

*Austin*

# EVERY PLACE HAS A STORY.

A GUIDE TO HISTORIC DESTINATIONS IN AUSTIN





Historic Sixth Street and The Driskill Hotel.

# DISCOVER AUSTIN'S RICH HISTORY.

With 180 sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including 17 historic districts, Austin puts you at the heart of Texas history. From the Texas State Capitol to the Paramount Theatre, The Driskill Hotel to Barton Springs, the heritage of the Lone Star State lives and breathes throughout our city. We invite you to explore, experience and enjoy Austin's many memorable destinations, and make our history part of yours.

## 1 THE TEXAS STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX

### TEXAS STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Detroit architect Elijah E. Myers' 1888 Renaissance Revival design echoes that of the U.S. Capitol, but at 302 feet it is 14 feet higher. The base is made of rusticated Sunset Red Texas granite; the dome is made of cast iron and sheet metal, topped by a Goddess of Liberty statue. The seals on the south façade commemorate the six governments that have ruled in Texas over time: Spain, France, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederate States of America and the United States. Myers also designed the state capitols of Michigan and Colorado. *Congress Avenue at 11th Street. 512-305-0063. No reservations needed for groups under 10 persons. Groups of 10 and over must call 512-305-8402 in advance. Self-guided building and grounds brochures available. Open daily, except major holidays. Free. Building tours available. [tspb.state.tx.us](http://tspb.state.tx.us).*

### OLD LAND OFFICE BUILDING, CAPITOL VISITORS CENTER & MUSEUM

Built in 1857 to house the state's land records, the building now features a museum with fascinating, child-friendly exhibits about early Texas. Its Medieval Revival style reflects the German origins of its architect, Conrad Stremme. *112 E. 11th St., southeast corner of Capitol grounds. 512-305-8400. Open daily, except major holidays. Free. [tspb.state.tx.us](http://tspb.state.tx.us).*

### TEXAS GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Every Texas governor has lived in the mansion from its construction in 1856 until arson seriously damaged the building in 2008. Precious furnishings and antiques were not in the building at the time, due to a planned repair project. They were returned to the mansion in 2012 after a meticulous reconstruction. This Classical Revival building is important not only as home to governors, but as the premier product of its builder Abner Cook. Self-taught and trained by apprenticeship, Cook made his mark on Austin as designer or contractor for 35 Austin buildings, 13 of which are still in use today. *1010 Colorado St. 512-305-8524. Free tours, with 7-day advance reservation required. [www.txfgm.org](http://www.txfgm.org).*

### NOT FAR FROM THE CAPITOL COMPLEX

**Symphony Square** is a collection of 1870s Texas vernacular stone buildings, brought together by the Austin Symphony Orchestra. *1101 Red River St. Restaurant on site. [austinsymphony.org](http://austinsymphony.org).* One block away is the 1857 **German Free School** building, home of the German-Texan Heritage Society. *507 E. 10th St. 512-467-4569. [germantexans.org](http://germantexans.org).*



Sitting at 302 feet, the Texas State Capitol sits higher than the U.S. Capitol building, and was built in 1888 as the landmark building for the city and Congress Avenue.

## 2 CONGRESS AVENUE

Congress Avenue isn't just Austin's main street – it is the main street of Texas. Mirabeau Lamar, successor to Sam Houston as president of the newborn Republic of Texas, directed that a city be built here in 1839, specifically for the seat of government. His plan called for a 120-foot wide ceremonial boulevard from the river to the hilltop Capitol. Ever since then, the street has been the site of parades, demonstrations, athletic events, movie shoots and street parties.

There are no buildings remaining on the avenue from Lamar's time – the oldest dates from around 1856. Most of the historic buildings were built after 1871, the year the railroad arrived, bringing prosperity to the city. Victorian and Classical styles were popular, with adaptations for local weather and available materials. Limestone was often used, as it was plentiful and adaptable to many building techniques. Porticoes provided shelter from the elements and perches for viewing the happenings on the street. The twentieth century brought Beaux Arts, Chicago and Deco styles to the avenue.

During the 1940s and 1950s, old styles fell from favor; many of the buildings were demolished or covered with modern façades. Suburbanization followed, causing the loss of most of the avenue's retail businesses. Large office towers rose up. The 1970s saw a resurgence of appreciation for the historic buildings that remained. Restoration projects took place up and down the street. Today Congress Avenue is a National Register historic district, but it isn't frozen in time – its buildings continue to evolve.

Just a few of Congress Avenue's notable buildings:

### THE OLD BAKERY

Swedish immigrant Charles Lundberg and his successors operated a bakery for many years in this 1876 building. Visitors can explore the Lundberg-Maerki Historical Collection and Art Gallery, get information about the city and shop for art and crafts by Austin adults 50 or older. *1006 Congress Ave. 512-477-5961. austinTEXAS.gov.*

### WALTER TIPS BUILDING

This impressive building with its Venetian façade was designed in 1876 by J. N. Preston for the headquarters of Tips' machinery company and ironworks. An example of the company's product can be seen in the lobby. The building's support girder is made of scrap iron from exploded Confederate shells. *710 Congress Ave.*

### PARAMOUNT THEATRE

The Paramount began in 1915 as the Majestic, a vaudeville theatre designed by John Ebersson of Chicago, with G. A. Endress. Under the stewardship of the nonprofit Austin Theatre Alliance, both the Paramount and adjacent 1935 State Theatre host live performances, festivals and films. *713 Congress Ave. Show schedule and ticket information: 512-472-5470. austintheatre.org.*

### SCARBROUGH BUILDING

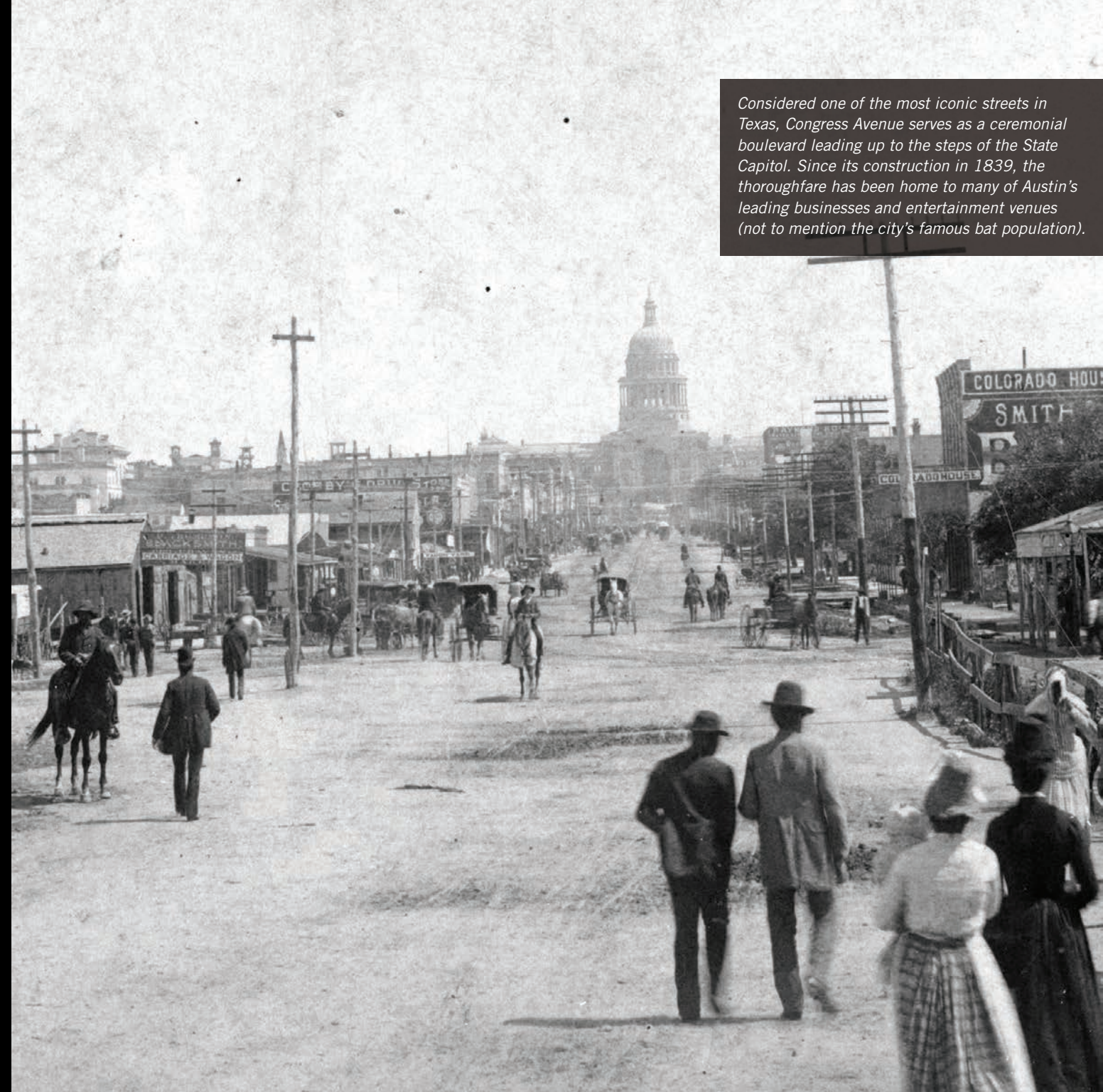
This corner was the site of the first store ever built in Austin. Many years later, in 1910, it became the site of Austin's preeminent department store, Scarbrough's. Architects Sanguinet and Staats designed the eight-story, Chicago-style building. Deco alterations were made in 1929. Competition from suburban malls forced the store's closure in 1983, but in recent years retail activity has returned to the building and the avenue. *101 W. Sixth St. at Congress Avenue.*

### LITTLEFIELD BUILDING

Cattle baron George W. Littlefield wasn't satisfied with his new Beaux Arts-style bank building in 1912. He converted its roof garden to create a ninth story, making it the tallest building in Austin for a time. C. H. Page, Jr. was the architect. *106 E. Sixth St. at Congress Avenue.*

### MORE CONGRESS AVENUE BUILDINGS

Download Preservation Austin's "Historic Tours Austin" app for iPhone.



*Considered one of the most iconic streets in Texas, Congress Avenue serves as a ceremonial boulevard leading up to the steps of the State Capitol. Since its construction in 1839, the thoroughfare has been home to many of Austin's leading businesses and entertainment venues (not to mention the city's famous bat population).*

# 3 EAST SIXTH STREET

East Sixth Street is a National Register historic district, with six blocks of turn-of-the-century Victorian commercial buildings. It is also the heart of the music scene in the Live Music Capital of the World®. Before the music era began, the area was a melting pot of small businesses, with owners from many cultures – European, Middle Eastern, Asian and more.

Italian immigrant Michael Paggi operated a carriage shop on property he owned at **421 E. Sixth St.** from 1875 to 1905. Former slave E. H. Carrington, followed by son-in-law D. H. Lyons, owned a successful grocery at **522 E. Sixth St.** from 1873 to the 1940s. They were African American community leaders. Starting around 1921, Ben Garza and his brothers owned a meat market in the Randerson-Lundell Building, **701 E. Sixth St.**, for many years. Today crowds of music lovers and revelers keep the old buildings young. *Preservation Austin Historic Tours iPhone app available.*

## THE DRISKILL HOTEL

Since its beginning in 1886, cattleman Jesse Driskill's hotel has been an elegant backdrop for gatherings of the powerful, the famous and the sociable. J. N. Preston's Romanesque building design features portrait busts of Driskill and his sons. An annex was added in 1930 to compete with the 1924 **Stephen F. Austin Hotel** on Congress Avenue. *604 Brazos St. 512-474-5911. driskill.hyatt.com.*

## MUSEUM ROW AT BRUSH SQUARE

Austin founder Mirabeau Lamar's 1839 plan called for a public open space for each quadrant of the city. One of those spaces, Brush Square, is home now to three museums. The 1869 home of Alamo survivor **Susanna Dickinson** was built by husband Joseph Hannig. *411 E. Fifth St. 512-974-3830. susannadickinsonmuseum.org.* William Sydney Porter, who later found fame as short-story writer **O. Henry**, lived in this 1886 Victorian cottage. *409 E. Fifth St. 512-472-1903. ohenrymuseum.org.* The 1938 Moderne-style Fire Station No. 1 holds the **Austin Fire Museum**. *401 E. Fifth St. Free. austinfiremuseum.org.*



*Housed in the former George Washington Carver Library building built in 1926, the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center sits on Angelina Street and is named in honor of the famous African American inventor and scientist.*



*East Sixth Street, formerly known as Pecan Street, has always been a popular business district in the heart of Austin.*

# 4 OLD EAST AUSTIN

## TEXAS STATE CEMETERY

Since 1851, this exquisitely landscaped site has been the final resting place for many Texas leaders, including the "Father of Texas," Stephen F. Austin. Texas' fallen soldiers from the Civil War to modern times are honored here. *909 Navasota St. 512-463-0605. Visitor center on site. Free. cemetery.state.tx.us.*

## FRENCH LEGATION

In 1839, King Louis Philippe sent Alphonse Dubois to the Republic of Texas to represent the interests of France in the new nation. He began building a Creole-style house to entertain and impress, but left the house for others to complete in 1841. It is downtown Austin's oldest building. *802 San Marcos St. 512-472-8180. Small admission charge. frenchlegationmuseum.org.*

## GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER LIBRARY

Built in 1926 as Austin's first library, the building was moved to East Austin in 1933 to become Austin's first branch library.

It is adjacent to the 2005 **George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center**, dedicated to the collection, preservation, research and exhibition of African American cultural material. *1165 Angelina St. 512-974-4926. Free. carvermuseum.org.*

## TEJANO WALKING TRAILS

Designated by the National Park Service as a National Recreation Trail, the Tejano Walking Trails of East Austin feature historical and cultural gems in the East Cesar Chavez and adjacent Holly neighborhoods. *Brochure download: eastcesarchavez.org/committees/tejano-walking-music-legends-trails/.*

## MORE EAST AUSTIN HISTORIC SITES

The **Dedrick Hamilton House**, owned by one of the first freed slaves in Austin, Thomas Dedrick, is now the centerpiece of Austin's African American Cultural Heritage District. *912 E. 11th St.* **Victory Grill** was a stop on the "Chitlin Circuit" that brought name entertainers of color to Austin starting in 1947. *1104 E. 11th St.* **Huston-Tillotson University** traces its beginnings to 1876, with buildings from 1911 and 1914. *1820 E. Eighth St.* Nearby are historic neighborhoods **Guadalupe**, **San Bernard**, **Willow-Spence** and **Swede Hill**.

# 5 DOWNTOWN WEST

## BREMOND BLOCK

Marriages joined the families of successful merchants John Robinson and John Bremond, and a family compound was created here. The oldest house was built by Abner Cook in 1855. Architect George Fiegel's Victorian styling predominated from 1873 to 1887. *Privately owned buildings, viewable from the street. Boundary: Guadalupe, San Antonio, West Seventh and West Eighth Streets.*

## NORTH-EVANS CHATEAU BELLEVUE

Ira Evans was a prominent banker, legislator and advocate for freed slaves. Upon purchasing this 1874 Victorian Romanesque castle in 1892, he hired architect Alfred Giles to improve the house, resulting in its dramatic appearance today. It has been the home of the Austin Woman's Club since 1929. *708 San Antonio St. 512-472-1336. Weddings, events, tours. austinwc.org.*

## HEMAN MARION SWEATT COURTHOUSE

Cordova shell limestone with fossil imprints was used by Page Brothers Architects for Travis County's 1931 courthouse. In 1946,

Heman Marion Sweatt, backed by the NAACP, sued the University of Texas for admittance to its law school. The case, argued here by Thurgood Marshall, moved the U.S. toward equality in education. *1000 Guadalupe St. traviscountyhistory.org.*

## AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER

This 1933 Italian Renaissance building, once Austin's main library, was designed by Hugo Kuehne, first dean of the UT School of Architecture. Frescoes, ironwork and wood carvings were done by Austin's finest craftsmen. Interesting exhibits and events recapture Austin's past. *810 Guadalupe St. 512-974-7480. austinhistorycenter.org.*

## JUDGE'S HILL NEIGHBORHOOD

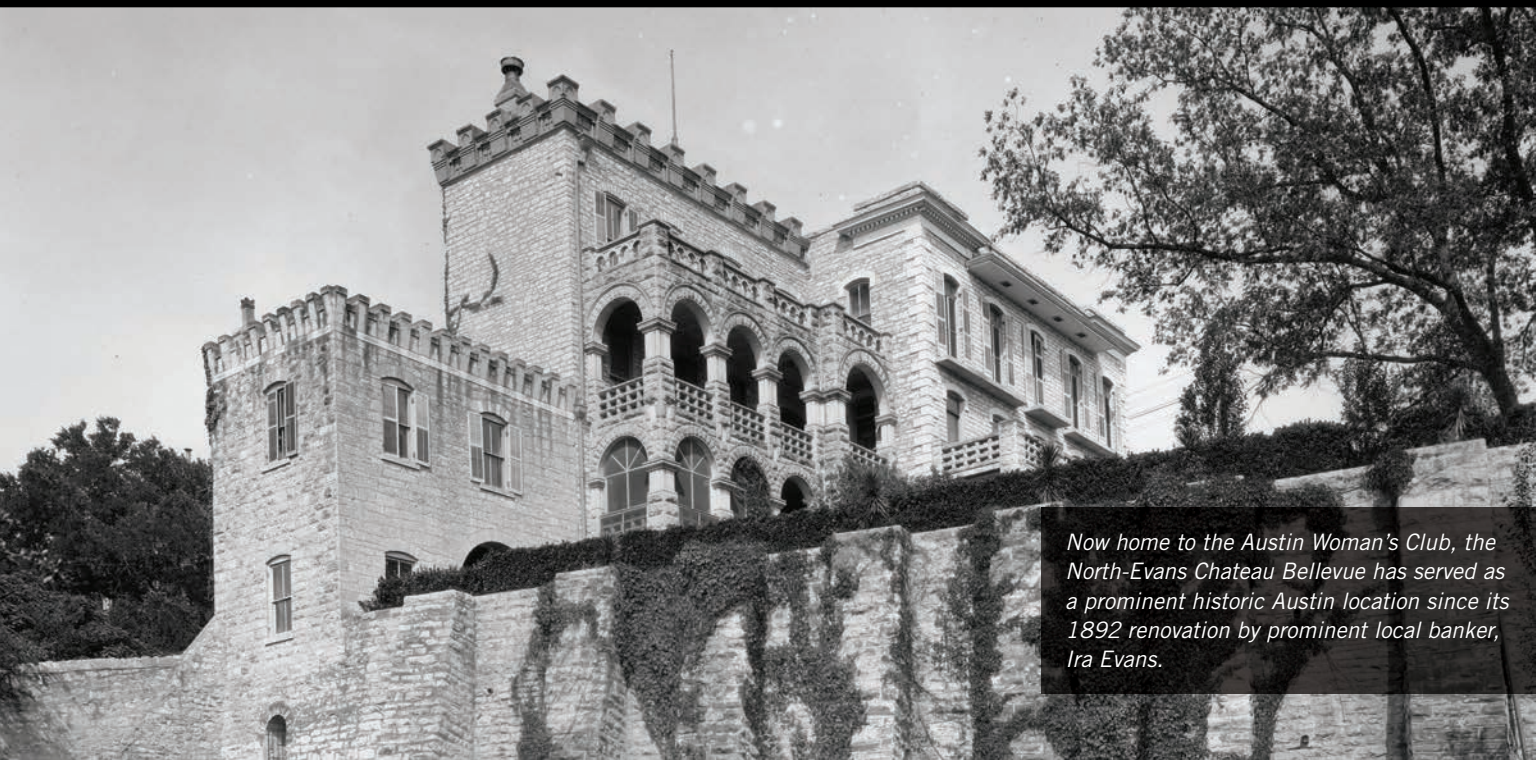
Prominent Austin families lived on this high ground northwest of Capitol Hill, in homes dating from the 1850s to the 1900s. *Approximate boundary: West 14th Street to MLK, Jr. Boulevard; Rio Grande Street to Shoal Creek. Private properties; view from street. The Caswell House hosts weddings, events and tours. 1404 West Ave.*

## HISTORIC OPEN SPACES

Republic Square and Wooldridge Park have been designated open spaces since Austin was founded in 1839. *Guadalupe Street, at West Fourth Street and West Ninth Street.*



*Local Austinites and visitors alike have taken a dip in the landmark spring-fed Deep Eddy Pool since its 1916 construction and subsequent 1935 Works Progress Administration renovation.*



*Now home to the Austin Woman's Club, the North-Evans Chateau Bellevue has served as a prominent historic Austin location since its 1892 renovation by prominent local banker, Ira Evans.*

# 6 WEST AUSTIN

## HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

The Balcones Escarpment, a dramatic uplift that runs along the west side of downtown Austin, has long been a desirable place for homes, from antebellum plantations and freedman's communities to showplaces for the wealthy of several generations. National Register historic neighborhoods **Old West Austin**, **West Line** and **Clarksville** contain more than 2,000 contributing properties. *Private residences, viewable from the street. Approximate boundary: West Sixth Street to West 35th Street; Lamar Boulevard to Loop One.*

## DEEP EDDY POOL

Just west of Loop One, Sixth Street becomes Lake Austin Boulevard, leading to a landmark swimming pool. Built in 1916 and spring-fed, it replaced a once-popular swimming hole in the Colorado River (now Lady Bird Lake). A 1935 Works Progress Administration project improved the pool and added a bathhouse. Eilers Park and the Lady Bird Lake trail adjoin the pool. *401 Deep Eddy Ave. 512-472-8546. Small admission fee. austintexas.gov.*

West 35th Street, west of Loop One, leads to four more historic sites:

## CAMP MABRY

This 800-acre site has been a military center since 1892. Its Texas Military Forces Museum is in a 1918 building. *2200 W. 35th St. 512-782-5659. Free. texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org.*

## LAGUNA GLORIA

The Contemporary Austin art museum makes its home in this 1916 Mediterranean villa. Its romantic setting makes it a popular place for weddings and parties. *3809 W. 35th St. 512-458-8191. Small donation suggested. thecontemporaryaustin.org.*

## MAYFIELD PARK

Adjacent to Laguna Gloria is a 23-acre nature preserve with wooded trails and a historic cottage. *3505 W. 35th St. Free. mayfieldpark.org.*

## MOUNT BONNELL

The historic hilltop has a magnificent view of Lake Austin and surrounding hills. *3851 Mount Bonnell Rd. Free. austinparks.org.*



## 7 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

The University of Texas was founded in 1883. The architectural character of its landmark buildings was determined early in the 20th century by architect Cass Gilbert, followed by Paul Philippe Cret. They designed buildings with limestone walls, red tile roofs and Spanish-Mediterranean details. Cret incorporated Deco style with his 1937 **Main Building Tower** – it is the symbolic center of the university, with a variety of tower lighting schemes to signal athletic victories, academic honors and other special occasions. The original forty-acre campus has grown to encompass 350 acres, with large-scale buildings added to accommodate 50,000 students.

One such building is the 1999 **Myers Track and Soccer Stadium**. Its architect was John Chase, who in 1950 was UT's first African American enrollee. **707 Clyde Littlefield Dr. Darrell K. Royal Memorial Stadium** was built in 1924 to hold 27,000 people. Enlarged over the years and renamed to honor legendary football coach Darrell K. Royal, record attendance of 101,851 was recorded in 2012. The **Little Campus** holds a building occupied by U.S. Army officer George Armstrong Custer during post-Civil War Reconstruction. **MLK, Jr. Boulevard at I.H. 35. Campus tours are available through the University's Visitor Center, 405 W. 25th St. 512-471-1000. [utexas.edu/about-ut/campus-tours](http://utexas.edu/about-ut/campus-tours).**

### PUBLIC MUSEUMS ON CAMPUS

The **Harry Ransom Center**, **Blanton Museum of Art**, **Texas Natural Science Center's Texas Memorial Museum**, **Briscoe Center for American History** and the **LBJ Presidential Library and Museum** are all open to the public – some are free.

### SITES NEARBY

The **Neill-Cochran House Museum**, a close relative of the Texas Governor's Mansion, was built by Abner Cook in 1855. **2310 San Gabriel St. Scholz Garten** has been a popular place for beer and socializing since 1866. **1607 San Jacinto Blvd.**

*Added to the main University of Texas Campus in 1937, Paul Philippe Cret's Main Building Tower rests as a focal point to the 350+ acre flagship university grounds.*



*The Elisabet Ney Studio and Museum rests in the historic Hyde Park district just north of downtown, and housed the remarkable German classically trained sculptor beginning in 1892.*

## 8 HYDE PARK

### SUBURBIA IN THE 1890s

In 1891, Hyde Park was remote from downtown Austin. Streetcar service made it possible for Austin's first suburbanites to settle there. Developer Monroe Shipe created wide shady streets lined with handsome Victorian and Craftsman houses (one of them was his own home). Today Hyde Park is considered part of Central Austin, but its residents continue to take pride in their neighborhood's unique identity. *Approximate boundary: Avenue A to Duval Street; 38th Street to 45th Street.*

### ELISABET NEY STUDIO AND MUSEUM

In 1892, Elisabet Ney, a German classically-trained sculptor, moved to Austin and built "Formosa," a remarkable Neoclassical and Gothic Revival studio. Two famous pieces – statues of Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin, now in the south foyer of the Texas State Capitol – were created here. The museum is dedicated to her art and legacy. It houses the largest collection of her work in the world. **304 E. 44th St. 512-458-2255. Free admission. [elisabetneymuseum.org](http://elisabetneymuseum.org).**

### JOURDAN-BACHMAN PIONEER FARMS

This living history park, about twenty minutes from downtown, gives visitors an experience of rural life in 19th-century Texas. Restored farmsteads have some live animals, including longhorn cattle. **10621 Pioneer Farms Dr. 512-837-1215. [pioneerfarms.org](http://pioneerfarms.org).**



Located just south of the main Zilker Park area, Barton Springs is an enclosed swimming pool from the Austin Edwards Aquifer. Jump in year-round to enjoy stable spring-fed temperatures and beat the Texas heat. (Photo taken early 1960s.)

## 10 LADY BIRD LAKE & OLD SOUTH AUSTIN

### LADY BIRD LAKE

In 1960, a dam was built on the Texas Colorado River to create a lake in downtown Austin. Originally called Town Lake, it was the seventh in a chain of lakes along the Colorado. Lady Bird Johnson led a campaign in the 1970s to transform the waterfront with a trail system and landscaping. After her death in 2007, the lake was renamed in her honor.

### ANN W. RICHARDS CONGRESS AVENUE BRIDGE

Originally built in 1910, the bridge received improvements in 1980 that attracted an unexpected colony of 1.5 million bats. Migrating from Mexico during the warm months of each year, the bats can often be seen at twilight as they emerge in search of insects. *Congress Avenue at Lady Bird Lake.*

### HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

In 1886, Austin's first permanent, free bridge opened the door for development on the south side of the city. **Fairview Park**, begun in the 1890s, had large lots with Victorian homes commanding views of the city. **Travis Heights** was developed later on adjacent land in 1913. A greenbelt winds through the neighborhoods. *Approximate boundary: South Congress Avenue to I.H. 35; Riverside Drive to Monroe Street. Private homes; view from the street.* **Big Stacy Park** has a free public pool, with warm water from an artesian well. *700 E. Live Oak St. 512-445-0304. austintexas.gov.*

### SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE (SOCO)

The buildings on South Congress Avenue, mostly from the 1930s, are modest, but they are adapted in creative ways for locally-owned shops and restaurants. Notable sites include a restaurant in a converted feed-and-seed store from the 1800s, two motels from the 1930s and an auto shop repurposed as a pub. *1000 – 1900 blocks of South Congress Avenue.* Farther down Congress Avenue is **St. Edward's University**, with an 1888 Gothic Revival main building designed by Nicholas Clayton. *3001 S. Congress Ave.*

## 9 ZILKER PARK

### ANDREW JACKSON ZILKER'S LEGACY

Citizens of Austin enjoy a lush 350-acre park in the heart of the city thanks to the generosity of Zilker, an early Austin businessman and philanthropist. During the Great Depression, federally-funded improvement projects enhanced the park's natural beauty.

### BARTON SPRINGS

The springs are named for William Barton, who arrived in the late 1830s, shortly before the city of Austin was created. As a slave-holder, Barton brought Austin's first African Americans to the local community. In 1898 geologists identified the Edwards Aquifer, which provides water running through limestone channels to feed the springs. Environmentalists have been fighting threats to the aquifer for years. The City of Austin has acquired many acres in the recharge zone to protect it. In 1997 the Barton Springs Salamander, which exists only in this area, was designated an endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Barton Springs' swimming hole is an Austin institution. Its 1947 **Bathhouse** was designed in Moderne style by Dan Driscoll, a City of Austin architect. *2101 Barton Springs Rd. 512-476-9044. Open to the public – fees for swimming and parking. austintexas.gov/department/barton-springs-pool.*

### ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN

The botanical garden, with its 1964 building, represents a collaboration of 31 local garden clubs. The **Taniguchi Garden** was completed in 1969 by Isamu Taniguchi, who placed many of the stones with his own hands. The 1840s **Swedish Log Cabin** and 1866 **Esperanza Schoolhouse** were moved to the park from their original locations. *2220 Barton Springs Rd. 512-477-8672. Open to the public. Small entry fee. zilker garden.org.*



Originally called Town Lake, this popular Austin attraction was created in 1960 as part of the Texas Colorado River and renamed in 2007 to honor former President Johnson's wife, Lady Bird Johnson.

# HISTORIC AUSTIN: WHERE TO GO

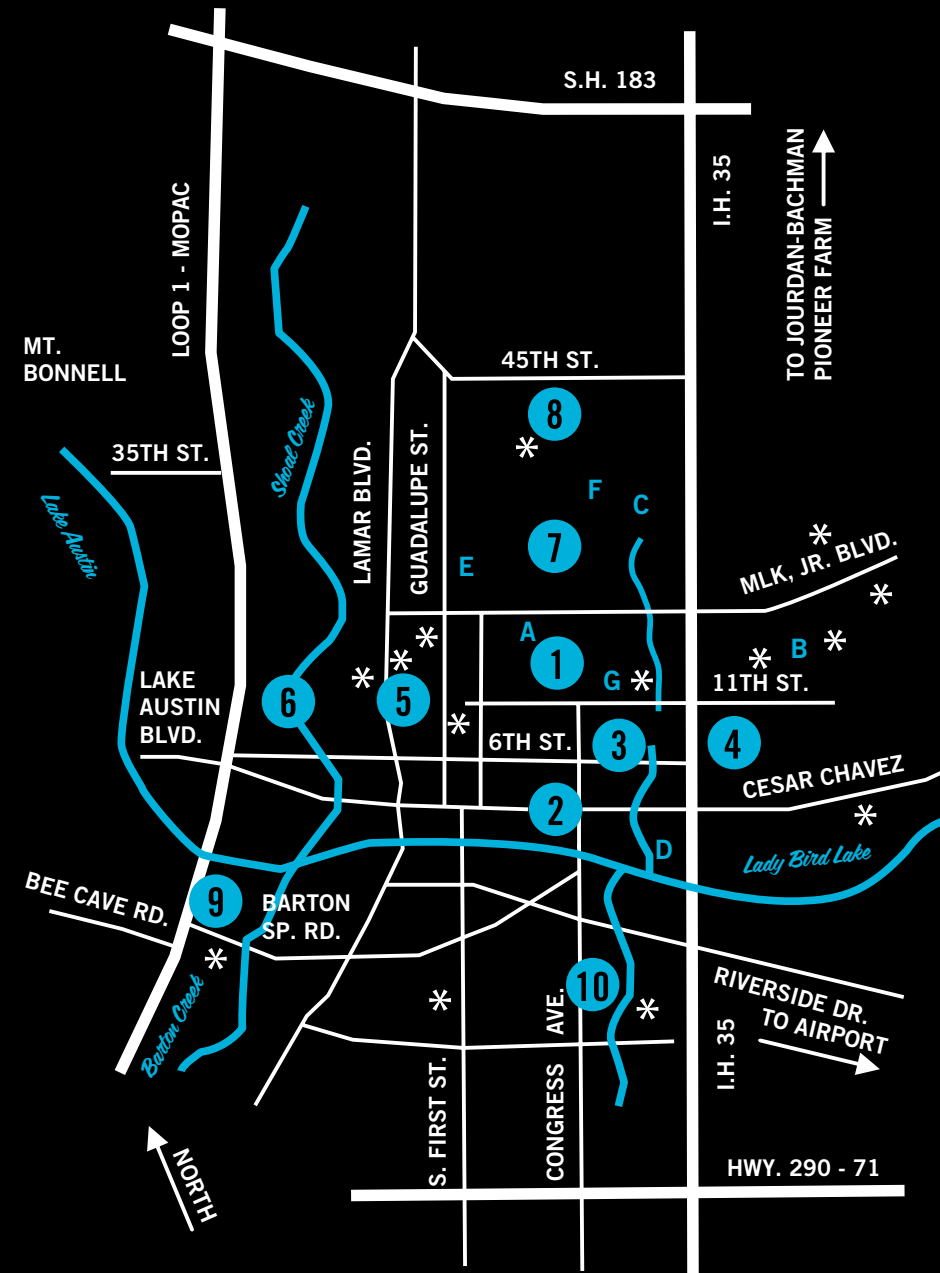
- 1 THE TEXAS STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX** | 1856-1888  
Capitol, Land Office Bldg., Governor's Mansion. *11th Street to 15th Street; Colorado Street to Brazos Street*
- 2 CONGRESS AVENUE** | 1856-Present  
Old Bakery, Paramount Theatre, Walter Tips Bldg. and more. *Lady Bird Lake to 11th Street*
- 3 EAST SIXTH STREET, EAST FIFTH STREET** | 1860s-1900s  
Turn-of-the-century commercial district, The Driskill Hotel, Dickinson & O. Henry Museums. *Congress Avenue to I.H. 35*
- 4 OLD EAST AUSTIN** | 1841-1940s  
State Cemetery, French Legation, African American and Latino cultural heritage sites. *I.H. 35 to Chicon Street; Lady Bird Lake to MLK, Jr. Boulevard.*
- 5 DOWNTOWN WEST** | 1850s-1930s  
Bremond Block, North-Evans Chateau Bellevue, Heman Marion Sweatt, Courthouse, Austin History Center, Judges' Hill, Wooldridge and Republic Parks. *West Seventh Street to MLK, Jr. Boulevard; Lamar Boulevard to Colorado Street*
- 6 WEST AUSTIN** | 1850s-Contemporary  
Historic neighborhoods. *West Sixth Street to West 35th Street; Lamar Boulevard to Lake Austin.* Nearby: Deep Eddy Pool, Laguna Gloria, Mayfield Park, Mt. Bonnell, Camp Mabry
- 7 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN** | 1883-Contemporary  
Historic campus buildings, museums. *Guadalupe Street to Lafayette Avenue; MLK, Jr. Boulevard, to West 27th Street*
- 8 HYDE PARK, NORTH AUSTIN** | 1890s-1930s  
Historic neighborhoods, Elisabet Ney Studio and Museum. *38th Street to 45th Street; Guadalupe Street to Duval Street*
- 9 ZILKER PARK** | 1840s-1940s  
Barton Springs, Zilker Botanical Garden. *Barton Springs Road; Robert E. Lee Street to Loop 1*
- 10 LADY BIRD LAKE, OLD SOUTH AUSTIN** | 1888 -1960s  
Historic neighborhoods, South Congress Avenue (SoCo). *Lady Bird Lake to Monroe Street; South Congress Avenue to I.H. 35*

# MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES, CULTURAL CENTERS

Austin has more than 40 museums, cultural centers and libraries, plus the public library system. Some are listed here. For a complete list, see [austinmuseums.org](http://austinmuseums.org).

- A. Bullock Museum of Texas History**  
1800 N. Congress Ave. | 512-936-8746 | [thestoryoftexas.com](http://thestoryoftexas.com)
- B. George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center**  
1165 Angelina St. | 512-974-4926 | [carvermuseum.org](http://carvermuseum.org)
- C. Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library & Museum**  
2313 Red River St. | 512-721-0200 | [lbjlibrary.org](http://lbjlibrary.org)
- D. Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center**  
600 River St. | 512-974-3772 | [maccastin.org](http://maccastin.org)
- E. Harry Ransom Center**  
300 W. 21st St. | 512-471-8944 | [hrc.utexas.edu](http://hrc.utexas.edu)
- F. Texas Memorial Museum, Natural Science Center**  
2400 Trinity St. | 512-471-1604 | [utexas.edu/tmm](http://utexas.edu/tmm)
- G. Texas State Capitol Visitors Center and Museum**  
112 E. 11th St. | 512-305-8400 | [tspb.state.tx.us](http://tspb.state.tx.us)

**\* MOONLIGHT TOWERS**  
Considered in 1895 to be a modern way to illuminate cities, the towers now exist only in Austin, where they are regarded with affection. Half of the city's original 31 towers are being preserved.





# Austin

— CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU —

Our Visitor Center welcomes you to Austin with free maps, city information and walking tours.  
512-478-0098 | [austintexas.org](http://austintexas.org)

## ONLINE AUSTIN HISTORY RESOURCES

**Austin History Center**  
[austinhistorycenter.org](http://austinhistorycenter.org)

**Austin Historical Survey Wiki**  
[austinhistoricalsurvey.org](http://austinhistoricalsurvey.org)

**Austin Museum Partnership**  
[austinmuseums.org](http://austinmuseums.org)

**City of Austin**  
[austintexas.gov](http://austintexas.gov)

**Preservation Austin**  
[preservationaustin.org](http://preservationaustin.org)

**Texas Historical Commission**  
[thc.state.tx.us](http://thc.state.tx.us)

**Texas State Historical Association**  
[tshaonline.org/handbook](http://tshaonline.org/handbook)

**AUSTIN VISITOR CENTER**  
602 E. Fourth St.