

OUR AUSTIN STORY



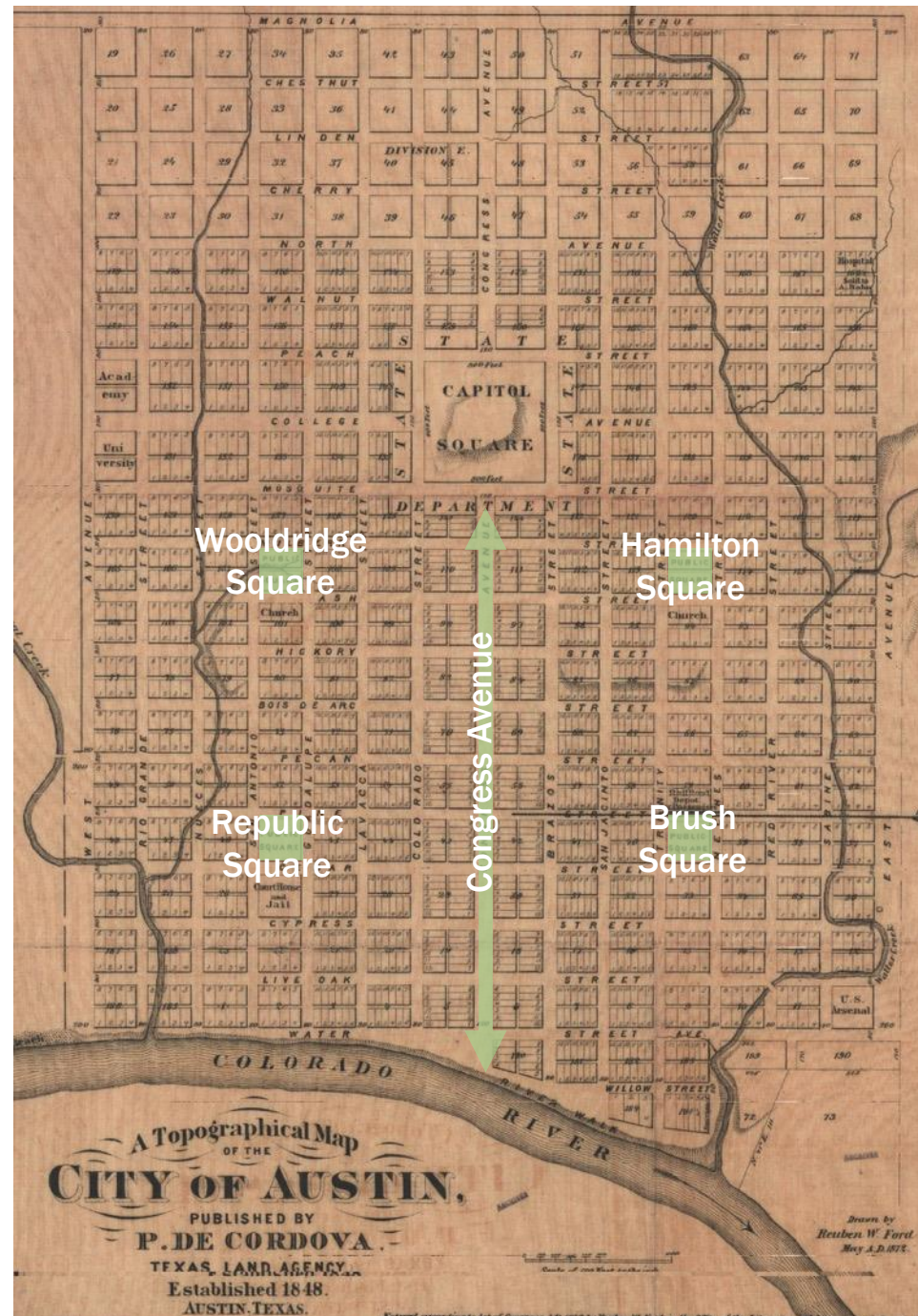
Project Consultant



OUR AUSTIN STORY

GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

*The Historic Squares and
Congress Avenue: Austin's
original public spaces*



Cordova Map of Austin, 1872

OUR AUSTIN STORY

PROCESS

- Steering Committee
- Project website (with engagement opportunities)
- Public open houses
- Public walks and talks
- One on one interviews
- Media and social media outreach

Great cities
tell great
stories.

We need your help to tell **Our Austin Story**.



Help us tell **Our Austin Story**:

The story of Austin through the lens of our historic city squares.

The **Downtown Austin Alliance**, in partnership with the **Austin Parks and Recreation Department**, is developing a comprehensive interpretive strategy for the three historic city squares: Brush, Republic, and Wooldridge. The goal is to find meaningful stories—grounded in these civic spaces—that connect to the people and places of Austin.

**DOWN
AUSTINTOWN
ALLIANCE**



Share Your Story

Community Events

Thursday, March 23

11am – 1pm

City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street

Saturday, March 25

11am – 1pm

Departure Lounge, 311 W. 5th Street

Online

downtownaustin.com/ouraustinstory

[#OurAustinStory](https://twitter.com/OurAustinStory)

OUR AUSTIN STORY

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Kate Singleton, Preservation Austin -Chair
- Ashley Dowgwillo, Visit Austin
- Mike Miller, Austin History Center
- Sylvia Orozco, Mexic-Arte Museum
- Clarissa Perez, Visit Austin
- Charles Peveto, Friends of Wooldridge Square
- Dr. Andrea Roberts, Texas A&M University
- Bob Ward, Travis County Historical Commission
- Allison Watkins, Austin Parks Foundation
- Joanna Wolaver, Shoal Creek Conservancy

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

- Laura Esparza
- Rey Hernandez
- Kim McKnight
- Cara Welch
- Vanessa Castro, also Tejano Trail



Narratives (stories) are used in planning to connect new with old and to foster a sense of identity and community

BRUSH SQUARE

1. Cattle, Cotton and Commerce
2. Austin's New Deal
3. Powerful Women
4. The Cowboy's Culture

George Washington Littlefield



Ted Lee Eubanks

Cattle Drives



Ted Lee Eubanks

REPUBLIC SQUARE

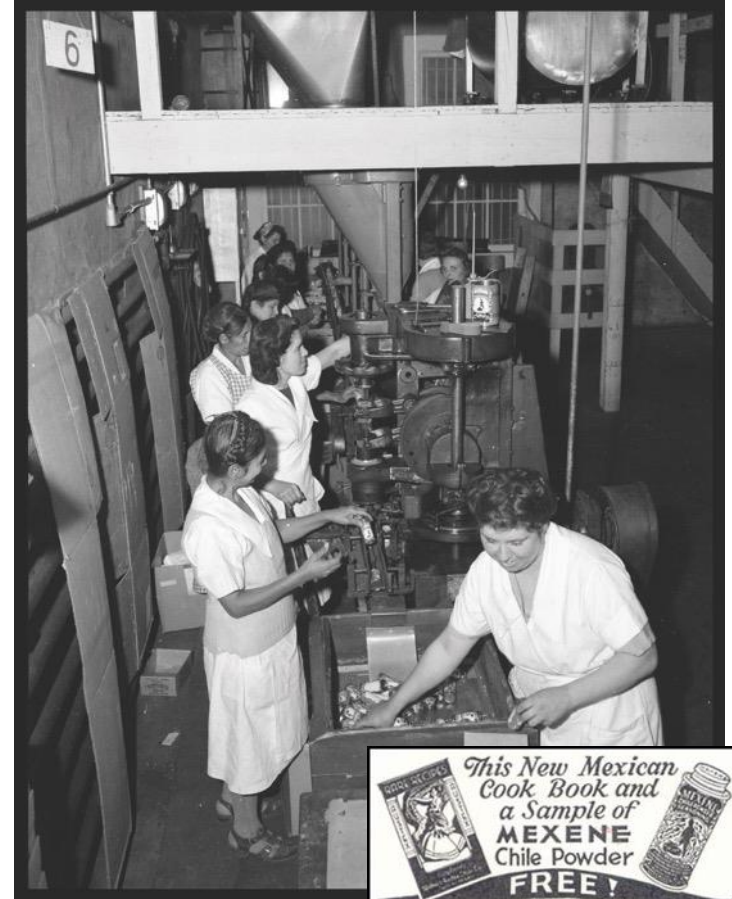
1. Austin's Birthplace and the Auction Oaks
2. Guadalupe Park and Austin's Mexico
3. The Soul of the Square

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church



Austin History Center

Walker's Austex Chili Factory, 1948



Austin History Center



WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE

1. Keep Austin Weird
2. Soul of the City
3. Winds of Change

Wooldridge Square Bandstand Concert



Austin History Center

Jim Franklin Poster, 1968



HAMILTON SQUARE

- Austin's First High School (1900 – 1956)
- First Baptist Church (1969)

"Old Red" Austin High School



[The Portal to Texas History](#); Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, Austin, Texas

CONGRESS AVENUE – VIBRANT CONNECTIONS

- The Colorado River
- 5th Street Mexican American Heritage Corridor
- Transportation

Whistle Stop and Sam Wah Café, 1948



[The Portal to Texas History](#); Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, Austin, Texas

Congress Avenue with street rail, 1913



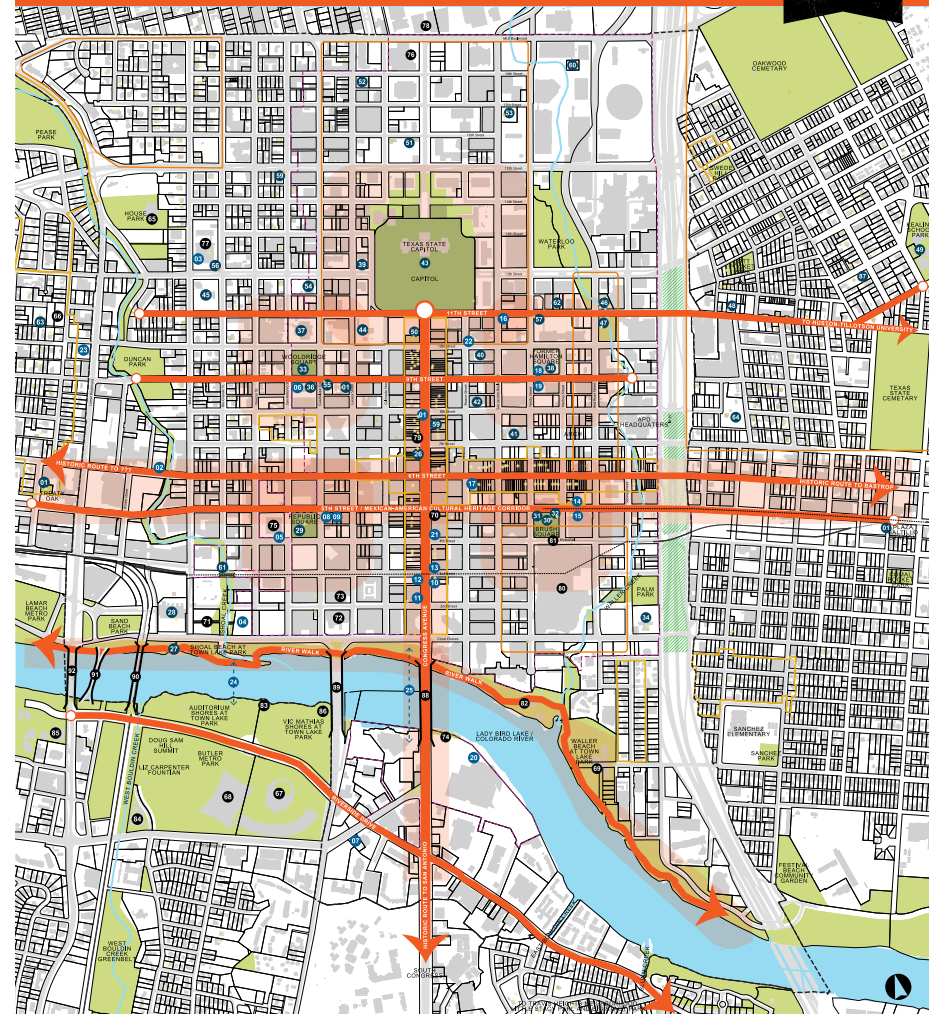
[The Portal to Texas History](#); Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, Austin, Texas

IMPLEMENTATION

Mapping Our Austin Story

OUR AUSTIN STORY DRAFT

DOWN
AUSTIN TOWN
ALLIANCE



LEGEND

- Park / Greenbelt
- Historic Square
- Planned Park
- National Historic District
- Cultural Heritage District
- Downtown Area
- Downtown PID
- Rail Line - Existing
- Rail Line - Former
- Vibrant Connection
- Historic Planning Area
- Historic Site - Former
- Historic Site - Existing
- Cultural Asset

HISTORIC SITES - FORMER

1. Austin's Origins - Lamar Street Bridge (1837)
2. Round River Settlement at Round Creek
3. Austin High School 1825-1875
4. Green Water Treatment Plant
5. Walker's Austin Cattle Company
6. First Catholic Church (1887)
7. Methodist AME (1873)
8. German Lutheran Church (1874)
9. First Baptist Church - current 1923
10. Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
11. Hong Lee Laundry
12. Sam Wan Cafe
13. John Long Cafe
14. BOM Railroad depot
15. O. Henry House - Central Rail Depot
16. O. Henry House - Original Location
17. First Jewish Synagogue
18. Austin's First High School 1880
19. Wesley Chapel - Wesley on the Hill
20. Crockett and Perry Spanish King
21. First Methodist Church - original
22. First Methodist Church 1884
23. Whole Foods Original Store
24. Broad Cross River Crossing
25. Congress Crossing

HISTORIC SITES - EXISTING

26. Angolia Church
27. The Spanish Mission
28. Spanish Power Plant
29. Austin Gate
30. O. Henry House Museum

HISTORIC SITES - EXISTING

31. Austin Fire Station #1 and Museum
32. Sweeney Children's Museum
33. Weddick Square Bandstand
34. Fahn School
35. Henry Heintzelman House and Cottage
36. First Baptist Church
37. Travis County Courthouse
38. First Baptist Church
39. First Methodist Church - current 1923
40. St. Mary Cathedral (1944)
41. St. David's Episcopal (1940)
42. Central Presbyterian (1938)
43. Texas State Capitol
44. Governor's Mansion
45. Pecos Elementary School
46. Symphony Square
47. Drake House
48. African American Cultural and Heritage Facility
49. George Washington Carver Museum (2007)
50. O. Henry House and Museum
51. Gettemore Church
52. Boston Hill Theatre
53. Schulz Garden
54. Central Christian Church
55. Moonlight Tower 21
56. Moonlight Tower 13
57. Moonlight Tower 20
58. Penitentiary / Statewide Theatre
59. Erwin House
60. West Third Street Bridge
61. St. Elia Antiochian Orthodox Church
62. French Legation

EXISTING CULTURAL ASSETS

63. Austin Convention Center
64. Hays Outdoor Gallery
65. Long Center for the Performing Arts
66. Palfrey Courts Center
67. MMCC
68. Menzies Museum
69. New Austin Public Library
70. City Hall
71. First Austin City Limits Live at the Moody Theater
72. US Federal Courthouse
73. Bullock Texas State History Museum
74. Austin Community College
75. The Contemporary Arts Museum
76. Austin Convention Center
77. Overstreet Mass Station
78. Walter Creek Delta/Inshore
79. George Washington Carver Museum (2007)
80. Zach Theatre
81. Fannie Creek Town Lake Garden
82. Wimberly Chapel - current location
83. Ann Richards Congress Bridge 1970
84. Daley's 1st St. Bridge
85. Rain Bridge
86. James D. Phelan Pedestrian Bridge
87. Lamar Bridge

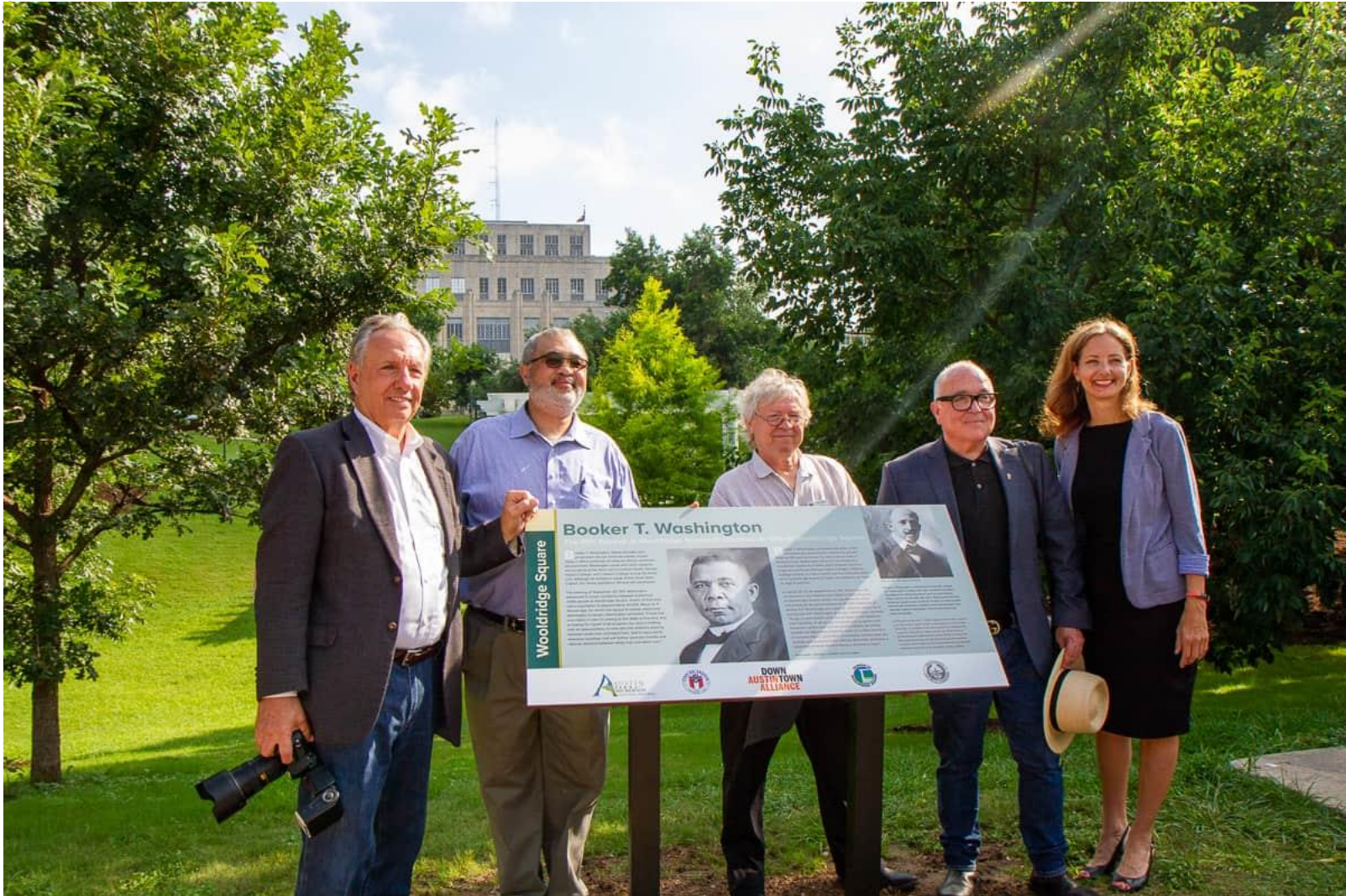
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**INTERPRETIVE SIGNS AT
REPUBLIC SQUARE**

INTERPRETIVE SIGN AT WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE

June 19, 2019: Celebrating 107th Anniversary of Booker T. Washington's visit to Wooldridge



UPCOMING: WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE INTERPRETIVE SIGNS



AWARDS

Texas Historical Commission



Preservation Austin

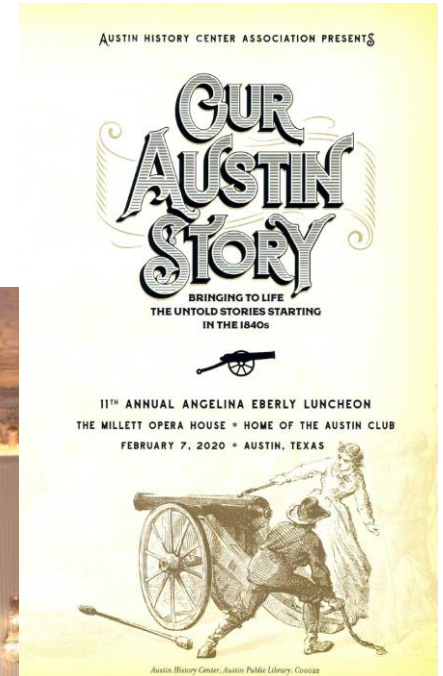


PARTNERSHIPS

Historic Churches



Austin History Center Association: Eberly Luncheon





AUSTIN,
STATE CAPITAL OF TEXAS.

Austin, State Capital of Texas, 1887. Lithograph, 28 x 41 in. Lithographer unknown. Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

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