

Selection of National Historic Districts

Demonstrating National Historic District designation as one of the only effective tools to protect architectural heritage and complete communities from the ravages of demolition, displacement, and profit-driven redevelopment.

ALASKA

Ketchikan

Stedman-Thomas Historic District.

The Stedman-Thomas Historic District, located in the City of Ketchikan, in southeast Alaska, was a cultural melting pot for Asian and Pacific Islanders involved in Alaska's fishing industry from the early 1900s to the 1940s. Situated on Revillagigedo Island, the town of Ketchikan originally developed along the shoreline. Beginning in the 1900s, social segregation compelled Japanese, Chinese, Koreans, Filipinos, and a handful of other minority groups to reside in Indian Town, the name given to the part of Ketchikan south of Ketchikan Creek where the American Indians resided. Virtually all of Ketchikan's non-European American inhabitants lived in the Stedman-Thomas neighborhood of Indian Town.

<https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/asia/2003/stedman.htm>

Chief Son-I-Hat's Whale House and Totems Historic District

The Chief Son-I-Hat's Whale House and Totems Historic District is a historic district encompassing the relocated remnants of Old Kasaan, a historic village of the Haida people in Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area, Alaska. Now located in new Kasaan, the property includes the c. 1880 clan house of Chief Son-I-Hat, the Haida leader who oversaw the relocation of the people from Old to New Kasaan, and a totem pole he moved. In the 1930s, crews from the Civilian Conservation Corps relocated and/or replicated additional totem poles at the house site, restored the house, constructed a small park, and cut a trail from the center of new Kasaan to the park and adjacent cemeteries. The 7.5-acre (3.0 ha) site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/indian/2011/totems_historic_district.htm

CALIFORNIA

Keene

Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz (commonly known as La Paz)

is a property encompassing 187 acres in the Tehachapi Mountains of eastern Kern County, California, and is associated with Cesar Chavez (1927-1993), one of the most important historic Latino leaders in the United States. The site is also important for its association with the United Farm Workers of America (UFW), the first permanent agricultural labor union established in the history of the United States. Nuestra Señora Reina de La Paz was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 30, 2011.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/american_latino_heritage/Nuestra_Senora_Reina_de_la_Paz.html

Los Angeles

Los Angeles Plaza Historic District (El Pueblo de Los Angeles)

The Los Angeles Plaza Historic District contains the site of the original pueblo of Los Angeles established in 1781. Founded by Spanish colonizers, under the name El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles (The Pueblo of the Queen of the Angels) the pueblo was not part of a mission and is one of two pueblos in California to survive to the present day. The plaza area was the center of Los Angeles' community throughout the 19th century.

<https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/ca/ca12.htm>

Little Tokyo

Little Tokyo, also known as Little Tokyo Historic District, is an ethnically Japanese American district in downtown Los Angeles and the heart of the largest Japanese-American population in North America. It is one of only three official Japantowns in the United States, all in California (the other two are in San Francisco and San Jose). Founded around the beginning of the 20th century, the area, sometimes called Lil' Tokyo, J-Town, 小東京 (Shō-tōkyō), is the cultural center for Japanese Americans in Southern California. It was declared a National Historic Landmark District in 1995.

<http://www.visitasianla.org/index.php/little-tokyo/history>

Walnut Grove

Walnut Grove Japanese Historic District

The **Walnut Grove Japanese-American Historic District** is a 5-acre (2.0 ha) designated U.S. Historic District in [Walnut Grove, California](#). The bulk of Walnut Grove's Japantown was built in 1915–16 following the 1915 fire which destroyed Walnut Grove's Chinatown. Japantown was depopulated during the forced incarceration of Japanese and Japanese-Americans following the issuance of [Executive Order 9066](#) in 1942, and was re-filled by Filipino and Mexican laborers, who took over work in local orchards and farms during the war. Although the original residents returned to Walnut Grove following the end of World War II, most left within a few years, and the district, with some exceptions, to this day retains the original architecture and style dating back to the 1916 reconstruction.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walnut_Grove_Japanese-American_Historic_District

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

Washington

Blagden Alley -- Naylor's Court Historic District

After the Civil War, many African Americans migrated to Washington and came to live in the alley dwellings of Blagden Alley and Naylor Court, among others. They were small and poorly constructed buildings, mainly of wood and brick. The living conditions were overcrowded and unsanitary. Only a handful of such alleys still exist. Also located in this historic district is the home of slave born Blanche K. Bruce, who was the first African American to serve a full term in the U.S. Senate, from 1875-1881.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/wash/dc67.htm>

Greater U Street Historic District

This historic district is significant as the center of Washington's African American community between c.1900 and 1948, with African American owned and operated businesses, entertainment facilities, and fraternal and religious institutions.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/wash/dc63.htm>

Striver's Section Historic District

Since the earliest development of this district in the 1870s, the area has been associated with African American leaders in business, education, politics, religion, art, architecture, science and government. The most renowned of these figures was Frederick Douglass.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/wash/dc49.htm>

FLORIDA

Gainesville

Pleasant Street Historic District

The Pleasant Street Historic District contains the oldest black residential area in Gainesville and has remained the religious, educational and social center for the black community for over a hundred years.

https://growth-management.alachuacounty.us/historic/historic_commission/historictowns/gainesville/pleasant/pleasanthist.htm

Jacksonville

American Beach Historic District

American Beach near Jacksonville, Florida, was founded in 1935 by the Afro-American Life Insurance Company of Jacksonville as an oceanfront resort for African Americans. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

<http://www.blackpast.org/aah/american-beach-jacksonville-florida-1936>

St. Augustine

Lincolnville Historic District

This historically black neighborhood was originally founded in 1866 by former slaves. Jim Crow laws from 1890 and 1910 spurred the growth of Lincolnville's black owned and operated commercial enterprises, and in 1964 its politicized community institutions became the sites and bases from which many Civil Rights Movement marches began.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/geo-flor/28.htm>

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Atlanta University Center Historic District

Created in 1929, this consortium of historically black colleges includes the Clark Atlanta University, Spelman College, Morehouse College and the Morehouse School of Medicine. Students are able to cross-register at the other institutions in order to attain a broader collegiate experience. Several of these institutions played an important role in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

http://www.atlanta.net/visitors/atlanta_university_center.html

Martin Luther King Historic District

This National Historic Site located within several blocks of Atlanta's Auburn Avenue features King's birthplace home, gravesite, and the church where King served as assistant pastor.

<http://www.nps.gov/malu/index.htm>

Sweet Auburn Historic District

This historic African American neighborhood is where African American businesses moved after the Atlanta Race Riot of 1906.

<http://www.sweetauburn.com/>

Augusta

Laney-Walker North Historic District

The neighborhood functioned as a well-integrated, multi-ethnic working-class community until the end of the 19th century associated with three of Augusta's historic minority populations—Irish, Chinese, and African American. The district also is significant for its wide variety of modest residential, commercial, and institutional buildings dating from the mid-19th through the early 20th century. The working class, black professionals, and white-collar workers all lived, worked, shopped, and worshiped together in the neighborhood.

<https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/augusta/laneywalkerhd.html>

Paine College Historic District

Representing one of the few institutions of higher education created by a biracial board of trustees in Georgia for African American students in 1882, Paine College Historic District is important for its role in education and African American heritage.

http://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/afam/2013/Paine_College.htm

INDIANA

Angola

Fox Lake Resort Community

The Fox Lake resort community was developed specifically for African Americans in the 1930s, when such communities were quite rare.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/afam/2002/foxlake.htm>

KANSAS

Nicodemus

Nicodemus Historic District

This site is where a predominately black community was established in 1877 in western Kansas, during the reconstruction period after the Civil War. It is a symbol of the pioneering spirit of formerly enslaved people.

<http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/detail.cfm?ResourceId=1622&ResourceType=District>

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Boston African American National Historic Site

In the heart of the Beacon Hill neighborhood, this site interprets fifteen pre-Civil war structures relating to the history of Boston's 19th century African American community, including the Museum of Afro-American History's African Meeting House, the oldest African American church in the U.S.

<http://www.nps.gov/boaf/index.htm>

Medford

Royall House & Slave Quarters

This site is the home of the largest 18th century slaveholding family in Massachusetts. Today, it is a museum that houses archeological artifacts and household items. The slave quarters are the only slave quarters still standing in the northern United States.

<http://www.royallhouse.org/>

NEVADA

Las Vegas

Berkely Square

The Berkely Square subdivision, which is located in the area historically known as Las Vegas' Westside, consists of 148 Contemporary Ranch-style homes designed by internationally-known African American architect Paul R. Williams. It was built between 1954 and 1955 and was the first minority (African American) built subdivision in Nevada.

http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/feature/afam/2011/Berkley_Square.htm

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

Barelas-South Fourth Street Historic District

The Barelas-South Fourth Street Historic District near downtown Albuquerque is a linear corridor running along South Fourth Street-Historic Route 66-through the heart of one of the city's oldest areas, the Barelas residential neighborhood. Buildings in the district reflect the different phases of development along South Fourth Street and convey three interrelated stories. The Hispanic farming village of the early 19th and 20th centuries was modernized when the Atchinson, Topeka, and Santa Fe (AT&SF) Railroad built tracks through the Middle Rio Grande Valley.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/route66/barelas_4th_street_historic_district_albuquerque.html

The Los Griegos Historic District.

Locally significant because it is the only 19th-century village in Albuquerque's North Valley which has retained its architectural continuity and cultural traditions. The buildings in Los Griegos are the embodiment of a unique culture that has its base in 18th-century Spanish custom. The houses in Los Griegos are primarily owner/community built and are excellent examples of the basic form, growth and continuity of vernacular New Mexican architectural design. Most buildings in the district are single-story, stuccoed, and were built of terrones, sod blocks cut from marsh lands near the river. The vernacular style continues into the twentieth century in Los Griegos with the buildings maintaining a modest appearance with only a hint of give style.

<https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=9e0f1744-c1b6-4d31-8358-50d43514f74b>

NEW YORK

Niagara Falls

Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Area

This Heritage site commemorates and preserves the people, places, and stories connected to the Underground Railroad found within the City of Niagara Falls.

<http://www.niagarafallsundergroundrailroad.org/>

Scipio

Sherwood Equal Rights Historic District

This district is known for its association with numerous social reform movements, including abolitionism, the Underground Railroad, Native American rights, women's rights, and education. Several of the properties within the district were owned by freed slaves.

http://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/afam/2009/sherwood_equal_rights_hd.htm

OHIO

East Canton

Clearview Golf Club

This golf club was founded and constructed by PGA Life Member William J. Powell in 1946, in response to segregationist policies of the time that prevented him from golfing on a public golf course in Ohio. Clearview Golf Club is the only golf course in the United States designed, built, owned and managed by an African-American.

<http://www.clearview-gc.com/history.htm>

OKLAHOMA

Boley

Boley Historic District

This is the site where an all-black community was established in 1903. Begun as a camp for African-American railroad construction hands, this is the largest of the towns established in Oklahoma to provide African-Americans with the opportunity for self government in an era of white supremacy and segregation.

http://preservationok.org/Boley_Historic_District.html

SOUTH CAROLINA

Orangburg

South Carolina College Historic District

This is the core of the historic campus at South Carolina State University, known for mass student protests in 1960 and afterwards, including lunch counter protests, and a race riot at All Star Bowling Lanes.

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/sc2.htm>

TENNESSEE

Memphis

Beale Street Historic District

This street is the birthplace of the Blues style of music.

<http://www.bealestreet.com/wordpress/>

TEXAS

Houston

Freedmen's Town National Historic District

Freedman's Town in Houston is the one of the first and the largest of the post-Civil War black urban communities in Texas. The community was created by former Texas slaves who upon hearing of their liberation, left their plantations for the safety of Houston. Although African Americans lived in Houston before and during the Civil War, Freedman's Town represents the first spatial community of black Houstonians in the city.

<http://www.preservationnation.org/forum/african-american-historic-places/locations/southwest/freedmens-town-historic-district.html#.UnXhceJHIdE>