

Victoria Bicentennial History Symposium: Itinerary

April 11-12, 2024

Thursday, April 11

6:00pm: Opening Keynote (UHV North, Walker Auditorium)

- Carolina Castillo Crimm, Sam Houston State University (Emeritus), “The Power of Family: The De León family and the settlement of Victoria”

7:00pm: Opening Reception (UHV North, Multi-Purpose Room)

Friday, April 12

9:00: Breakfast Snacks (Museum of the Coastal Bend)

9:30: Panel 1: Excavating Prehistoric Victoria (Museum of the Coastal Bend)

- Heather Para, The Museum of the Coastal Bend
- O.C. Garza, The Coastal Bend Archaeological Logistics Team
- Alan Slade, University of Texas / Texas Archeological Research Laboratory

11:15am: Victoria’s Early History (UHV Commons, Multi-Purpose Room)

- Tamra Walter, Texas Tech, “Mission Accomplished: Insights from the Archaeological Investigations at Mission Espiritu Santo in Mission Valley Texas”
- Tim Seiter, SMU, “Persistent Peoples: Tracing the Karankawas from Their Supposed Extinction to the Present”
- Esther Cuenca, UHV, “At the Crossroads of Identity: The Jewish Community in 19th-Century Victoria, Texas”
- Ron Tyler, Amon Carter Museum of American Art (retired) / University of Texas, “Victoria, Texas—1873: A Moment in Time”

1:00pm: Lunch Reception (UHV North, Multi-Purpose Room)

- Karl Jacoby, Columbia University, “The Man from Nowhere: The Strange Career of William Ellis”

2:30pm: Postwar Victoria (UHV Commons, Multi-Purpose Room)

- Karen Hagan, Victoria College, “Sky and Shadow: The impact of World War II Airfields on the Society and Culture of Small Texas Towns”
- Asif Siddiqi, Fordham University “‘Victoria, We Have a Problem’: Victoria, Texas and the Selection of NASA’s New Manned Spacecraft Center in 1961”
- Joan C. Browning, Independent Scholar, “Victoria’s Role in Shaping Civil Rights Activist Casey Hayden”

4:00pm: Remembering Victoria’s History (UHV Commons, Multi-Purpose Room)

- Jeff Wright, Victoria Preservation Inc., “Historical Preservation in Victoria”
- Alfredo Aguilar, Victoria College, “Preserving Reformative Structures: Who Preserves and Constructs These Architectural Spaces?”
- Joe Locke, UHV, “Statues and Silence: History, Commemoration, and Public Memory in Victoria”