

Preserve America

CITY OF MESQUITE NAMED A PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITY



The City of Mesquite is one of the newest 15 Texas communities to be named a Preserve America Community by the White House, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Commerce and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. City Council members were recognized at the Texas Historical Commission's Annual Conference luncheon held in Fort Worth on May 7, 2004.

First Lady Laura Bush announced the Preserve America initiative in March 2003 to encourage local preservation and recognize community efforts. The extensive application process included a special resolution by the Mesquite City Council supporting historic preservation

and documentation of efforts in three categories: Discovering Heritage Through Historic Places; Protecting Historic Resources and Promoting Historic Assets. The City received letters of support from U.S. Senator John Cornyn, Texas Representative Elvira Reyna, Dallas County Commissioner Mike Cantrell and others.

Councilmember Shirley Roberts and Charlene Orr, City Historical Preservation Officer, accepted the designation certificate signed by Mrs. Bush from Texas' First Lady Anita Perry and Dr. David A. Sampson, Assistant Secretary for Economic Development in the Department of Commerce. Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, John L. Nau III, announced the designations.

For more information on the program, visit www.PreserveAmerica.gov .

THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to congratulate Mesquite, Texas on being named a *Preserve America* Community by the White House in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Designation as a *Preserve America* Community provides national recognition for communities that protect, use, and celebrate their heritage assets. The honor indicates that your community cares about its roots, is working to preserve its quality of life, and inspires and teaches its young people through the lessons of history. Clearly, Mesquite appreciates and uses its historic resources and cultural heritage as building blocks for the future.

President Bush and I applaud your achievements -- especially the way in which you have recognized the value of your own part of the American story. The steps you have taken to help protect and celebrate your heritage, and to share it with residents as well as visitors, are an inspiration to all of us as citizens of this great nation.

Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in the *Preserve America* initiative and for sharing your story with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Laura Bush". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L".