



Student Name:  
Class Period:  
Date:

## Meet the Originals

*Texas Originals* is a radio series about people who made an impact on Texas. You can hear it online and on radio stations around the state. Read or listen to the episode on Ima Hogg. Then, answer questions about it.

### Ima Hogg 1882–1975

Known as the “First Lady of Texas,” Ima Hogg was born in Mineola in 1882, the only daughter of Texas governor “Big Jim” Hogg. The Hogs were a public-spirited family. So when oil was discovered on family property, Ima and her brothers used their new wealth for the public good. They believed that since the oil came from Texas land, it belonged to Texas citizens.

Ima Hogg became an arts patron and a philanthropist. She helped establish the Houston Symphony Orchestra in 1913. She also founded several mental health programs focused on education. But perhaps her most tangible legacy is found in the historic properties she bequeathed to the state. Those include the Varner-Hogg Plantation near West Columbia and the Winedale museum near Round Top.

Miss Ima’s legacy also includes her masterpiece, Bayou Bend. It was her stately home on Buffalo Bayou in Houston. Each room was appointed with authentic early American furniture and significant art. In 1957, she gave the home, its collection along with the surrounding grounds and gardens to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. She continued to add to the collection until her death in 1975.

Hogg delighted in poking around her properties during renovations, inspecting every detail. She was a perfectionist with inimitable grace. One biographer noted Miss Ima could “sugarcoat her single-mindedness with layers of charm.” Those qualities are evident at Bayou Bend and the other elegant house museums the First Lady of Texas left to her fellow citizens.

**Check for Understanding:** Answer the questions below based on evidence from the episode on Ima Hogg. Refer to the text included above if needed.

1. The discovery of oil created new wealth for Ima Hogg’s family. How did Hogg use her fortune to give back to her community?
2. According to the episode, what is Ima Hogg’s most tangible legacy?

**Going Further:** Write or discuss your answer to the question below, supporting your answer with evidence from the episode or additional information you have learned in class.

3. **Taking a Position.** Ima Hogg devoted much of her life and wealth to supporting the arts. Do you agree that it is important to make art available to the public? Why or why not?