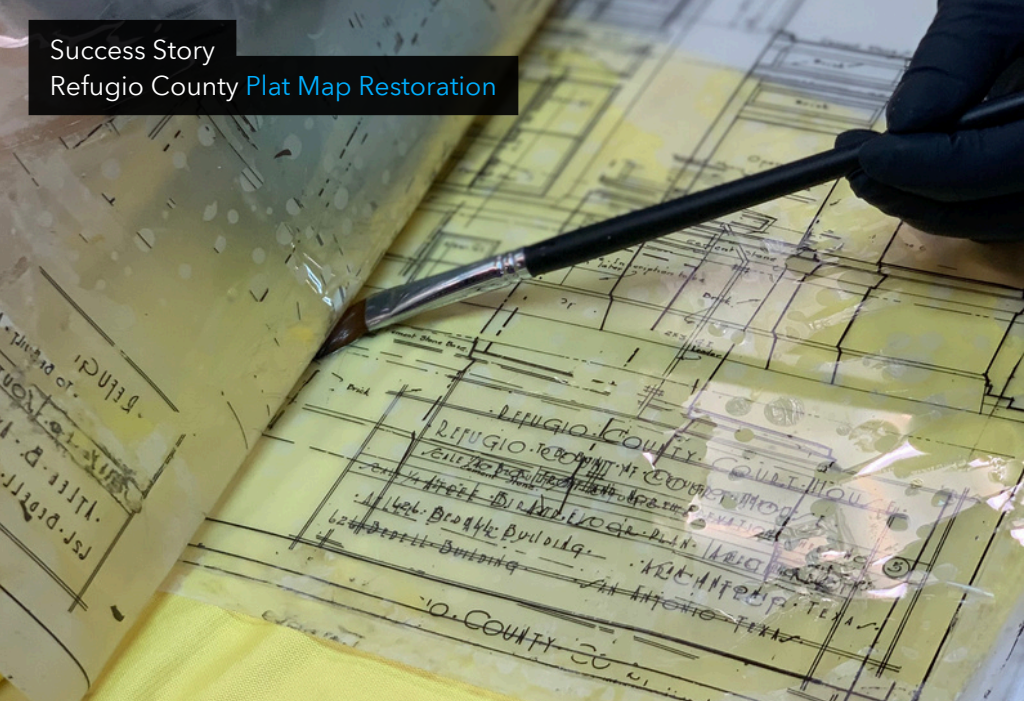


Success Story

Refugio County Plat Map Restoration



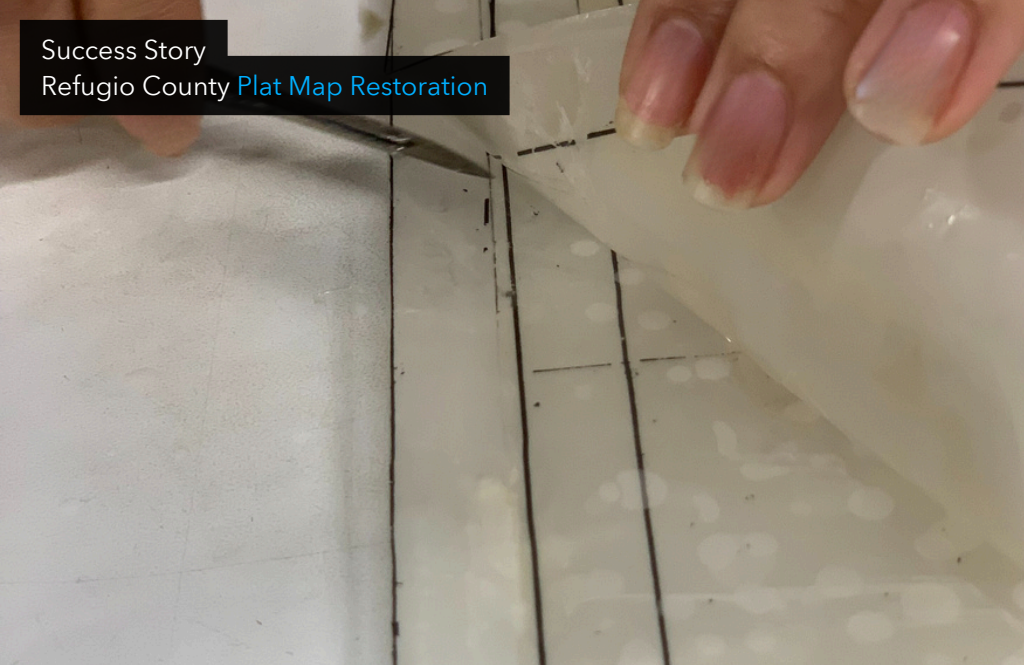


Using the Past to Guide the Future

As Refugio County prepared to begin the Courthouse Restoration Project, it became clear that the intricate details of the original courthouse design—captured in the county's beautifully hand-drawn blueprints—were essential to guide the restoration.

However, Hurricane Harvey had left these historic blueprints in critical condition, with extensive water damage causing the pages to fuse together, threatening their survival.

Recognizing the importance of preserving these records, County Clerk Margie Castellano reached out to Revolution Data Systems to carefully restore and digitize these invaluable documents, ensuring the restoration project could proceed with historical accuracy.



Separating fused drawings

Despite the maps being deemed unsalvageable by other companies, we were determined to take on the challenge. Our expert conservators carefully employed a range of advanced restoration techniques.

Encased in protective mylar, these valuable plats required a careful and precise approach to safely restore them without damaging the original hand-drawn ink. Our conservators began by testing the ink's resilience to ensure it wouldn't fade or be removed during the restoration process. Using small amounts of warm water, acetone, alcohol, and cellulose, we tested various solutions to separate the plats and clean the stains, ensuring each method would preserve the ink.

To successfully separate the documents, we gradually raised the water temperature, finding just the right level to safely release the documents. This method allowed us to gently pull the plats apart without damaging the delicate ink or paper.



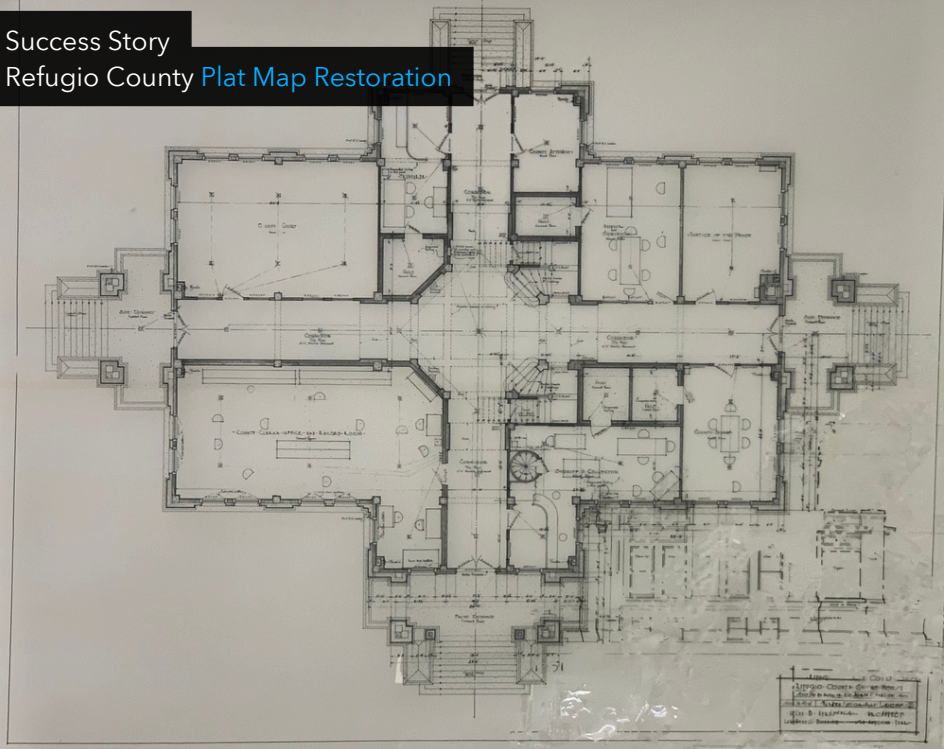
Cleaning and Drying

Once we successfully separated the fused plat maps, the next step was to ensure their stability through a drying process. Each plat was hung with clips, allowing them to dry evenly without compromising their original shape or causing any further warping or curling of the material.

After drying, we focused on removing any remaining watermarks and stains that had accumulated due to the flooding. Using alcohol and a soft cloth, our team gently cleaned each plat, carefully working around the hand-drawn details to ensure the original ink was preserved. This careful cleaning restored each plat to a clear, legible state, allowing the historic details to be viewed as they once were while safeguarding the authenticity and accuracy of the documentation for future reference.

Success Story

Refugio County Plat Map Restoration

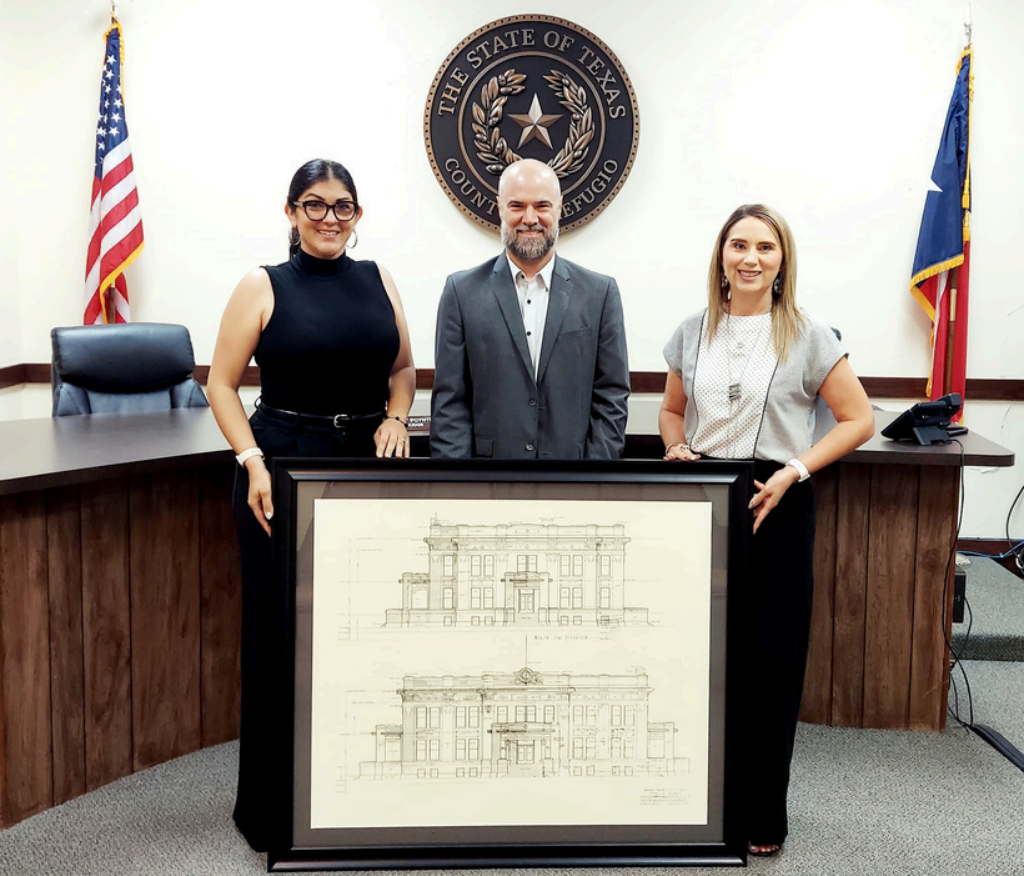


Digitizing and Preserving the Details

Every line, mark, and notation carries historical significance, so precision in scanning was essential to capture the full scope of the original documents.

Some information had transferred from one page to the back of another. To address this, our team employed an overlapping scan technique, capturing each plat in high resolution to ensure no detail was lost—even where there were faint imprints from neighboring pages.





A Lasting Legacy Preserved

The successful restoration and digitization of Refugio County's original courthouse plat maps marks a proud achievement in historic preservation, one that wouldn't have been possible without the dedication and collaboration of County Clerk Margie Castellano and Judge Jhiela "Gigi" Poynter.

Together, they are true guardians of the county's history.

Request a [free records assessment](mailto:info@revolutiondatassystems.com) from our nationwide team of experts at info@revolutiondatassystems.com

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