

OnTap Wheels Installation Text

MacGregor

1. Brays Bayou

- a. Beginning in northern Fort Bend County and flowing East, Brays continues past the Texas Medical Center and the University of Houston, all the way toward the Ship Channel on a tour of Houston's rural and urban landscapes. On either side are the largest pedestrian bridges in the city.



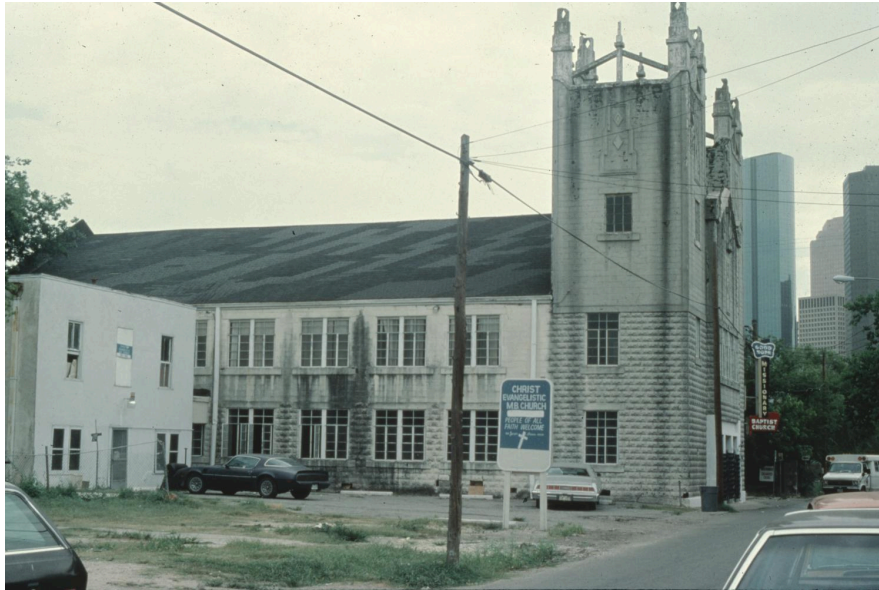
2. Texas AIDS Memorial Garden

- a. The Texas Aids Memorial Garden was started in 1986 by Houston architect Michael Lee and his partner Chuck to honor dozens of lost friends and acquaintances. According to Lee, the garden served as both a personal therapy as well as a recognition of lost friends.



3. Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church

- a. This historical church was organized in 1872 in Houston, Texas under the leadership of Reverend Samuel Grantham. Its fourth pastor, Reverend Albert A. Lucas, was a spirit-filled preacher and civil rights activist who helped secure voting rights for minorities in Texas.



Blodgett

1. Houston's first sit in

- a. In March 1960, 13 students from Texas Southern University organized a nonviolent sit-in at Weingarten's Supermarket. Despite facing refusal of service and insults, the students silently occupied all 30 counter stools, initiating the peaceful desegregation of Houston's public spaces. Their legacy is cemented as pioneers of civil rights in Houston.



2. Murals of Hannah Hall

- a. In 1950, it became a ritual for Texas Southern University students to paint murals on the walls of their temporary building. The newly built Hannah Hall in 1952, under the direction of muralist Dr. John T. Biggers, became a place where these students could express the struggles and triumphs of African American heritage and identity.



3. TSU History

- a. Texas Southern University (TSU) was established in 1927 to provide higher education opportunities for African American students in Houston. During the Civil Rights Movement, TSU served as a hub for activism and intellectual discourse. TSU continues its enduring legacy of black excellence in higher education.



Alabama

1. SHAPE Community Center:
 - a. Founded in 1969 by Houston's african american community, SHAPE Community Center stands as a culturally safe space for community. Deloyd T. Parker, Jr. co-founded the organization with the intent to improve the quality of life for people of african descent.
2. Alabama Gardens
 - a. Founded in 1985 by Verious and Voyall Smith, what was once a vacant lot became a gathering place for neighbors and friends to grow vegetables for low-income members of the community. Third ward is considered a food desert, making these efforts at sustainable gardening invaluable to the neighborhood.
3. Cuney Homes
 - a. Located across from Texas Southern University on Truxillo street, Cuney Homes was created in 1983 as the first development opened by the Houston Housing Authority. The apartment complex was named for Norris Wright Cuney, an African American leader in Texas during the 1800's.

Holman

1. Project Row Houses
 - a. In 1993, through the influence of Dr. John Biggers and Joseph Beuys, seven visionary African American Artists recognized the potential in the block of shotgun houses at the corner of Holman and Live Oak. It was transformed into Project Row Houses, a center where community members can share ideas and support each other.
2. Blackshear Elementary
 - a. Named after Edward L. Blackshear, a son to two slaves from Montgomery, Alabama, the school was built in 1916 and expanded in 1960, 1965 and then 1980. The school is currently the oldest elementary school standing in the Historical Third Ward.
3. Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing
 - a. The Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing was established in 1931, soon after the opening of Riverside General Hospital in 1927. The school was the first education institution created with the express purpose of training black nurses in Houston.

Elgin

1. St. John Missionary Baptist Church
 - a. St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Houston stands as a venerable institution, deeply rooted in the history of the city's African American community. Since its founding, the church has played a pivotal role in fostering faith, unity, and community development, making it a cornerstone in the ongoing narrative of Houston's rich cultural and religious heritage.
2. Eldorado Ballroom
 - a. The El Dorado Ballroom in Houston, Texas stands as a cultural cornerstone, echoing the vibrant history of the city's African American community. Its storied walls have witnessed the rhythmic heartbeat of jazz and blues, serving as a timeless symbol of resilience, unity, and the enduring spirit of a community that found solace and celebration within its halls.

3. Emancipation Park

- a. Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas is a celebrated ground where the legacy of emancipation and freedom is eternally commemorated, serving as a historic testament to the resilience and strength of the African American community. Established in 1872 by formerly enslaved individuals, the park stands as a living symbol of empowerment, cultural heritage, and a continual beacon of progress in the ongoing pursuit of equality and justice.

Dallas-McKinney

1. GONZO247

- a. Mario Enrique Figueroa, Jr., artistically known as GONZO247, is a Houston native and a self-taught multidisciplinary artist with over 30 years of experience. He now gives workshops in what used to be Luckie Elementary School, which served African-American students as a part of the original Harrisburg Independent School District. The school was established in 1909 and closed in 1956.

2. St. Nicholas Catholic Church

- a. Established in 1887 as Houston's first Black Catholic parish, the current church building dates to 1924. St. Nicholas Parish was located at the corner of Chenevert and Lamar Streets. Prominent features include twin projecting towers, corbelled brick detailing, and curvilinear parapets.

4. Sunrise Lofts

- a. Sunrise Lofts is a housing development and community serving young adults who are aging out of foster care, with 89 apartments where youth can live and receive services supporting independent living. According to officials of the nonprofit Tejano Center, youth over 18 often become unhoused and live on the streets due to lack of options available. Sunrise Lofts seeks to remedy that, with valuable services including jobs skills training and mental health support.