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## **Bullock, Briscoe partner to showcase unique 'Texas Furniture'**

*Most significant collection of 19th-century Texas furniture on display July 13 to Oct. 6*

**MAY 23, 2013 (AUSTIN, TX)** - The Bullock Museum and the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History will present a special exhibition, *Texas Furniture From The Ima Hogg Winedale Collection*, beginning July 13, 2013, in the Bullock Museum's Albert and Ethel Herzstein Hall. It will offer a rare opportunity for visitors to see pieces from the most significant collection of 19th-century Texas furniture in existence.

Approximately 40 pieces of furniture, as well as other highlights from the Winedale collection, will be on display. Winedale is a historic farmstead near Round Top, Texas that was purchased in the 1960s by Houston philanthropist Miss Ima Hogg. Hogg was a collector of American furniture and a long-time supporter of historic preservation. The exhibition will be the first time the furniture has traveled from Winedale, now a division of the Briscoe Center, since Hogg placed it there.

Before the rise of imported factory-made furniture in the 1880s, most Texans bought home furnishings from their local cabinetmaker. The artifacts on display speak to the craftsmanship of Texas' immigrant European and native-born cabinetmakers, but they also reflect competing ideas about style, comfort and gentility and about what it meant to be a Texan during the 19th century.

The exhibit is guest-curated by Lonn Taylor, an authority on the architecture, furniture and decorative arts of Texas and the American Southwest. Taylor has served as historian for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History and is the former director of Winedale, from which most of the furniture in this exhibition originates.

In choosing pieces for *Texas Furniture*, Taylor said he looked not only for those objects with aesthetically outstanding features, but furniture with certain characteristics, such as those that are painted or that contain certain forms.

"We looked at furniture not only as an aesthetic object, but as an artifact that would tell you something about the lives and values of the people who made them," Taylor said. "We also wanted pieces that would challenge people's assumptions about Texas furniture."

The exhibition will demonstrate representative cabinetmaking on the Texas frontier and will provide a glimpse of what it meant to be a 19th-century Texan.

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Characteristic pieces crafted by Southern-Anglo and African-American cabinetmakers will be displayed along with those made by German immigrant furniture makers.

"It's another gateway to Texas' past," Taylor said.

Videos of modern cabinetmakers using traditional tools will help tell the story of furniture making in Texas. Children especially will enjoy the chance to craft their own clothes wardrobe or solve puzzles based on the different types of joints used in woodworking.

*Texas Furniture From The Ima Hogg Winedale Collection* is an exhibit not to be missed, especially by those with an interest in Texas pioneer history and appreciation for skilled craftsmanship in the Lone Star state.

For more information, visit [www.TheStoryofTexas.com](http://www.TheStoryofTexas.com) or call (512) 936-8746.

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#### ***About the Bullock Museum***

The Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin tells the unfolding story of the history, culture and people of Texas. One of the most popular attractions in Central Texas, the Museum has welcomed more than 5 million visitors since it opened in 2001. The Museum and IMAX Theatre are located at 1800 N. Congress Ave., between the State Capital complex and the University of Texas campus. For more, visit [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com) or call (512)936-8746.

#### ***About the Briscoe Center***

The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History is an internationally known historical research center at the University of Texas at Austin. Through stewardship, scholarship, and outreach, the center increases knowledge and fosters exploration of our nation's past. Researchers who visit the center discover historical treasures such as the prison diary of Stephen F. Austin (1833-1835); the earliest known datable photograph taken in Texas (1849); and the papers of former Texas governors, such as James Stephen Hogg. The Briscoe Center's vast holdings include 6 million photographs; 160,000 books; more than 84,000 linear feet of manuscripts and archives; 57,000 sound recordings; 31,000 maps; 17,500 film and video recordings; 18,000 artifacts of material culture, 40 of which are on display in the furniture exhibit; 5,500 newspaper titles; and 10 historic buildings. Beyond our role as steward of some of the nation's most valuable historical materials, we use our collections for our own research projects, including books, documentaries, special events and exhibitions. For more, visit [www.cah.utexas.edu/](http://www.cah.utexas.edu/) or call (512)495-4518.