



PRESERVATION — AUSTIN —

SAVING THE GOOD STUFF

Fall 2017 ★ Volume 21 No. 4

preservation austin PRESERVATION MERIT AWARDS 2017 CELEBRATION

Join Preservation Austin for our 57th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration at the Driskill Hotel! Featured speaker **Jane Jenkins, President and CEO of Downtown Oklahoma City, Incorporated** will be followed by presentation of our 2017 Preservation Merit Awards.

This juried program celebrates the hard work and visionary approaches of those preserving Austin's unique architectural, cultural, and environmental heritage. This year's recipients are among the best preservation projects from the past two years. They represent a diverse cross-section of the city's history, and show the many ways in which preservation makes Austin a more engaging, authentic place for all of us. Congratulations to all those who made these incredible projects possible!

We are thrilled to welcome Jane Jenkins to discuss preservation and authenticity of place, issues that figure so greatly in discussions of Austin's rapid growth. Authenticity stems from creating and maintaining an experience, appearance, and impression of a place that accurately reflects its character and

heritage while adding functionality to match modern needs. Our city's history and culture are essential to this equation as we evolve into a competitive, world-class metropolis. Ms. Jenkins will explore the elements that contribute to authenticity, and how Austin can embrace these to create rich urban experience moving forward.



Jane Jenkins

Jane Jenkins is the President and CEO of Downtown Oklahoma City, Incorporated. She is an internationally recognized speaker and expert on urban issues with thirty years of experience in downtown management. Ms. Jenkins has served as Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Southwest Field Office and as Executive Director of Downtown Boulder, Inc. She is a former Chairman for the International Downtown Association Board of Directors and is also active in the International Economic Development Council, Urban Land Institute, and the American Institute of Architects. In 2014, Ms. Jenkins earned accreditation from the Congress for New Urbanism and she was recently named a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Place Management in Manchester, England.

Luncheon tickets are available at preservationaustin.org/events! Space is limited so please purchase by Friday, October 27.

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57th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration

Friday, November 3, 2017

Check-in begins at 11am
Program runs from 11:30 to 1:30pm
Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos Street

\$100 per member; \$125 non-members

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Preservation Austin's Planned Giving program contributes to a secure financial future for our organization, one which allows us to focus more time and attention on preserving our shared heritage and less on fundraising obligations.

We hope you will name Preservation Austin as a beneficiary of your estate plan and be recognized as a charter member of the Legacy Preservation Partners. This esteemed group of donors pledge planned gifts of \$5,000 or more to support our work. Making a planned gift to PA bequeaths the legacy of Austin's unique and cherished character to future generations. Your support will ensure our ability to maintain constant vigilance over major threats to Austin's heritage. A gift will empower us to prevail on future challenges, as we have on maintaining tax abatements for City Landmark properties, the adoption of a Local Historic Districts program, strengthening Austin's Preservation Plan, and the ongoing effort to preserve the Capitol View Corridors.

The current and future work of Preservation Austin depends upon your goodwill. To that end, there are a myriad of planned giving options from which you can choose - from naming us as a beneficiary in your will to a gift of stock. Planned gifts are popular because they can provide valuable tax benefits and/or income for life.

Visit preservationaustin.org/get-involved/planned-giving for details, and thank you! ★



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DARNALL HOUSE

2805 Wooldridge Road

Recipient: Tadd and Holly Lanham

Preservation Award for Rehabilitation

Midcentury masters Fehr & Granger were instrumental in bringing Modernism to Central Texas. Their award-winning works include St. Stephen’s Chapel (1955) and the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport (1958, demolished). One of the firm’s earliest projects was designed for personal friends Dr. Charles and Gertrude Darnall. Completed in 1941, their International Style home was one of the earliest of its kind in Austin. Its flat-roofed, asymmetrical exterior is clad in thin bands of Cordova cream limestone and devoid of ornamentation. Steel-framed ribbon windows enhance its horizontal lines. The home sits on a lush site in Pemberton Heights with a double-tiered porch overlooking Shoal Creek.

Tadd and Holly Lanham purchased the property from the Darnall family in 2014 with the promise to preserve it. They

embarked on a meticulous, three-year rehabilitation project with Atlantis Architects and Dalgleish Construction Company which fulfilled that promise to an astonishing degree. This included restoration of over 100 steel casement windows, cleaned using pecan shell blasting technology and re-glazed to match the original dimensions exactly. Original oak floors, plaster ceilings, and D’Hanis tile were cleaned and patched in-kind. Dr. Darnall’s wood-veneered office is virtually untouched and built-in furniture and casework remain throughout. Over eighty percent of the home’s original hardware was restored, including door tracks, door knobs, and drawer pulls. Perforated glass ceiling lights, chandeliers, and exterior jar lights were restored where possible. The children’s bathroom retains its original tile, mirror, and even the soap dish and tooth brush holder.

Updates improved efficiency with minimal impact on historic fabric. The remodeled kitchen now opens onto the dining room; its original banquette stands

alongside new casework and appliances which respect the home’s 1941 aesthetic. Recessed lighting was added where needed, and the asbestos-filled furnace was replaced with high efficiency variable flow refrigerant units. An expanded master bath, and conversion of a maid’s room into a small guest bedroom, activated underutilized spaces without changing the interior floor plan.

The Darnall House stands in the Old West Austin National Historic District and was designated a City of Austin Landmark this year. Through the Lanham’s dedication and perseverance, this milestone of Austin’s architectural legacy is now protected and preserved in perpetuity.

MEGABUS STATION

1500 San Jacinto Boulevard

Recipient: Bob Woody

Preservation Award for Rehabilitation

The Continental Oil Company opened Craddock’s Conoco Service Station No. 2 at San Jacinto and 15th Street in January 1942, just after the United States entered the Second World War. It was part of a wave of new stations built in the popular Streamline Moderne style, emulating the speed and efficiency of ocean liners and railroad engines through horizontal bands, porthole windows, and sleek, rounded corners - a fitting choice for America’s growing automobile culture.

Gas and service stations had evolved through a range of Revival styles starting in the 1910s. Oil companies soon began



Darnall House

Image by Leonid Furmanskyy

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Megabus Station

Image by Chase Daniel

hiring architects and industrial designers to develop branded prototypes for widespread construction. Conoco expanded into Texas in the early 1930s, building picturesque Tudor Revival stations. By the end of the decade, however, the company developed this brick, flat-roofed Moderne prototype featuring distinctive triangular canopies supported by thin columns with ringed capitals. Green and red porcelain tile flashed the Conoco colors inside and out. Similar, and even identical, stations were built in Corpus Christi, McAllen, Houston, and beyond, though this may be the best-preserved example from this era in Austin.

Surrounded by office buildings and garages, and the worse for wear, many worried about the diminutive building's fate in recent years. Bob Woody purchased the property from the state in 2012 and announced plans to transform it into a Megabus station three years later. Derrington Building Studio designed the renovation, completed in 2017 with Chioco Development, Inc. as general contractor. The project peeled away decades of

accumulated alterations, such as the painstaking removal of paint layers from stunning steel-framed windows which wrap around the semi-circular rear façade. The rest of the building's historic windows, doors, and tile were cleaned and preserved. Interior improvements, including new seating for the passengers' lounge, kept the focus on the building's original features and structural components like exposed steel trusses. New white paint, with royal blue accents and yellow Megabus logos wrapping the canopies, made the building shine. The project's minimalism and cheer have brought this threatened building back to life, triggering a collective sigh of relief from us all.

Owings-Allen-Miller House

1405 E. Cesar Chavez Street

Recipient: Keikhosrow and Homa Kavoussi

Preservation Award for Rehabilitation

This classic adaptive reuse project reflects the changing character of East Cesar Chavez Street while respecting its important history. Built circa 1891, the Owings-Allen-Miller House is a classic vernacular Queen Anne cottage. Named for a series of middle-class families who lived here, it is an increasingly rare reminder of the street's early days as a thriving middle and upper-class residential thoroughfare just east of downtown. Carpenters, real estate brokers, and small-business owners made it their home during the 20th century. By the early 2000s, however, the house had been divided into five apartments and suffered from deferred maintenance and neglect.

Keikhosrow and Homa Kavoussi purchased the property in fall 2015 with plans to

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Owings-Allen-Miller House

Image by Lindsey Derrington

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convert it into offices. They enlisted architect James Holland and contractor Art Ramirez for the project, which entailed extensive roof reconstruction, new concrete foundation piers, and repairing and replacing wood siding. Historic fish-scale shingles in multiple gables, patterned transom and sidelights surrounding the main entrance, and historic 2/2 wooden windows and surrounds were restored throughout. The Historic Landmark Commission reviewed and approved the rehabilitation's design and implementation, completed this spring. City Council designated the Owings-Allen-Miller House a City of Austin Landmark in December 2016.

The Kavoussis' dedication to preserving this Victorian Era gem makes a significant statement at a time when so many residential buildings are falling along East Austin's historic thoroughfares. From East Cesar Chavez to East Twelfth Street, these smaller historic homes are being targeted for demolition at an alarming rate. Given its downtrodden state, many would have

assumed the same about the Owings-Allen-Miller House. Instead, this project shows that preservation in booming commercial districts is still a viable option, and is a much-needed reminder of how versatile historic buildings can be. We hope that many more property owners will follow the Kavoussis' lead.

DOWNS FIELD

2816 East 12th Street

Recipients: Six Square: Austin's Black Cultural District, with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin Public Works Department, Huston Tillotson University, and the Rosewood Neighborhood Association

Stewardship Award

Downs Field's revitalization represents more than ten years of grassroots efforts by the Friends of Downs Field, founded by Six Square: Austin's Black Cultural District, the Rosewood Neighborhood Association, and Huston Tillotson University, with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Public Works Department.

Their inclusive, community-focused stewardship has revived this landmark and brought the story of East Austin's segregation era sports legacy to life.

Samuel Huston College, precursor to the historically black Huston

Tillotson University, opened a stadium on this site shortly before Austin's 1928 city plan segregated minority communities in East Austin with the promise of "separate but equal" amenities. The college's baseball team shared the field with the Texas Negro League's Austin Black Senators, who won the "negro world series" here in 1934. Austin Public Schools purchased the property in 1938 for use by L. C. Anderson High School's football program. Anderson Stadium, home of the Yellow Jackets, was dedicated in 1939 as an answer to House Park for white students across town.

Ten years later Downs Field, a city-owned baseball stadium for African Americans, opened at 12th and Springdale to balance Disch Field for whites. When Anderson High moved to a new campus in 1953, the city and school district swapped lands. Sims Elementary was built at 12th and Springdale, and Downs Field reopened in place of Anderson Stadium in 1954. Over the course of its history, such greats as Willie Wells, Richard "Night Train" Lane, and Satchel Paige all played here. For years it served as an important hub for black life in East Austin.

By the early 2000s the field, still used by Huston Tillotson, stood surrounded by chain link fencing and barbed wire, with no interpretation of its history or significance. The Friends of Downs Field embarked on an incredible campaign to develop a new vision for the site, one that celebrates its heritage and transforms it into a true community resource once again.

The two-phase project is supported by a public-private partnership that includes



Downs Field

Image by Lindsey Derrington

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funding from the Austin Parks Foundation, Austin Sports Commission, and the city's Neighborhood Partnership Program. Phase I, completed this year, includes new entrance gates and fencing designed by Hatch + Ulland Owen Architects, along with modern lighting and landscaping. Houston artist Reginald C. Adams, renowned for his community-based public art projects, designed seven gorgeous, ten-foot-tall mosaic panels depicting Downs Field's past and portraits of Hall of Famers who played there. Mosaics were assembled by volunteers at the Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, many of whom grew up in East Austin. A new historical marker, supported by the Texas Historical Commission's untold marker program, was dedicated in June. Phase 2 will include renovations of the historic 1954 grandstands, new concessions, a new scoreboard, and updated restrooms.

GREEN PASTURES

811 West Live Oak Street

Recipient: **Greg Porter**

Preservation Award for Rehabilitation

South Austin's Green Pastures is one of the city's most beloved landmarks. Set amidst expansive live oaks, this Victorian Era estate was home to the Faulk family, known for their liberal politics and gracious hospitality, for much of the 20th century. Renowned folklorist, humorist, and activist John Henry Faulk grew up here, and his sister Mary Faulk Koock opened Green Pastures Restaurant here in 1946. While Koock counted Lyndon B. and Lady Bird Johnson among her personal friends and catered for international dignitaries, she established a welcoming atmosphere open to all regardless of race or religion. The property is a City of Austin

Landmark, Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Developer Greg Porter purchased Green Pastures in 2005, and in 2016 enlisted Clayton & Little Architects and contractor

Franklin Alan for a stunning rehabilitation to restore the warmth, charm, and grace which define its legacy. The project entailed repairing and replacing rotten porch framing; meticulous cataloguing and reinstalling of historic trim; and restoring nine out of ten historic fireplaces. The main entrance's second story porch was reconstructed and stabilized for public use. A 1950s covered walkway was removed from the north entrance porch, and the original Stick Style balustrade restored. Architects discovered, and preserved, original wood siding on the site's original 1893 structure. Bright, colorful interiors play off historic features. Contemporary elements, including striking new porch structures, create a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.

The project embraced Green Pastures' history, with Porter himself interviewing Faulk family members for a more personal understanding of the site's significance. The gently cautionary words "Be Kind to Those You Pass On Your Way Up As You May Meet On Your Way Down," aptly painted on staircase risers during the Faulk era, were updated but kept



Green Pastures

Image by Nick Simonite

in place. The new restaurant, which opened this spring, is named Mattie's in honor of the Faulk family matriarch. The project's second phase will include two contemporary hotel buildings integrated into the site through elegant landscape design. All work has been approved by the Historic Landmark Commission. And did we mention Green Pastures' peacocks? They're here to stay too.

YOUNG HOUSE

2002 East 16th Street

Recipient: **Erica and David Heroy**

Preservation Award for Addition

Veola Young purchased this Craftsman bungalow, which originally stood at Trinity and 23rd Streets, during a University of Texas auction in 1954. Mrs. Young, a former teacher, lived with her family behind their drugstore at East 11th Street and Rosewood Avenue. Husband Dr. Ulysses "Doc" Young was the first licensed African American pharmacist in Austin. Their Hillside Drugstore and soda foundation were East Austin institutions from the 1920s through the 1970s. (Hillside Pharmacy,

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Young House

Image by Casey Woods

named in their honor, now occupies the building). The Youngs relocated the bungalow to East 16th and Poquito Streets in the heart of East Austin's Chesnut Neighborhood for use as a rental property.

By 2015 the building had suffered from hard wear and tear with an overgrown yard littered with debris. Like so many of Chesnut's historic homes it could easily have been targeted for demolition. Instead, architect Erica Keast Heroy and husband David purchased the property for their young family of four. She set out to design a remodel to revive defining features - including historic windows, pocket doors, built-ins, exterior siding, and shiplap walls and ceilings - and expand the house from a 2/1 to a 3/2 on a strict budget.

The new master suite, both warm and understated, sets a high standard for such projects throughout Chestnut and beyond. Preservation best practices recommend that new construction complements, but is still distinct, from the old. Here, the cross-gabled addition is a modern interpretation of the original home. Vertical siding makes a clear distinction from the bungalow's historic shiplap; contemporary windows

are proportional in size and arrangement; the new construction is narrower than the original home to delineate between old and new. The 12.5-foot-deep addition adds modest but meaningful space to improve the home's functionality.

Concealed from the street, it respects the streetscape's historic appearance and broader neighborhood character. These subtle elements are outstanding considering the number of projects that fail to reach this level of good design without Historic Landmark Commission review.

The East Side Historic Survey recommends the Young House for historic zoning and, thankfully, the Heroy's commitment to its preservation has ensured that this is still possible. Excited neighbors have welcomed the project and what it means for their neighborhood - as do we.

THORNE HOUSE

3607 Balcones Drive

Recipients: David and Tracey Hime

Preservation Award for Rehabilitation and Addition

Roland Roessner, FAIA was a groundbreaking designer and educator whose award-winning works fused high-style Modernism with the Central Texas landscape. His site-specific designs often emphasized native materials and integrated buildings into the existing terrain. Balcones Drive, with its dramatic curves and steep hills, offered him ample inspiration, and Roessner designed an important collection of homes here for Austin's upper-middle class. Those that have survived are among the most significant midcentury works citywide.

Dr. Lansing and Shirley Thorne worked closely with Roessner on their own home at 3607 Balcones, completed in 1956. The low-slung, flat-roofed house sits atop a high hill with a cantilevered porch and wide windows overlooking the street below. It was designed around a dramatic live oak, so much so that Roessner notched

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Thorne House

Image by Nick Simonite

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its roof eaves to make way for the tree's limbs. A dry-stacked limestone retaining wall runs along the main façade, softening the home's sleek modern lines above.

David and Tracey Hime purchased the property from Mrs. Thorne in 2013. They hired Clayton & Little Architects, with contractor Burnish & Plumb, to design an addition and remodel that would restore key midcentury features while making necessary, but sensitive, updates. The project preserved much of the original mahogany paneling and trim; built-in cabinets with distinctive sloped "waterfall design" fronts; and midcentury hardware. New and salvaged bricks were meticulously sourced to patch masonry inside and out. A new HVAC system was installed on the roof to accommodate the home's 8-foot-ceilings. Custom waterproofing and insulation improved thermal performance, as did new aluminum casement windows which match the profile of the originals. Roessner's design had included extensive clerestory windows that were eliminated during the planning process because of cost; this project restored these clerestories throughout, more fully realizing the architect's original vision.

A new addition expanded the 1,773-square-foot house by 900 square feet, including guest rooms and an office. Tucked away from the street, they leave the home's striking setting and façade much as it appeared in 1956. The Thorne House was featured, pre-renovation, on our 2014 Historic Homes Tour. We are thrilled to honor it once more, this time for its gorgeous rehabilitation. This was a massive undertaking and we commend the Himes for their dedication to this stunning piece of architecture.

**B'NAI ABRAHAM
BRENHAM
HISTORIC
SYNAGOGUE**

**Dell Jewish
Community Campus**

**Recipient: Shalom
Austin**

Stewardship Award

Polish and Lithuanian immigrants built B'nai Abraham Synagogue in downtown Brenham in 1893. The town's Jewish community thrived until after World War II when families began moving to cities like Dallas and Houston. Their move was part of a larger wave of urbanization across Texas, but also typical of small-town Jewish communities nationwide.

Leon Toubin, grandson of one of B'nai Abraham's founders and a local business and civic leader, took over the synagogue's care after it fell from regular use in the 1960s. He and wife Mimi lovingly maintained the property for decades hoping that, some day, Jewish families would return.

By 2012 the Toubins were faced with a difficult choice: keep the building in Brenham, where preservation meant converting it to another use; or move the synagogue somewhere else, to ensure it would remain true to its original purpose. Mr. Toubin contacted Jay Rubin, then CEO of Shalom Austin, to see if the 40-acre Dell Jewish Community Campus would accept B'nai Abraham to support Austin's thriving Jewish community. An unprecedented, three-year relocation project ensued.

Image by Myles Shaftel



B'nai Abraham Brenham Historic Synagogue

Donors, including the Toubins, contributed more than \$500,000 to the project. Shalom Austin hired Clayton & Little Architects and found a contractor and building mover willing to take on the task. The synagogue had to be carefully reinforced, then divided and cut into three sections for its 90-mile, month-long move across four counties. Building permits were obtained in both Brenham and Austin, and the journey contended with weather delays, overpasses, small-town law enforcement, and more.

Soils from Brenham and Jerusalem were mixed at the synagogue's new site in Austin before reconstruction. B'nai Abraham stands exactly as tall as it did in Brenham thanks to new piers. Original prayer platforms, religious objects, and furnishings were reinstalled along with historic wooden windows and doors. It has new HVAC systems, lighting, bathrooms, and ADA accessibility.

B'nai Abraham is now home to Congregation Tiferet Israel, a Modern Orthodox Jewish congregation of about fifty families. Between services, community events, and

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Jewish lifecycle ceremonies, it is in constant use for the first time in over fifty years. As Rabbi Daniel Millner told *The New York Times*, “When I look at that synagogue, I see a house that’s soul-built, that’s spirit-built, because there is nothing ostentatious about it. In that way it really embodies the purest spirit of Jewish ritual life. It is that vision, it is that dream, it is that essence that we are transporting, not just the building itself, but everything that it represents, and all of the work and all of the love that went into it, from the handmade nails to the hand-cut wood.” This project is the very definition of stewardship, and we are thrilled to honor Shalom Austin with this award.

Texas State Capitol Exterior Preservation Project

Recipient: State Preservation Board

Preservation Award for Restoration and Special Recognition Award for Craftsmanship

It goes without saying that the Texas State Capitol, designed by Elijah E. Myers and completed in 1888, is the most iconic building in our state. The State Preservation Board (SPB) is responsible for its maintenance, including a comprehensive Capitol restoration in 1995. In 2015, the SPB launched a year-long Exterior Preservation Project funded by a \$15,000,000 appropriation by the Texas Legislature. The project is incredible for its meticulous documentation, sophisticated technical solutions, and proactive preservation planning.

Extensive scaffolding allowed the SPB to examine and document every inch of the building’s exterior. All granite was cleaned of dust and pigeon guano, and the north façade was further treated to remove

black algae and lichen. Granite masonry was examined for loose stones and cracks. The project carefully addressed deteriorating mortar, crafting tailored treatments based on condition and location. Preservation plans were developed for cracks likely to worsen with time, and minor cracks were filled with pressure epoxy injections. A preservation plan was developed for a large crack on the Capitol’s north porch, now fitted with a remote monitoring system for long-term observation. 3D digital archival models of existing hardware were used to fabricate metal patterns for future replication so that pieces can be replaced in-kind.

The project’s most visible feat was stabilizing, repairing, and repainting the building’s 777 windows. Delicate wooden sash components had broken throughout the building, and many were beginning to rot where paint had thinned. Failing sealant had caused sills to rot as well. Each window required a slightly different treatment and was given a numbered placard outlining its scope of care. At minimum, all windows were painstakingly stripped, primed, and painted to match the original 1888 hue. More than 200 sashes were removed for offsite repair using old growth pine, and seventy-five window sills were replaced. Thicker, ultra-clear glass replaced thin replacement glass from previous repairs, which rebalanced the windows to increase longevity. The project replaced more than a mile’s worth of sealant between window frames and their stone surrounds.

Phoenix 1 Restoration and Construction, Ltd served as Construction Manager-at-



Image by State Preservation Board

Texas State Capitol Exterior Preservation Project

Risk, with Hull Historical, Restorhaus, Inc., and Mid-Continental Restoration Co. Inc. performing restoration work. This painstaking project leads the way for such projects nationwide, and all Texans should be proud.

Many thanks to our wonderful 2017 Preservation Merit Awards Jury for making this such a rewarding selection process: Sally Fly, Honorary AIA, Program Director, Texas Society of Architects; Bess Graham, Architect, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department; Sarah Marshall, Small Business Specialist/Assistant State Coordinator, Texas Main Street Program; John Riedie, Chief Executive Officer, Austin Creative Alliance; Haley Wilcox, Partner, Ogee Preservation. ★



Losing a Community Catalyst: The Closure of L.C. Anderson High School

This article continues the history of the old Anderson High School from our Summer 2017 newsletter.

by Rebekah Dobrasko

In 1954, Austin was a racially segregated city. All publically-owned facilities for African Americans were in East Austin. The University of Texas had just lost a lawsuit which forced desegregation of its law school. Undergraduate education at the university remained segregated, as did public school education. All of Austin's African American students attended public schools in East Austin. The only black high school, L.C. Anderson High, had just moved into a new building in 1953. The Austin Public Schools (APS) system was rehabilitating Anderson's old building into Kealing Junior High.

On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* that public school segregation was unconstitutional. Austin, as well as school districts in fifteen other states, was now violating the law by operating segregated schools. Reactions to the *Brown* ruling across the South ranged from integration, especially in areas like West Texas, to complete resistance. Austin fell in the middle and implemented a "freedom of choice" plan for all its high schools, starting with the 1955 school year.

APS' plan for desegregation meant that students and their parents could choose which school to attend. In 1955, thirteen African American students chose to leave Anderson High and attend previously all-white schools. It was not until 1963 that students of every grade were allowed to choose where they attended. While about ten percent of black students attended formerly white schools, only eight white students total attended formerly black schools. Anderson High remained all black.

Austin's next step in tackling desegregation was to desegregate the system's faculty. APS assigned three teachers from Anderson High to white schools. However, in 1968 the Office of Civil Rights of the federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) reviewed the desegregation status of ninety-six Texas school districts. HEW found that Austin was not in compliance, especially since Anderson remained all-black in 1968.

Austin's school board chose to continue its "freedom of choice" plan and heavily recruit white students to attend Anderson High.



Photo by Rebekah Dobrasko

Athletic Field

Seventeen white students entered Anderson in the fall of 1969. Anderson's students were glad to have them. Student Roselyn Hill noted: "We've always been open to integration, but no one ever wanted to come." The school district began a construction and upgrade project at Anderson to further attract white students. The campus was not even twenty years old, but still needed many upgrades to be equal to Austin's white high schools.

HEW did not feel that seventeen white students attending Anderson was true desegregation. For the 1970 school year, federal Judge Jack Roberts drew new attendance zones and required all students living in those zones to attend their school, regardless of race or previous school attendance. Almost 400 white students were within the attendance zone for Anderson High, yet fewer than sixty white students registered for school on the first day. Some parents rented apartments elsewhere in the city so their children could continue to attend majority-white schools.

After only four days, Judge Roberts declared his integration plan a failure due to the refusal of whites to attend Anderson. Most of the white students that did enroll in Anderson withdrew to attend other schools. Because of the city's policies that African Americans should be segregated in East Austin, it was unlikely that any true racial mixing would occur at Anderson without busing white students over from other schools. Both the APS (now the Austin Independent

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School District, or AISD) and federal government refused to consider busing white students to a black school. This meant they saw no other option but to completely close Anderson, as well as Kealing.

The class of 1971 was the last to graduate from Anderson High. Most of Anderson's books and equipment went to other schools. Anderson's former students boarded buses to attend schools across Austin. Anderson's closure ripped the heart out of the historic black community in East Austin. Parents and students no longer attended the same churches or community events as each other or their teachers, who were now mostly outside the community. The school had been a catalyst for the East Austin community, stated Ambres Kearney, a chemist and an alumnus of Anderson. "It was a bonding agent for the community. You don't have a catalyst, everything just doesn't work." Kearney noted that shortly after Anderson's closure, businesses along 10th, 11th, and 12th streets closed and remained vacant.

Anderson's closure was an act of institutional racism that repeated itself across the South. When HEW forced true integration of schools in the 1970s, many districts chose to close the black high schools and make students attend formerly all-white schools. Others



Protests at closure

Photo courtesy of Austin History Center, APL

downgraded their black high schools and reopened them as elementary schools. School traditions, colors, and memorabilia were lost. In Austin, Anderson alumni petitioned AISD to build a display case for its sports and music trophies in Rosewood Park. Now, the trophies reside in the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center in an exhibit overlooking the 1913 site of Anderson High.

The current L.C. Anderson High School opened in 1973 more than ten miles away in northwest Austin. Based on black community demands, AISD named it after the black high school. This new school had different school colors and a different mascot. The Anderson Yellow Jackets became the Anderson Trojans. Its current principal is working with the original L.C. Anderson High School Alumni to tell their history through displays in the school and recognizing alumni at fall football games.

Also in 1973, the new Austin Community College (ACC) opened its first campus in the old Anderson building where it remained through the 1980s. Currently, the 1953 school is the home of AISD's Alternative Learning Center. The East Austin Boys and Girls Club uses the gymnasium and band areas for their programs.

AISD is undergoing a facilities master planning process to support a \$1 billion bond request in November 2017. AISD plans to move Eastside Memorial High School and International High School to the old Anderson campus. Preservation Austin is working with the Original L.C. Anderson High School Alumni group and AISD to recommend spaces and features on the school campus to preserve. The groups applied for a Texas Historical Commission Undertold Marker and are considering listing the school and campus in the National Register of Historic Places. The story and place of Austin's only black high school deserves to be preserved and remembered. ★



Current Anderson High School exhibit case



Inherit Austin

Haley Wilcox, IA Secretary

Red River Ramble: Inherit Austin's 8th Annual Somewhere in Time

October 22, 2017 • 5pm to 8pm

★ | 2017 IA Board

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Matt Welch, Chair-Elect
Haley Wilcox, Secretary
Audra Tiemann-Iturbe, Treasurer

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This year's event, dubbed the Red River Ramble, will be a new twist on our annual fall event. The Red River Ramble will include a stroll along Red River with stops at venues along the way to hear stories, go on tours, and learn about the heart of Austin's live music scene. Learn about the history and significance of the Red River Cultural District while exploring its venues and watching street performers and live music. The event will include drinks and bites from local vendors, music and entertainment, and a raffle. Ticket prices this year have been lowered to welcome new people to join the fun.



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Inherit Austin would like to extend a big welcome to our newest board members, joining for the new fiscal year, including Kelsey Riddle, Michael Camden, and Erin Dowell. The new fiscal year also brought changes to our executive committee, including Ellis Mumford-Russell as Chair; Matt Welch as Chair-Elect; Audra Tiemann-Iturbe as Treasurer; and Haley Wilcox as Secretary.

Inherit Austin hosts social, cultural, and educational events to cultivate the next generation of preservationists in support of Preservation Austin's mission. Find us

Proceeds from the Red River Ramble will support Preservation Austin's efforts to preserve and protect Austin's unique historic and cultural landmarks, including Red River, through awareness, outreach, and educational programs. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Red River Cultural District to support the preservation and promotion of the District's iconic institutions.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities at: preservationaustin.org/events/somewhere-in-time-red-river-ramble.

on Facebook and Instagram (@inheritaustin) to find out about our upcoming events and campaigns!

Tag us in your posts of Austin culture & history, especially roadside resources using #atxroadside. ★



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HERITAGE QUIZ

Rebekah Dobrasko and Virginia Boswell

Preservation Austin presents our Facebook Heritage Quiz the first Friday of every month! The first respondent to correctly identify a local landmark receives a \$5 gift card to East Austin's Cenote Café, housed in the 1887 McDonald-Cain House, courtesy of your favorite preservation nonprofit.

Congratulations to our summer contestants for spotting the following properties:

JULY: Moore-Hancock Farmstead (4811 Sinclair Avenue)

The Moore-Hancock Farmstead sits in the middle of the 1950s-era Rosedale Subdivision. This collection of 19th-century log and stone buildings began in the country outside the small state capital in 1849. Built by Austin merchant Martin Moore on land inherited by his wife, the family moved here to farm and to raise horses and cattle. In 1866, Elizabeth Moore sold the home and surrounding lands to Texas politician John Hancock. Hancock moved his nephews here and proceeded to turn the land into a very profitable dairy. The Moore-Hancock Farmstead served as a farm and dairy until the 1930s, when the city began growing out to meet it. It became multi-family housing in the 1950s and 1960s, but has subsequently been restored back to its nineteenth century appearance. This National Register-listed property features its original dog-trot log house, a log barn, a rock kitchen and root cellar, and the hand-dug well.

★ **Winner: Meghan Kempf**



Moore-Hancock Farmstead

AUGUST: German Free School (507 East Tenth Street)

The Texas Legislature chartered the German Free School Association of Austin in 1858. The association had recently built this two-story limestone building in downtown Austin, and in 1872 added a residence for the schoolmaster. When the school first opened, it was private and charged students tuition. It became part of Austin's public school system in 1871. However, it did not stay in the public school system very long, and closed after 1884. In 1991, the German-Texas Heritage Society inherited the school building and residence, and the society holds tours, programming, and German language classes at the site. The building is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

★ **Winner: Bob Biard**



German Free School

SEPTEMBER: Stanley House (1811 Newton Street)

Sitting on a residential corner in South Austin's Bouldin Creek neighborhood, the Robert S. Stanley homestead is recognized for its quality of craftsmanship as a restored nineteenth century building. The house sits between South Congress Avenue and South First Street. It was built by Travis County native Robert Stanley, an African-American stonemason and laborer, for his wife and children in 1895. Stanley also built a stone building on West Mary Street in 1927 that now houses The Herb Bar. The house shows Stanley's craftsmanship with its front-gabled vernacular and Italianate limestone façade with rusticated quoins at the corners. This feature is rare in Texas landmarked houses. The house stayed in the family for more than a century until it was bought in 1998 and completely restored. It is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

★ **Winner: Natalie Seeboth**



Stanley House



Grant Awarded to Living Springs

Our Grants Committee has awarded matching funds to yet another outstanding project! *Living Springs: An Interactive Documentary About Barton Springs*, is an ongoing film series that covers the history, science, culture, and spiritual practices of historic Barton Springs. Its next phase, with the support of our grant, includes interviews with leading figures and activists in Austin's open space preservation movement between World War II and 1992. Preservation Austin is thrilled to join a broad group

of funders to support this important project in the spirit of our mission to promote Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic places.

For more on Living Springs, visit livingspringsaustin.org. Our winter grant deadline is December 15. See preservationaustin.org/programs/grants for details. ★

Preservation Houston Establishes Recovery Fund Post-Harvey

Preservation Houston has established a special fund to assist historic property owners impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Proceeds will support flood damage assessments and recovery efforts in the wake of the storm's heartbreaking, and unprecedented, flooding. This is a crucial time to ensure that Houston's historic fabric isn't lost during the recovery process, and that viable but damaged buildings aren't demolished because of a lack of resources. Please consider supporting our neighbors' preservation efforts. Tax-deductible donations can be made through Preservation Houston's website at preservationhouston.org/harvey/donate. ★



DRISKILL GRILL

World-class dining mingled with unparalleled service: Welcome to The Driskill Grill. Savor signature dishes, including dry-aged steak and pan roasted red snapper, and sip a selection from our carefully curated, Wine Spectator-awarded list.



President's Message

★ Ken Johnson



It is with great honor that I write this message to the members of Preservation Austin as the incoming President of the Board of Directors for the 2017-2018 term. While it is a great honor, it is a small role in context of the complex machine that counts the Preservation Austin staff, the Board Executive Committee and many, many volunteers carrying forward our mission. I officially joined the Board in 2014, but have been involved in historic architecture for more than 10 years as an Architect. The bonds that I have formed with people, places and buildings in that time inspire my work with Preservation Austin.

Our work in 2016 continued to build on past successes. From the Historic Homes Tour to the Preservation Merit Awards luncheon, our annual events were more popular than ever, raising funds and awareness while encouraging activity in the community. The Grants program was reinstated, and our initial recipients have already completed their projects or are well on their way, including Six Square's Homecoming Symposium on African American Cemeteries; Hyde Park Local Historic District sign toppers; Paramount Theater façade renovations; the Norwood Park Foundation's planning efforts; and *Living Springs, An Interactive Documentary About Barton Springs*. Our subcommittees continued to grow, with the Preservation Committee advocating

successfully against harmful bills during the 85th Legislative Session. The Education Committee launched a new Advocacy Tools initiative and Ambassadors program. Inherit Austin continued to cultivate the next generation of preservationists and advocates.

In the upcoming year, we will focus on outreach and membership, starting with a renewed marketing effort to bring awareness to the updated image and brand that was created in 2012. We hope to reach younger Austinites with an interest in old, cool buildings, as well as established families who love their neighborhoods and want to preserve that feeling for future generations. This year, we will also continue to evaluate CodeNEXT and advocate for improvements to the City of Austin's processes related to historic zoning and demolition. This chance only comes around every 30 years or so – we plan to put forth as much effort as possible to help achieve an excellent result!

After our annual membership meeting elections on August 22, we are happy to welcome Preservation Austin's newest board members: Travis Greig, a local architect; Ian Reddy, a developer specializing in historic properties; Blake Smith, a general contractor and long-time member; and Mickie Spencer, a restaurateur and designer. In addition, Samantha Davidson, Chris Hendel and Dennis McDaniel are beginning their second

terms as board members. With their energy and expertise joining our team of

passionate board members, we plan to make great progress toward achieving our challenging goals.

A constant topic of conversation is the increasing development in Austin and the pressure it puts on old houses and buildings, including those already designated historic and those waiting to be. Austin is growing at a rapid pace, and the influx of new residents and businesses don't necessarily know the history of the town they are moving into. Frankly, even relatively long-time neighbors may not know all of the history that they want to know about our City. That's where we can join together as members and volunteers to further our outreach and programming. With that in mind...

Please, stay involved and get more involved! Use our historic places to show they are useful, from our historic parks to South Congress and Red River. Your engagement will make all the difference as, together, we work to "Save the Good Stuff."



Education Committee

Ann S. Graham, Chair

The Education Committee (EDU) continues its strong work to reach out to and interest both residents and visitors alike with our vision and passion for “Saving the Good Stuff!” Our work is fun, creative, smart and engaging – please read about it below! If you’d like to get involved, please contact Programs Director Lindsey Derrington at programs@preservationaustin.org

On July 18, we hosted our annual “Greening Your Vintage Home” series, exploring how accessory dwelling units (ADUs) can provide supplementary income, additional living space, and multi-generational housing, helping homeowners offset increasing property values that can challenge their capacity to remain in their own home. Special thanks to our presenters: Ken Johnson, Project Architect at Michael Hsu Office of Architecture and President of Preservation Austin; Rich MacMath, LEED AP BD+C, Design Director with Austin Community

Design and Development Center; Tim Miles, Executive Director of Blackland Community Development Corporation, and Mark Rogers, Executive Director of Guadalupe Community Development Corporation. Many thanks to Cristina Valdes for opening her home and ADU in the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood for our group, and to architect Craig Nasso for leading tours and for giving amazing design and technical advance to our attendees. Thanks, too, to sponsor Clean Tag, LLC, and to volunteers Madeline Clites, Rosa Fry, Marie Oehlerking-Read and Anna Muniz!

Our 3rd annual History Hunt, scheduled for Bluebonnet Hills Neighborhood first in May, then in June, will be rescheduled to early 2018 after two torrential rain-outs. We hope the third attempt is a charm



ADU presentations at Greening Your Vintage Home

and we will let everyone know the new date as soon as it has been confirmed. The History Hunt is a fun architectural scavenger hunt geared for elementary-aged children to help arouse their curiosity in Austin’s architecturally rich and diverse neighborhoods and recognize some of what makes them special. Thank you to all of our History Hunt volunteers, especially those who were soaked to the bone during the last near-event.

Shortly, EDU members will be augmenting PA’s growing collection of walking tours through the Otocast app with the release of new content featuring the Allandale/ Brentwood/Crestview neighborhoods. Our *Historic Austin Tours* series is the most popular on Otocast, drawing hundreds of users from everywhere from Mexico to Turkey!

EDU and the Preservation Committee are also working in partnership with the “old” L.C. Anderson High School’s Alumni Association, and Austin Independent School District, to ensure that the rich



History Hunt volunteers – before the rain!

Continued on page 17

Education Committee, continued from page 16

and important history of Austin's former African American high school is recorded and preserved. EDU member Rebekah Dobrasko has been heavily involved in this project and has submitted an application to the Texas Historical Commission's Undertold Marker program for Old Anderson.

EDU is also leading development of the new "Advocacy Tools" feature on our website. Resources include "How to Attend an HLC Meeting: Step By Step for the Layperson" by Preservation Committee member Emily Reed, and "All These Acronyms: What Do They Mean?" by EDU member Sara Luduena.

Please join us on Saturday, November 4 between 9am and 1pm at the grand reopening of Republic Square where our Ambassadors will have an information booth at the SFC Farmers' Market Downtown. This is another great way to grow our presence across the community! Thanks to Stacey Kaleh, Sarah Burleson, and others for spearheading these efforts.





Exploring an ADU in the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood during Greening Your Vintage Home.

We continue to explore and be open to new ideas around how to spread the good work of Preservation Austin. Please get in touch if you'd like to play a role! We meet the third Tuesday of every month from 5:30-6:45 p.m. at PA's office at 500 Chicon. Join us! ★

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FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Whether you want to stay up-to-date on issues that affect Austin's built environment, or love stories and photos that celebrate our heritage, we've got it all. Make sure to look us up on the following platforms, and use #preservationaustin and #preservationatx when posting about your favorite places:

FACEBOOK

Like Preservation Austin's Facebook page:
(invite, share, comment, forward)
facebook.com/PreservationAustin

TWITTER

Follow (love, retweet) Preservation Austin on
Twitter: @PreservationAus

INSTAGRAM

Follow (like, share) Preservation Austin on
Instagram: @PreservationAustin

Wednesday, October 18:

Preservation and CodeNEXT, Part II

Preservation Austin (500 Chicon, 78702)

6:30pm to 8pm FREE, RSVPs appreciated

CODENEXT

SHAPING THE AUSTIN WE IMAGINE

Presented by Preservation Austin, this two-part event focuses on CodeNEXT, the city's ongoing Land Development Code rewrite, as it relates to historic preservation. Presenters include CodeNEXT staff and Historic Preservation Office staff from the City of Austin's Planning and Zoning Department.

Participants who missed Part I are welcome to attend Part II!

Part I, held on September 6, offered an overview of the CodeNEXT project and recommended what to expect in CodeNEXT's second draft, released on September 15.

During Part II, we'll delve into CodeNEXT's second draft itself, as well as improvements to the city's preservation ordinance. Presentations will be followed by an extended Q/A session with city staff. RSVPs to programs@preservationaustin.org are appreciated!

CodeNEXT: Dates to Know

Meeting details, along with information on how to submit feedback, can be found at austintexas.gov/codenext unless otherwise noted. The dates below are current as of September 15, 2017 but are subject to change.

September 15: Draft 2 Release

September-October: Community-Wide Open Houses

October 18: Preservation and CodeNEXT: Part II at Preservation Austin

October 25: Historic Landmark Commission Special Meeting on CodeNEXT (3PM to 5PM, City Hall Room 1101)

October 28: Spanish Language Open House

October 31: Deadline for Public Comments on Draft 2

November 28: Draft 3 Release

January 11: Land Use Commissions Make Recommendations on Draft 3

THANK YOU TO OUR PA BUSINESS AMBASSADORS!

ABC Home & Commercial Services
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Green Mango Real Estate
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ML&R Wealth Management
Norwood Tower LP
O'Connell Architecture
PSW Real Estate

February 2, 2018: Council Reviews Draft 3 with Commission Recommendations and Public Feedback ★



Become a Sustaining Member

Interested in increasing your contribution to Preservation Austin by making giving easier and more convenient? Our new Sustaining Membership program allows you to set up automatic \$10, \$25, or \$50 monthly gifts through your checking account until you decide to make a change. You'll eliminate annual renewal notices AND receive one of our Sustaining Member shopping totes featuring beloved Austin landmarks! You'll also help Preservation Austin cut down on mailing and processing costs while providing steady, reliable support for our education and advocacy initiatives. See our website for details! ★





Our New & Renewing Members



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Thank You!



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PA CALENDAR OF EVENTS • 2017

OCT
18

Preservation and CodeNEXT Part II

Preservation Austin (500 Chicon), 6:30PM to 8PM.
This event delves into the second draft of CodeNEXT and changes being made to the city's preservation ordinance. FREE. See Page 18 for details.

OCT
22

Inherit Austin's Red River Ramble

Save the date! Inherit Austin's 8th Annual *Somewhere In Time* event explores downtown's Red River Cultural District, the heart of Austin's live music scene. See Page 12 for details.

NOV
3

57th Annual Preservation Merit Awards Celebration

Driskill Hotel (604 Brazos St.); check-in begins 11AM, luncheon from 11:30-1:30PM. Our Preservation Merit Awards Celebration honors the hard work and visionary approaches of those preserving our city's heritage. See Page 1 for details.

NOV
4

SFC Farmers' Market Downtown

Republic Square Park (422 Guadalupe Street), 9AM to 1PM. Join our Education Committee at the SFC Farmers' Market Downtown in the newly-reopened Republic Square! Come on by for a free Preservation Austin koozie and learn more about this historic park.

DEC
15

Winter Grant Deadline

PA offers quarterly matching grants of up to \$5,000 for a variety of preservation projects. Nonprofits, neighborhoods, public entities, and building owners may apply. See our website for details.

★ Visit www.preservationaustin.org
for details and tickets today!

MONTHLY EVENTS

Juggling and Jawing Historic Austin Happy Hours

Our happy hour series with the UT Student Historic Preservation Association continues! Venues are announced as they're scheduled, check our website and social media to see where we'll be this fall.