

BOLIVAR ARCHEOLOGY



Located in north Texas, the small town of Bolivar buzzed during the days of the Chisholm Trail cattle drives. Cowboys and travelers rested at the Sartin Hotel. Blacksmith Tom Cook repaired wagons and shod horses in his shop. But when the railroad bypassed Bolivar for nearby Sanger, the town fell quiet.

When TxDOT planned to widen FM 455 through Bolivar, not much was left of the old town. Archeology excavations found traces of the Sartin Hotel and Tom Cook's blacksmith shop. TxDOT plans to preserve the hotel's stone well. A new historical marker will tell the story of Tom Cook, a formerly enslaved man, and his descendants in Denton County.



Howard Clark and Halee Wright at the grave of their ancestor, Tom Cook

Learn more about Bolivar at <https://www.txdot.gov/about/campaigns-outreach/archeology-history/txdot-archeology/bolivar.html>