A property can be designated historic at three levels: local, state, and national. Locally designated historic properties are historic landmarks and historic districts, state-designated historic properties are Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHLs) and State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs), and nationally designated historic properties are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or located in a National Register historic district.

You can take four steps to find out if your property is a designated historic property or already has been evaluated for potential historic designation.

1. To find out if a property is designated historic at the local level (historic landmark or historic district) or located in a National Register historic district, use the City’s Historic Property Viewer.
   - If a property is located in a National Register historic district, check this list (PDF) to see if it is contributing or noncontributing. Contributing properties are considered historic.
   - If the property is located in the Congress Avenue or Sixth Street National Register historic district, contact the City of Austin Historic Preservation Office at (512) 974-1686 to find out if it is contributing.

2. To find out if a property is designated historic at the state level (Recorded Texas Historic Landmark/RTHL) search on the Texas Historic Sites Atlas map. If the property has a Historical Marker, click on the Details link and look at the “Designations” line to find out if the property is an RTHL. A Historical Marker is not equivalent to historic designation.

3. To find out if a property is designated historic at the state level (State Antiquities Landmark/SAL), search the Texas Historic Sites Atlas (text search).

4. If the property is located in central East Austin, review the East Austin Historic Resources Survey. Properties recommended as eligible for individual designation as historic landmarks or individual listing in the National Register may qualify to apply for Heritage Grant funding. It is strongly recommended that you contact the City of Austin Historic Preservation Office staff at (512) 974-1686 to make sure they concur with the survey recommendation.

If the property is not designated historic at any level or listed in the East Austin Historic Resources Survey, you can submit a request to the Texas Historical Commission for a Determination of Eligibility. The request must include extensive background and may take at least 30 days for staff to review, so this is likely a strategy best suited to the next round of grants. Start now and plan ahead!