the larger Fort Worth community, nationally, and internationally. Given the rapid growth of Fort Worth—it is now the 13th largest city in the US, larger than San Francisco—as a leadership team we are "reassembling" the city by returning power to these groups and making 1012 N. Main Street a site of memory, a place for the whole city to come together to grapple with this history and build a way forward together.
- In addition, we are making public our process of building a leadership culture that is intentional and co-created, not defaulting to one culture or colonial norms, in the hopes that it will inspire other such projects locally and nationwide.



"As a Fort Worth native, an African-American man, and as an elected representative for many of the African-American residents of Fort Worth, I believe that it is vital that we preserve these types of spaces so that future generations understand our history. The strong light of truth can help prevent the repetition of the dark episode in our history." - Congressman Marc Veasey (TX-33)

This building is a spatial manifestation of our national legacy of violence and racial terror. As the United States moves towards dismantling systems of oppression, this project is an opportunity to declare our collective agency in designing a just future for all.

Exhibits

PRESS

2023 PRINT & DIGITAL COVERAGE

PAPER CITY MAGAZINE article "Breathing New Life: From Terror to Togetherness" <u>READ MORE</u> DALLAS MORNING NEWS: "Fort Worth's Black history has been overlooked. Four projects are reclaiming those stories" <u>READ MORE</u>

DFW501C: "NEA award for Transform 1012 N. Main Street" READ MORE

2022 VIDEO COVERAGE

WFAA: "His grandfather was lynched in Fort Worth 100 years ago. He never it knew until last year." WATCH

UNIVISION: "From KKK headquarters in Texas to a symbol of Mexican folklore: they seek to give a new purpose to a Fort Worth building" WATCH

THE TODAY SHOW: "Former KKK Building Being Transformed Into Space Of Healing" WATCH GOOD MORNING TEXAS: "A Conversation with Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Opal Lee." WATCH NBCDFW: "Nonprofits Plan Bright Future for Old KKK Building in Fort Worth." WATCH SPECTRUM NEWS: Transform 1012 N. Main Street. WATCH

SPECTRUM NEWS: "Historic KKK building in Fort Worth purchased with the purpose of healing." WATCH

TELEMUNDO DALLAS: "Metroplex: Transformarán edificio que era del KKK para albergar organizaciones culturales." <u>WATCH</u>

2022 PRINT & DIGITAL COVERAGE

WHAT'S UP FORT WORTH: "Space of Hate will be Space of Truth, Reconciliation, and Liberation." READ MORE

ARCHINECT: "Social Justice and Equity in Architecture" READ MORE

EXTANT: "Final Word" READ MORE

THE ART NEWSPAPER: "Renovation work at the future Fred Rouse Center for Arts and Community Healing in Fort Worth, Texas, is expected to begin early next year" READ MORE

FORT WORTH REPORT: "Transform 1012 N. Main Street names Executive Director" READ MORE

MADEWORTHY: "Transforming Hate into Inclusivity and Creativity" READ MORE

ARTNEWS: "How a Former KKK Headquarters in Texas Is Being Transformed into a Center for Arts and HealingHow a Former KKK Headquarters in Texas Is Being Transformed into a Center for Arts and Healing" READ MORE

THE ARCHITECT'S NEWSPAPER: "Reparative justice and adaptive reuse align in planned transformation of old Fort Worth KKK hall into community arts hub" READ MORE HYPERALLERGIC: "Former KKK Building in Texas to Be Transformed Into Arts Center" READ MORE



Photograph: © K.P. Wilska / Fort Worth Camera Club



Photographs: © Ken Sparks / Fort Worth Camera Club

SURFACE: "A former KKK building in Texas is undergoing a transformation into an arts center." READ MORE

ARCHINECT: "Former KKK auditorium to be reborn as a cultural arts center in Forth Worth" READ MORE

FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM: "Effort to transform ex-KKK hall in Fort Worth gets \$3M" READ MORE

CNN.COM: "The KKK once gathered at this Texas site. Decades later, it's becoming a racial justice center named after a Black man who was lynched." READ MORE

THE WASHINGTON POST: "When saving a symbol of white supremacy is a way to resist it." READ MORE

DALLAS OBSERVER: "The Coalition That Saved the KKK Building in Fort Worth Explains Plans For the Lynching Site." READ MORE

THE ARCHITECT'S NEWSPAPER: "Reparative justice and adaptive reuse align in planned transformation of old Fort Worth KKK hall into community arts hub." READ MORE

KERA NEWS: "Building three new homes for Black arts and culture in Fort Worth." READ MORE

HEROMAG: "Coalition buys former KKK headquarters in Fort Worth to create a local arts and healing center." READ MORE

TEXAS NEWS: "A Poetic Project to Redeem the KKK Meeting Hall in Fort Worth." READ MORE

DALLAS MORNING NEWS: "An old Ku Klux Klan hall is transformed in Fort Worth." READ MORE

DFW501C: "FW nonprofit colab to turn Klan building into reparative justice project." READ MORE

FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM: "How will the former KKK hall promote multicultural celebration and healing? Here's a look." READ MORE

ART AND SEEK: "Fort Worth's old Klan hall will not become a typical arts center. It'll be a farmers' market, a place for healing." READ MORE

TARRANT COUNTY NEWS: "Transform 1012 N Main St Fort Worth Buys KKK Building For Healing." READ MORE

FORT WORTH REPORT: "Transforming history: 'Fort Worth is ready to exhume our relationship to white supremacy." READ MORE

DALLAS MORNING NEWS: "Coalition buys former KKK headquarters in Fort Worth to create community arts and healing center." READ MORE

FORT WORTH MAGAZINE: "Nonprofit Coalition Acquires KKK Building on North Main Street." READ MORE

KERA NEWS: "Fort Worth's old KKK hall set to become a hub for racial healing through the arts." READ MORE

KERA NEWS: "Fort Worth's old Klan hall won't be a typical arts center. It'll be a marketplace, a healing space." READ MORE

CBS DFW: "Former Ku Klux Klan Hall In Fort Worth Being Turned Into 'Arts And Community Healing' Space." READ MORE

FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM: "Panther Island's KKK building sold to arts coalition. Here's what's planned for it." READ MORE

HEAD TOPICS: "Former Ku Klux Klan Hall In Fort Worth Being Turned Into 'Arts And Community Healing' Space." READ MORE

CULTURE MAP, FORT WORTH: "Former KKK building in Fort Worth to be transformed into healing space." READ MORE

2021 VIDEO COVERAGE

SPECTRUM NEWS: "Fort Worth's Former KKK Auditorium Could Serve as a Living Memorial to Anti-Racism" WATCH

2021 PRINT & DIGITAL COVERAGE

FORT WORTH MAGAZINE: "A House for Healing." READ MORE

2020 VIDEO COVERAGE

STAR TELEGRAM: "Coalition formed to transform former Fort Worth KKK Hall into a place of healing." WATCH

2020 PRINT & DIGITAL COVERAGE

STAR TELEGRAM: letter to the editor. READ MORE

STAR TELEGRAM: local article. READ MORE

THE WASHINGTON TIMES: "Texas coalition hopes to repurpose, transform old KKK Hall." <u>READ MORE</u>

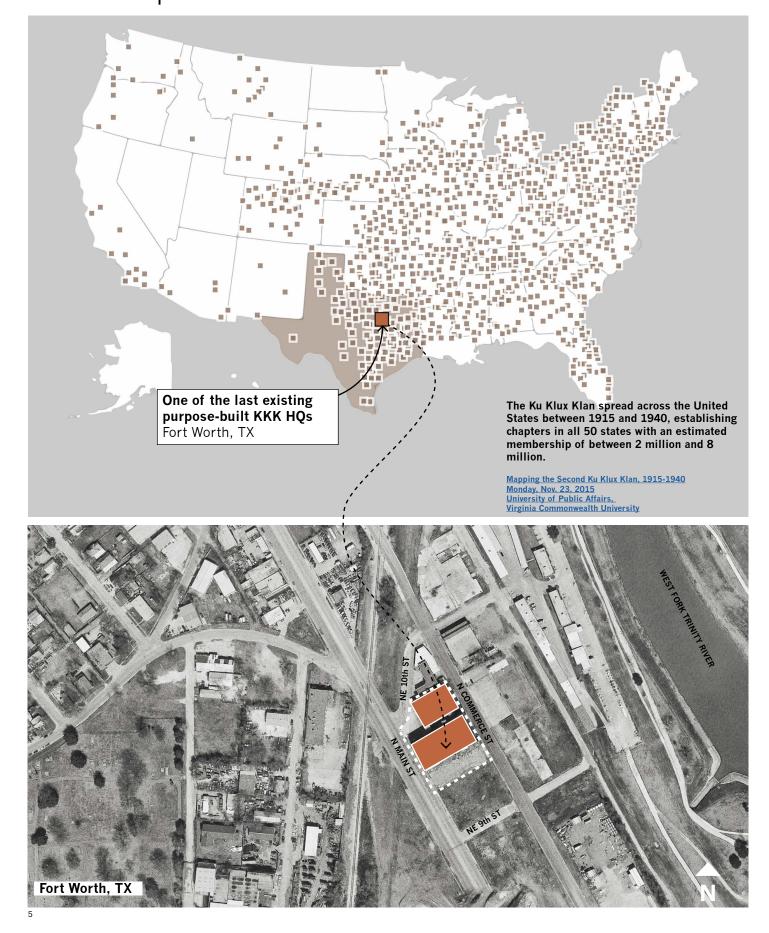
THE ACTIVIST HISTORY REVIEW: "An Architecture of Healing: Transforming Racism." READ MORE

THE EXPRESS: "Texas coalition hopes to repurpose, transform old KKK hall." <u>READ MORE</u>



Photograph: © KRobert Chura

The Project



"We cannot undo what has been done.
We can learn from it."

Dr. Opal Lee The Grandmother of Juneteenth Founder, Opal Lee Foundation, Fort Worth, TX

What if, instead of destroying the building, we could transform this monument to hate into a beacon of truth-telling, reconciliation, and healing?

This building is a spatial manifestation of our national legacy of violence and racial terror. As the United States moves towards dismantling systems of oppression, this project is an opportunity to declare our collective agency in designing a just future for all.

We are a coalition of nine local entities in Fort Worth, TX.

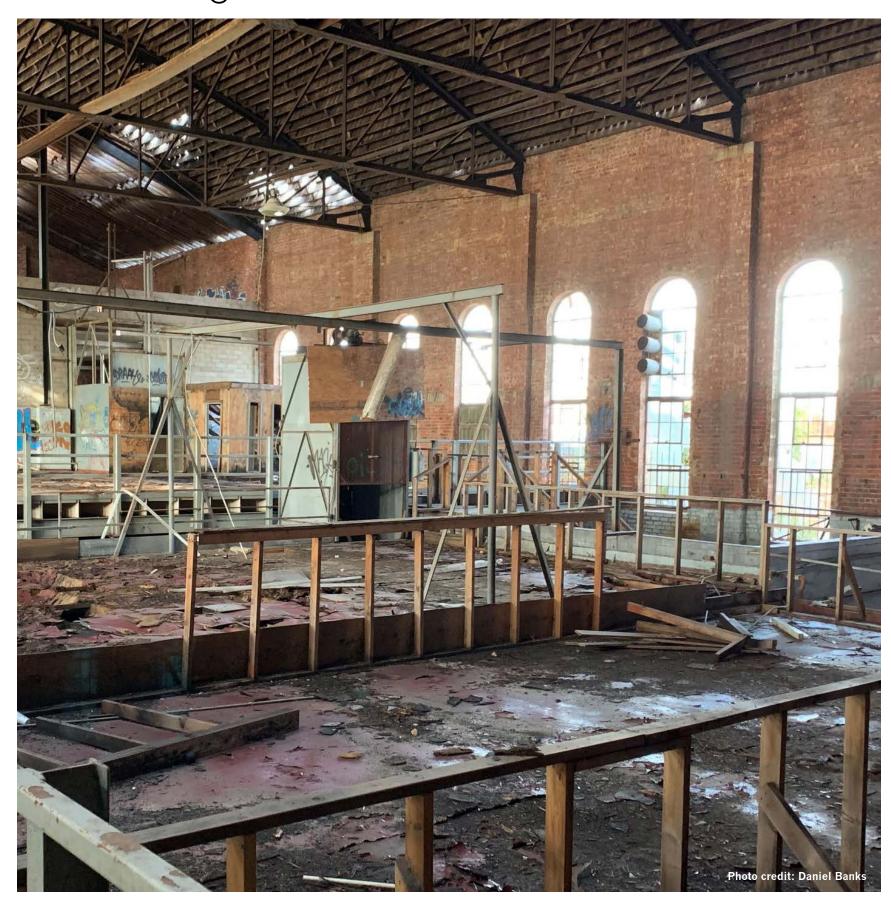
We represent groups of people in Fort Worth who are often systematically siloed and separate, specifically Black, Catholic, Hispanic, Immigrant, Jewish, and LGBTQQ2SPIAA+ populations.

We are engaging the process of radically transforming this building into a center for arts and community healing as an opportunity for reparative justice. Transform 1012 models a pluricultural and shared leadership approach to repurposing, programming, and managing the Fred Rouse Center. This Coalition ensures that the building will be led and programmed by representatives of the cultural

groups that were targeted by the Ku Klux Klan in this region. This adaptive re-use project returns resources to the communities who suffered at the hands of the KKK and who continue to be targeted for systemic racism and oppression.

We invite you to join us on this journey of truth-telling and healing. The project's success depends on your participation in the process of transformation. We are making public our process of building an intentional, co-created leadership culture in the hopes that it will inspire other local and national projects.

The Building



History & Context

In 1924, construction began on Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101's auditorium as a monument to hate and terror. Then—as well as now—members of targeted cultural groups needed to pass the building to access the Northside and surrounding areas when traveling to and from downtown Fort Worth.

The building was a daily reminder of power and politics; the looming edifice was yet another form of policing behavior, movement, culture, and proving again how architecture is capable of violence.

Timeline

1924

Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101 began construction on site (then known as 1006 N. Main Street). The building was designed by Earl Glasgow and destroyed by fire when it was either bombed or suffered an electrical fire.

1925

Ku Klux Klan Klavern No. 101 rebuilt the damaged building into an auditorium with a seating capacity of 2000 people with five tall windows on the front facade and a scenery fly loft in the rear. The stage was used for theatrical performances, including racist, sexist, and anti-immigrant minstrel shows.

1927

The building was sold to Leonard Brothers Department Store and was subsequently used as a concert hall, a dance-marathon venue, and a wrestling arena.

1946

Purchased by Ellis Pecan Company in 1946 for warehouse space for shelling pecans.

1999

Ellis Pecan Company vacates the building.

2004

The building was purchased by Sugarplum Holdings, L.P., a group of private investors, to be used as the rehearsal studios for Texas Ballet Theatre.

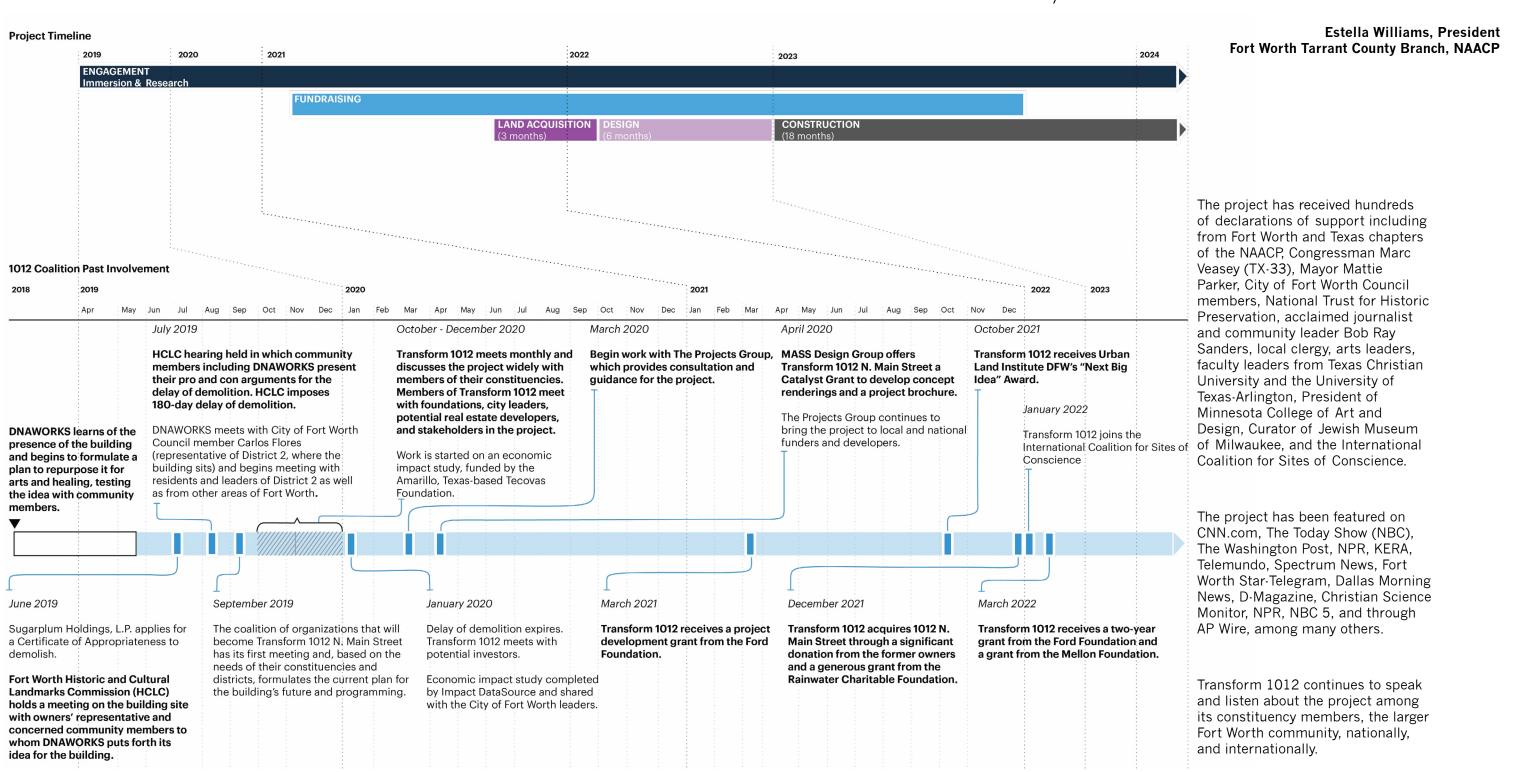
2021

Transform 1012 N. Main Street acquired the building through a significant donation from the former owners and a generous grant from the Rainwater Charitable Foundation.

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The Process

"This facility can and should be transformed as a means of pride, empowerment and as a catalyst for positive change to highlight progress in the African American Community."



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Why now?







Left to Right:

"An image of George Floyd is projected on the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia." (Image: John McDonnell)

The Washington Post, June 17, 2020

"Protesters held a march in support of transgender youth in Austin, Texas, in early March." (Image: Christopher Lee) New York Times, March 11, 2022

"Left half of the image: Between 200,000 and 500,000 demonstrators march down Constitution Avenue during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Washington D.C., Aug. 28, 1963; Right half of the image: Protesters gather in Harlem to protest the recent death of George Floyd on May 30, 2020 in New York City." (Image: Hulton Archive/Getty Images; David 'Dee' Delgado—Getty Images)

TIME, June 4, 2020

"As public recognition grows of under-told chapters of American history, particularly of white supremacy and systemic racism, more and more cities are grappling with how to interpret places that tell often ugly and dark stories of our nation's past. A number of public-interest groups are finding creative ways to use such sites as agents of reinterpretation and reconciliation."

Rob Nieweg, Vice President
Preservation Services & Outreach Department
National Trust for Historic Preservation

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The Program

The building will house programs that support:

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Tr	uth-telling and Restorative Justice:	
>	GALLERY dedicated to racial, gender, sexuality, and economic justices, to work in concert with local school districts' curricula and programming	3,000 SF
>	MEETING SPACES for racial equity and leadership trainings	3,000 SF
St	orytelling and Personal + Community Response:	
>	THEATER AND EVENT SPACE for local andtouring culturally-specific and social justice-oriented artists and groups	14,500 SF
>	DANCE STUDIO AND REHEARSAL ROOM purpose built to provide arts training for underserved youth and early career performing artists	6,500 SF
>	Services for underserved and LGBTQ+ youth	2,000 SF
>	STORYBOOTHS in the lobby for visitors to tell their own accounts of Fort Worth and the region, to be broadcast on monitors throughout the building	1,000 SF
>	AMPHITHEATER, OUTDOOR PROGRAM SPACE, AND OVERALL DESIGN CONCEPT to increase transparency and shift the perception of the building from exclusivity and secrecy to transparency and community	Exterior
	onomic development to support under- sourced areas in the city:	
>	AFFORDABLE LIVE/WORK SPACE for artists, artisans, and entrepreneurs-in-residence with potential for mixed-income housing and permanent supportive housing	7,500 SF
>	TOOL LIBRARY + MAKERSPACE to provide local residents with equitable access to DIY equipment and workspace	
>	MARKETPLACE to help alleviate Northside	2,000 SF + Exterior
An	cillary Spaces	
>	WAREHOUSE SPACE + STORAGE + OFFICES + KITCHEN + RESTROOMS	16,500 SF
Se	rvices	
>	CIRCULATION + MECHANICAL (Approximately 30% of 56,000SF, the above subtotal)	17,000 SF
	,	

"As a Fort Worth native, an African-American man, and as an elected representative for many of the African-American residents of Fort Worth, I believe that it is vital that we preserve these types of spaces so that future generations understand our history. The strong light of truth can help prevent the repetition of the dark episode in our history."

Congressman Marc Veasey (TX-33)



13

75,000 SF

Early Vision: Exterior

Pictured here is the former "back" of the building that housed a proscenium stage, intended to be viewed from the veiled secrecy of the main hall. This new space is opened for outdoor community gatherings and performances. A terraced landscape of seating to the south allows for multiple, simultaneous performances, defining a new, public gathering space.

"This is an opportunity to connect the past and present, interpret history through the power of place, engage the public in programs that stimulate dialogue on pressing social issues, share opportunities for public action on the issues raised at the site, and promote universal cultures of human rights."

Elizabeth Silkes, Executive Director International Coalition of Sites of Conscience



New distinct spaces for the arts and performance will be inserted inside the existing building, creating the opportunity to acknowledge the past while in conversation with the future.



The Team

We are bringing together leaders in building design and social justice programming to catalyze transformational civic engagement and community partnerships.

Transform 1012 N. Main Street Founding Board Organizations and Current Members



DNAWORKS

Daniel Banks, Co-Founder/ Co-Director

An arts and service organization founded in 2006 that has worked in thirty-seven states and seventeen countries to bring people closer together through dance, theatre, film, and community storycircles, focusing on identity, heritage, culture, and genealogy.



LGBTQ SAVES

Sharon Herrera. Founder and **Executive Director**

A service organization—founded in 2010 after several nationwide LGBTQ youth suicides—that works to build a community where ALL youth are safe and to provide safe and brave spaces designed for social and personal development of LGBTQ youth. Its programs and lifeline chat offer hope in the lives of each youth served.



OPAL LEE FOUNDATION

Opal Lee, Founder

Dr. Opal Lee worked tirelessly to commemorate Juneteenth, the abolition of enslavement in Texas, which occurred more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. In 2016, at the age of 86, she brought attention to this campaign walking from Fort Worth to Washington, DC; and on June 17, 2021, Juneteenth became a federal holiday. Dr. Lee also founded Opal's Farm, a community farm that employs formerly incarcerated people.



SOL BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

Freddy Cantú, Co-Founder and Director and Román Ramírez, Co-Founder

An award-winning cultural dance and leadership training program for youth of all ages from the Northside of Fort Worth; performs annually at churches, schools, children's hospitals, and city festivals locally, nationally, and internationally.



TARRANT COUNTY COALITION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

Adam W. McKinney, Co-Founder & President

A non-profit truth and reconciliation team founded in 2018 that designs collaborative education to increase recollection, promote reflection, and encourage reconsideration of the significance of racial terror violence in US History.



THE FRED ROUSE FOUNDATION

Fred Rouse, III, Founder, Director and grandson of Mr. Fred Rouse

Focuses on serving underprivileged communities and people to provide support and resources to the health, education, and financial landscape of our North Texas Communities and beyond.



THE WELMAN PROJECT.

Vanessa Barker and Taylor Willis, **Co-Founders, Co-Directors**

A creative reuse venture focused on reimagining business waste to provide North Texas students and not-for-profits with equitable access to hands-on educational resources; seeking to open a community tool library and makerspace.



WINDOW TO YOUR WORLD

Ayesha Ganguly, Founder

Specializes in program design and implementation, community outreach, group facilitation for non-profit organizations, and capacity building for youth; encourages civic engagement and dialogue among different groups, including their voices in decision-making and the growth of their communities.



1012 YOUTH COUNCIL

Jacora Johnson, Founder*

(*Past board member)

Centers the imaginations and stories of Fort Worth's youth through educational initiatives, sustained action, and by uniting vouth and elders.



Founding Partners



JL POWERS & ASSOC.

ilpowersandassociates.com

MASS. MASS DESIGN GROUP

massdesigngroup.org



POST L GROUP

postlgroup.com



SPAWGLASS

spawglass.com



THE PROJECTS GROUP

tpgfw.com



UNITED WAY OF TARRANT COUNTY

unitedwaytarrant.org

The growing list of Partners and Pro Bono services include:

Consolidated Consulting Group, Fort Worth Camera Club. Jaster-Quintanilla Structural Engineers, North Texas Roofing Contractors Association, Real Estate Council of Greater Fort Worth, Rone Engineering Services, Saira Jasmine Concepts