



December 11, 2015

Dear Friends,

The Kosse Heritage Society acquired the Hearne-Gidden House on Highway 7 east of Kosse, Texas with one goal in mind: to make this iconic and historic structure come alive again and serve the people of Kosse and the surrounding community. Our vision is so clear in our eyes. This once beautiful home is destined to become ***a center for community activities, a welcoming center for visitors, a library of historical documents and research, and a center for the arts, music, and family events.*** It can be all that and more, with all of us working together.

Made of sturdy materials and elegantly designed, the Hearne-Gidden house has struggled for decades against the elements and time. The last owner did a great deal to extend the life of the old house. He has now put the house in our hands because he believed in our vision of the community coming together to make this a home for all of us, in this generation, and for all the generations to come.

Thousands of people drive through Kosse every year, and the Hearne-Gidden House catches every eye. Photographers from around the state stop to capture the image, all of them wondering who lived there, why they left it behind, who owns it now. Kosse is remembered because it is the little city with “that beautiful old house” where nobody lives. We want this treasure to become the beautiful old house no one can ever forget. Will you help the vision become reality?

We ask you to partner with the Kosse Heritage Society in the restoration of the Hearne-Gidden House with a gift of \$25 or more. Your gift of at least \$25 will entitle you to become a ***Charter Member of the Friends of the Hearne-Gidden House.*** When the ribbon is cut and the house opens for all of us, somewhere in that lovely structure, your name will be there for all to see. This group of Charter Members will forever be remembered as the first among our friends to share in the vision to make this old house come alive.

Charter Members of the Friends of the Hearne-Gidden House will be welcomed with open arms and deep gratitude. We want to keep you informed of each step toward our goal, invite you to special events, and share good news. We want you there when we break ground on the renovation, when the Charter Member names are installed, and when the ribbon is cut on opening day.

There is much to do, but the Board of the Kosse Heritage Society has already begun. We have established goals, called for estimates on the restoration, and are developing a fundraising strategy for the Hearne-Gidden House. We are investigating historical background and documentation of historical significance on the old house, and have begun discussions with state and federal agencies regarding historical designation for the structure. You are invited to join us as we cross the many bridges ahead.

The Hearne-Gidden House has been a part of our lives for so many years. Please consider becoming a Charter Member of the Friends of the Hearne-Gidden House, with your gift of \$25 or more, as we begin the restoration of this old friend. All gifts to the Hearne-Gidden House will be used exclusively for the restoration and reconstruction

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of the house; all giving will be considered restricted to this use and is tax-deductible. Please complete the information section below, and return with your gift in the enclosed envelope.

On behalf of the Board of the Kosse Heritage Society, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to share our vision with you. I look forward to meeting you and sharing the next steps toward the beautiful day when we all stand in the front yard of the Hearne-Gidden House to cut the ribbon and welcome everyone inside!

Many thanks,



Karen Partin, President  
Kosse Heritage Society

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(cut here)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if the gift is made *in honor* or *in memory* of another person (underline one choice):

Name of honoree: \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the honoree: \_\_\_\_\_

***Thank you for your support of the Hearne-Gidden House restoration!***