Events

Lone Star 1st Saturdays

Ist Saturday of Every Month

Market Days featuring all items that are homemade, handmade, and homegrown!

Historic Downtown

Antiques Pestival & Junky Punky Prom

Ist Weekend in May

Fine antiques from all over Texas

Vintage • Refurbished • Repurposed • Collectible items

Wine • Food • Music • Shop

Historic Downtown

Experience Montgomery Showcase

2nd Weekend in August

A little sample of what Montgomery has to offer Food • Fun • Shopping • Entertainment

KOA Grand Ballroom

Wine & Music Fest

3rd Saturday in September

Discover Texas Wines and Great Texas Music! Experience Montgomery in a whole new way.

Historic Downtown

Christmas in Montgomery

2nd Saturday in December

Parade • Candlelight Home Tour Breakfast with Santa • Cookie Walk

Historic Downtown



www.experiencemontgomery.com



Courtesy of Historic Montgomery Business Association Montgomery Historical Society

Montgomery

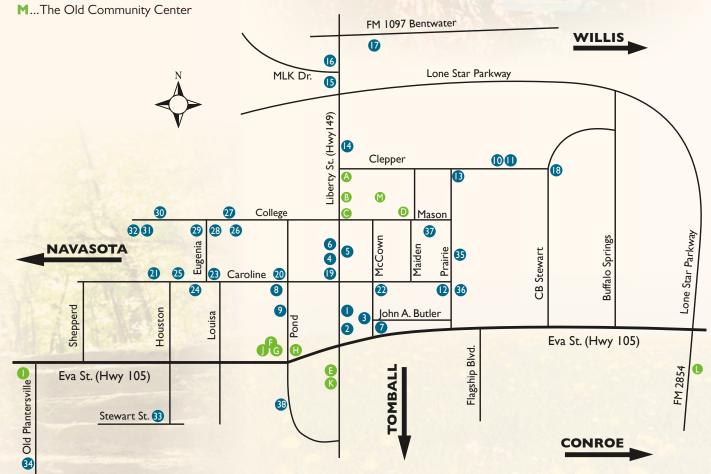
Tour & Shopping Guide



Historic Montgomery

Historical Markers

- A...Town of Montgomery
- B....Montgomery County C.S.A.
- C...First Secretary of State
- D...Old Montgomery Community Well Site
- E....The Railroad in Montgomery
- F....Reuben Jonathan Palmer
- G...William S. Taylor
- H...John M. Wade
- I.....New Montgomery Cemetery
- J.....Old Montgomery Cemetery
- K....Old Sneed Cotton Gin & Grist Mill
- L....Home of Dr. Charles Stewart



Historic Montgomery



Prior to 1837, Montgomery was a trading post situated a mile north of the present site. Owen and Margaret Montgomery Shannon, colonists with Stephen F. Austin, had settled on their grant of land and traded with the Indians.

In July of 1837, an ad in the Telegraph and Texas Register advertised the sale of lots in the newly organized town of Montgomery. The article stated that a new county was expected to be created and Montgomery, from its central position, would be selected as the seat of justice. Montgomery remained the seat of government until 1889, when the records were moved to Conroe.

In its early days, Montgomery was the trade center for a large farming area, where stagecoach, railroad and telegraph lines crossed.

Civic and religious organizations came early to Montgomery, as well as the first school in 1839. In 1848, the City of Montgomery was incorporated, and in 1842 the first Protestant parsonage in Texas was built here.

In the 1850's, Montgomery experienced a building boom. Some of the fine homes built at that time remain today with descendants of the original owners or early owners occupying them.

The Civil War stopped all progress in Montgomery, but by 1900, numerous mercantile establishments were in business, as well as three cotton gins, railroads active with freight and passengers, five hotels and boarding houses, doctors, dentists, and lawyers. But later with the railroads by-passing the town and the county seat moving to Conroe, Montgomery reverted back to the little town it is today - quiet, peaceful, and rich in history.

In 1839 the simple but elegant design of Dr. Charles B. Stewart of Montgomery was chosen for the creation of the Lone Star flag. On May 30, 1997, the House of Representatives of the 75th Texas legislature officially commemorated Montgomery County as the Birthplace of the Texas flag.



- Nat H Davis Museum Complex 14272 Liberty. 936-597-4360 Built while Texas was still a Republic (1845), serving also as living quarters for Mr. Davis until 1851 when he married and built a log house next door.
- 2 Davis Cottage 14264 Liberty. Nathaniel Hart Davis built the original section in 1851 of logs cut in 1831 and received in payment of a legal fee. The south wing was added in 1895 and contains wood-graining done by a German itinerant carver known as "Mr. Patch".
- 3 McCall Law Office 14264 Liberty. Built in the 1880's in Willis, used by Screven A. McCall while he was lawyer, District Attorney, County and District Judge in Montgomery County.
- First State Bank of Montgomery 14343 Liberty. One of the first state banks in Texas, it was chartered Dec. 11, 1906. The present building was completed in 1908. This bank served this cotton-farming area until voluntary liquidation in 1934 and remains the oldest existing commercial building in this once thriving trade center. Now home to Retreat Hill Cellars.
- 5 Old Post Office & Drug Store 14356 Liberty. Previously Smith's "Drug Store", and from 1936-1972, the U.S. Post Office. Now home to The Clover Patch.
- 6 14360 Liberty Street this building replaced original structure after fire in 1920. Used as Berkley Grocery and Weisinger Washateria, it is now home to Liberty Bell Antiques.
- The Olde Schoolhouse 21012 Eva Street. School for black students in Dobbin until 1965, moved to Montgomery in 1995.

- Old Baptist Church 301 Pond St. The Baptist Church in Montgomery was organized Dec. 28, 1850 with 31 charter members. This building was completed in March 1902 and for the next 77 years, was used as the place of worship for the Baptists in Montgomery.
- ? The Methodist Church 309 Pond St. Organized by Littleton Fowler Dec. 1838, original congregation administered by "Circuit Rider". Present building completed 1908, and stands on site of first Protestant parsonage iin Texas (1842). Now home to Living Savior Lutheran Church.
- Arnold-Simonton Home 770 Clepper Street. Built in 1845 by Dr. E.J. Arnold. It is of typical cottage construction with dentil trim, wide hall and wainscoting. Listed in National Register of Historic Places.
- Fernland Historical Park 770 Clepper Street. A unique collection of historic log cabins and frontier homes. www.fernland.org
- Conner-Gibbs House (Corner Prairie & Caroline Streets).
 Originally part of Brantley Settlement 8 miles southeast of Montgomery on Old Montgomery Road (FM 2854). Now home to Julia Wall, M.Ed., Licensed Professional Counselor.
- Addison-Gandy House 104 Prairie Street. Built in 1892 for J.B. and Martha Davis Addison, Martha Gandy's grandparents. Hearthstones are hand-cut, native sandstone with mantles and doors woodgrained by a German itinerant carver known only as "Mr. Patch," who signed his work with his portrait.
- China Chapel United Methodist Church N. Liberty St. Founded in 1865 when slaves were freed. The original building was rebuilt under the leadership of Rev. J.E. Starks with help from the community.
- 65 Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church N. Liberty St. Oganized September, 1865 by Rev. C.L. McPherson Sr. Services were held in a brush arbor until a church was built in 1897. Services were held there for over eighty years. A new church was erected in September, 1979.
- Mt. Sinai Baptist Church Martin Luther King (Bethel Rd.). Was organized in 1897 in the Dupree School building near the present church site. The original building was erected in 1898. This building was replaced in 1982 by current church building.
- Montgomery Memorial Cemetery FM 1097 near N. Liberty. Founded circa 1865, approximately ten acres were set aside for the African American community for burials after the Civil War.
- **Old Water Tower** CB Stewart Drive at Clepper. Erected in 1950, was part of the city's earliest water system until 1970, when a well was drilled on Pond Street.
- Pecan Shadows* 504 Caroline. Built in 1850's for Dr. Bell, brother of Judge Bell, owner of Bell's Grove. Its walls are hand-hewn and joined with square nails and rests on long cypress logs.

- 20 Social Circle * 602 Caroline. Built in 1908 by W.C. Whitehead, who came to the Montgomery area to develop a town nearby called Social Circle. This post-Victorian structure features a porch cupola and remains virtually unchanged in appearance.
- 21 The Parsonage* 902 Caroline. The first Baptist Parsonage in Montgomery was built next to the Baptist Church on Pond Street in 1909.
- **22 Rabon-Fullen Home*** 315 Caroline. Built circa 1890, it became the home of Vol and Florence Burden Rabon. In 1937, Rabon heirs sold to the Horace Fullen family. Now home to Garrett House Antiques.
- 23 Bell's Grove* 708 Caroline. A Texas Greek Revival Structure, it was built by John E. Shelton and sold to Judge Henry R. Bell in 1855. The name Bell's Grove came from the once wooded adjoining area; the scene of political rallies and conventions.
- 24 Shelton-Smith House* 811 Caroline. Site purchased by John E. Shelton in 1855. He built main portion of house in 1858 for Capt. Thomas W. Smith, whose family owned it until 1924.
- 25 Gay-Miller-Reasner Home* 816 Caroline. Built circa 1900 for William B. and Anna Griffith Gay, with a two-story sleeping porch added in the 1920's.
- 26 Old Methodist Parsonage* 705 College. Built in the 1860's. The first Protestant parsonage in Texas (1842) was destroyed and in 1886, the church bought this home to use as their second parsonage. The west wing, a pre-Civil War house was moved from Willis and added in 1977.
- **Davis-Jackson Cottage*** 708 College. Built in 1895 by Ilai C. and Ida Morris Davis, of native pine lumber from Davis' mill.
- **28 Chilton Home*** 709 *College.* Was home of first fulltime pastor of Montgomery Baptist Church, Rev. Thomas Chilton, until his death in 1854. The picket fence was built in 1890's by David Dean, from heart pine cut at his mill.



- **27 Magnolia*** 801 College. Home of Anna Davis Weisinger family, was built for the P.J. Willis family by John E. Shelton in 1854, and purchased by Ilai C. Davis in 1868 complete with furnishings.
- 30 Morris Farmstead* 902 College. Built in 1856 by A.W. Morris. Morris was a former Montgomery County Sheriff (1856-1861) and Tax Assessor (1864-1866). The foundation under the original two rooms was made of hand-hewn beams with wooden pegs.
- 31 The Prairie House* 905 College. Built in early 1900's as a one-room board and batten house in Richards, other rooms were added over the years.
- **32** Liberty Building* 907 College. (Circa 1907). Originally built on Liberty Street, it has housed a post office, café, and barbershop through the years.
- 33 Waters-Wood Home* 415 Houston. A Victorian "gingerbread" cottage built in 1893 for Dr. Henry and Cherrie Dean Waters, it remained the home of their daughter, Lockett (Mrs.W.B.) Wood until the 1970's.
- 34 Hardesty-Shockley House* 623 Old Plantersville Rd. Built in late 1880's for the Richard Hardesty family, it was used as a boarding house for the employees who worked in their sawmill and timber industry.
- 35 The Oaks * 202 Prairie Street. Built in 1876 for Nat Hart Davis by craftsman John Bishop from plans drawn by Thomas Godden.
- 36 Melrose 300 Prairie Street. Built in 1854 for Richard S. Willis, it was named for his home back East. It has been occupied by leading citizens of Montgomery, including the Phil H. Berkley family and Dr. John L. Irion. It was the birthplace of Gray I. Morris, grandson of Dr. Irion who was one of the founders of the American Legion. Now home to Hodge Podge Lodge.
- 37 Homewood* 303 Mason. Built in 1887 by William Baker Wood and wife, Amelia Davis Wood. A typical modified Victorian mansion, it is built with square nails and remains relatively unchanged except for attaching the kitchen wing. The Wood's maiden daughter Valda inherited the home and lived there until her death in 1999 at the age of 102.
- 38 Campbell-Williams Home* 411 Pond. Built in 1890 adjacent to Santa Fe depot by Solon and Susie Gary Campbell. Because of its location near the depot, corpses shipped to Montgomery were often put in the hallway while awaiting burial.

* Private Home - DO NOT DISTURB

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• www.experiencemontgomery.com

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Montgomery Civic Association- Preservation and beautification activities. P.O. Box 601, Montgomery 77356 • 936-827-5054 • babschampagne@gmail.com

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