

# Historic Research, Designation, and Preservation Standards Resources

This resource list provides tools to support historic research, verify designation or eligibility, and access preservation standards for your Heritage Preservation Grant project proposal. *Note: Residential properties are ineligible for the Heritage Preservation Grant.*

**This list is created and maintained by the City of Austin and the respective departments.**

## Research Your Site's History

Use these tools to gather background information, photos, and historical records.

- [Austin History Center Digital Collections Site](#): Browse photos, maps, archival materials, etc.
- [Austin History Center Research Request Form](#): Request in-depth research services from Austin History Center staff.
- [Ancestry Library](#): Austin Public Library's online database for genealogical research.
- [Texas Sanborn Maps](#): Austin Public Library's online database for detailed property and land-use records of Texas towns and cities from 1867 to 1970.
- [Austin American Statesman \(Historical\)](#): Austin Public Library's database includes searchable articles from Austin, Texas, newspapers for the years 1871-1980.
- [Travis County Archives](#): Browse property records and local archives.

## Verify Historic Designation or Eligibility

Use these tools to check if your property is designated, identified as eligible, or determine how to confirm eligibility.

- [City of Austin - Historic Property Viewer](#): ArcGIS map of City of Austin historic landmarks, City of Austin historic districts, and National Register Historic Districts.
- [City of Austin - Historic Landmarks Data Portal](#): Data on City of Austin historic landmarks.
- [City of Austin - Historic Resource Surveys](#): Information-gathering resource that highlights potential landmarks and districts. Completed surveys include the following: East Austin; Old West Neighborhood Association (West Downtown); North Central Austin: West Campus, North University, Heritage, Bryker Woods, and North Hyde Park; North Central Austin: North Loop, Hancock, Boggy Creek.
- [City of Austin - Historic Districts](#): Map of historic districts, list of properties, preservation plan, and design standards.
- [City of Austin - Historic Austin Parks](#): Inventory of historic and cultural resources of Austin's park system.
- [Texas Historical Commission ATLAS](#): Data on over 300,000 site records, including data on Official Texas Historical Markers and National Register of Historic Places properties in Texas.
- [National Park Service - National Register Database and Research](#): Data on national listings.

## Preservation Standards

If your project involves physical improvements, use these standards to plan and prepare bids.

- [Guidelines for Signs](#): Guidelines for signs at a City of Austin historic landmark or in a National Register Historic District.
- [City of Austin – Historic Design Standards\\*](#): City of Austin historic landmarks, City of Austin historic districts, and National Register Historic Districts should use these standards when planning projects. \*Historic districts designated before January 2021 are regulated by the design standards approved at the time of designation.
- [City of Austin – Historic Design Standards for Historic Districts](#): City of Austin historic districts should use these standards when planning projects.
- [National Park Service - Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties](#): Resource links developed by the National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior.

## Additional Guides & Tools

Use these resources to prepare documentation.

- [Research Guide](#): Guide to learn the history of your building/site.
- [City of Austin - Historic Landmark Application](#)
- [City of Austin - Historic District Application](#)
- [City of Austin - Historic District Application Guide](#)

For more information on the Heritage Preservation Grant **Guidelines, Scoring Rubric, or Application** refer to <https://www.austintexas.gov/heritage-preservation-grant>.