



**2025
Home Guide
& Map**





Walk through history this holiday season with a self-guided tour of one of Bryan's oldest neighborhoods.

Start at Heritage Park, then explore the charm of the East Side Historic District and view historic home exteriors beautifully decorated for the season.

The City of Bryan is a unique place identified by its embrace of various cultures, distinctly intact historic downtown, and welcoming attitude. We all have places that matter to us or our family. These places help form our identity, our community, and tell our story. They explain our past and serve as the foundation for our future.



THANK YOU TO OUR EAST SIDE HISTORIC DISTRICT NEIGHBORS

Thank you to the homeowners and tenants who took the time to decorate their porches and yards for this event. We know it takes planning, effort, and a little bit of hassle to hang lights, arrange greenery, and get everything looking just right. Your work has turned a regular evening in the neighborhood into something special for visitors and neighbors alike.

We are especially grateful to those who shared historic photographs, stories, and other historical information about their homes. The details and images in this packet are possible because you were willing to open not only your porch, but also a small window into the history of your house.

On behalf of the Historic Landmark Commission and City staff, thank you for your time, your hospitality, and your pride in this neighborhood!

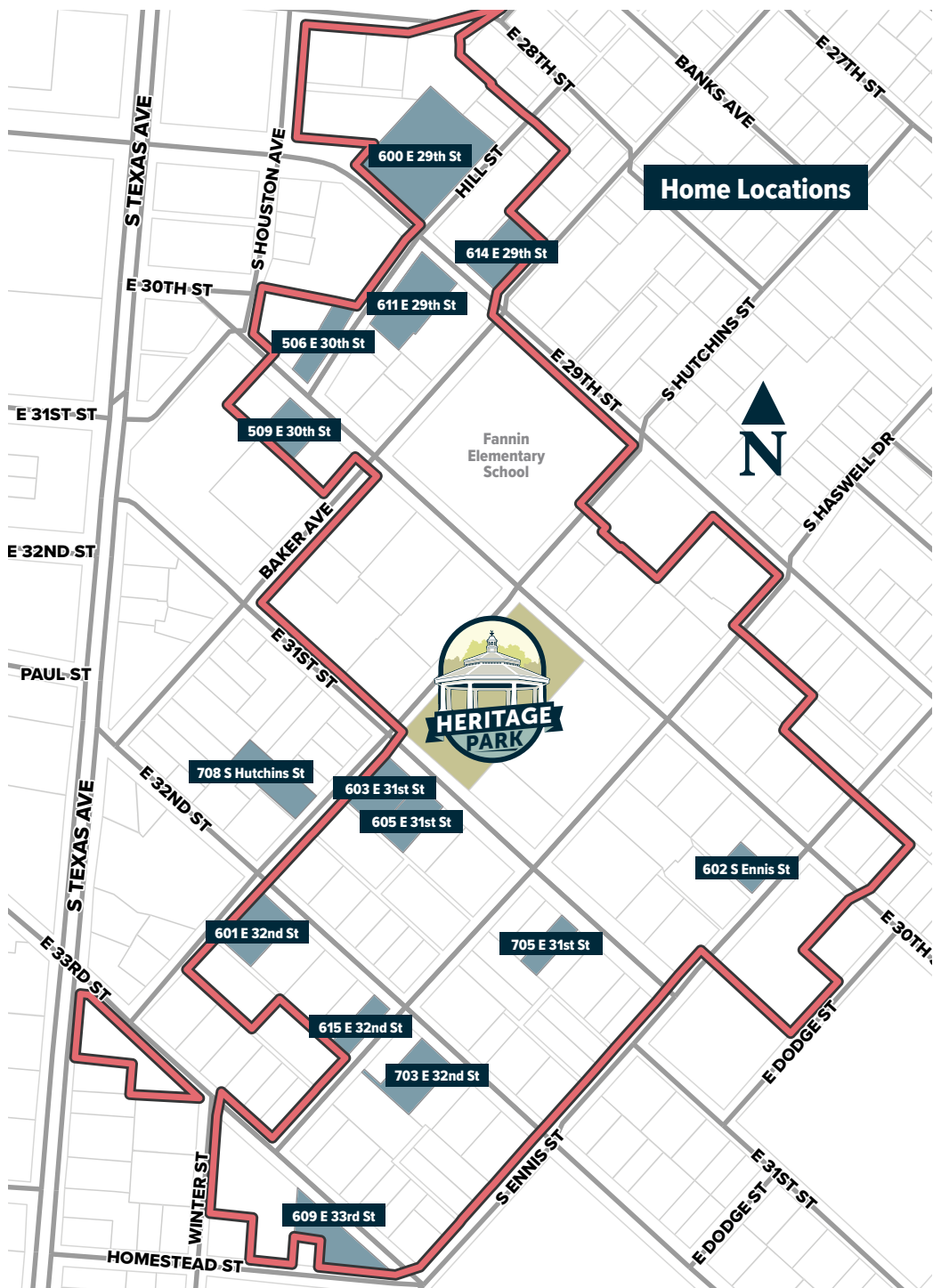
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR:



The
**EAST SIDE
HISTORIC
DISTRICT**



Bryantx.gov/HolidayPorchStroll





ADDRESS

509 E. 30th Street

Year Built: Early 1920s

Current Resident: Taryn Nash

Historic Marker Designations: None

The house at 509 East 30th Street is a one-story Craftsman-style bungalow which was built in the early 1920s. The home features stucco siding, a hipped gable roof, and a deep front porch that is supported by triple half-columns on plastered brick piers, giving the façade a distinctive bungalow character. This style, popular in the early twentieth century, reflects the balance of craftsmanship and modest design that was typical of the period. The first known resident was Mr. W.I. McCulloch, a prominent local businessman, and his wife. By 1955, the property was being used as a 24-hour child care nursery, known as Greer Nursery. In 1969, the home came under the ownership of Mr. Truman Allen, a retired Air Force Major and Master Sergeant who once served as the credit manager at First



1986

National Bank. Mr. Allen was a decorated veteran who held five battle stars, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and the Bronze Invasion Arrowhead. He was instrumental in the founding of the Air ROTC unit at Texas A&M University in 1946. He lived in the house with his wife Bessie Allen and granddaughter Jenny M. Allen until his death in 1979. Today, the home exemplifies the enduring craftsmanship and community spirit that define Bryan's early twentieth-century neighborhoods.



ADDRESS

506 E. 30th Street

Year Built: 1912 – 1925

Current Resident: Barbara Coody

Historic Marker Designations:
Local (ID 21-002)

The house at 506 East 30th Street, known over the years as the Gillis House and the Edge-Dupuy House, was built sometime between 1912 and 1925 by infamous local builder Charlie Jenkins. The home is a one-story frame bungalow with wooden siding, a side-gable roof, and decorative details which are typical of the period. Its first known owner was David Bunting, a teacher at Stephen F. Austin High School. By the late 1940s, the property was home to Mr. and Mrs. O.C. Teagle along with Mr. Teagle's aunt, Miss Ida Lophiel. Miss Lophiel served as a nurse in World War I, and was active in the Earl Graham Post No. 159 of the American Legion, and was known for holding garden and bridal parties at the property. Mr. Teagle served as



Commander of the same American Legion Post in Bryan. During the 1950s, portions of the house were rented out, reflecting a period when the home provided both residence and income for its occupants. The house originally featured two bedrooms and a glassed-in porch, contributing to its simple but welcoming bungalow character. Today, the home is a testament to the early residences constructed in Bryan's East Side and the prominence of the local community.



ADDRESS

611 E. 29th Street

Year Built: 1902

Current Owners: Tamara and Alex Garza

Historic Marker Designations: None

The house at 611 East 29th Street, locally known as both the Hall and the Dansby House, was constructed in 1902 for Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hall. Mr. Hall was a longtime Bryan resident and prominent local businessman. He was the founder of Ed Hall Groceries in 1894, and became a co-founder and the first president of the First State Bank and Trust in 1909. The 600 block of East 29th Street was once known as “Bankers Row,” because several of Bryan’s leading families resided here, including the Halls. Other notable residents of the home include former Mayor Roland Dansby and Mr. J. M. Fountain, a local businessman and the namesake of Fountain Avenue. The two-story residence represents a transition from Victorian architecture to the simpler American Four-Square style while retaining classical and revival-inspired



details, including the Doric columns which support the front porch, and the two Romanesque windows above. With its combination of wood clapboard and fish-scale siding, the Hall House remains a distinguished example of early 20th-century residential design in Bryan and a reflection of the civic and commercial prominence of its owners throughout the years.



ADDRESS

614 E. 29th Street (A.W. Wilkerson House)

Year Built: 1912

Current Owner: Colleen and Bill Batchelor

**Historic Landmark Designations:
State (Marker #8702) and Local (ID 21-001)**

The house at 614 East 29th Street, commonly known as the Wilkerson House, was built in 1912 by contractor Charlie Jenkins for Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Wilkerson. Mr. Wilkerson was a prominent local banker and the director of City National Bank. Located on the block that became known as Bryan's "Bankers Row," the home was designed to take advantage of the prevailing southern breezes, and features a 2½-story frame with cedar exterior walls, broad overhanging eaves, a wrap-around porch, a porte-cochere, and hip dormers on the southwest and southeast elevations. The interior of the home has remained nearly all wood. The Wilkersons owned the home until 1919 when it was purchased by Mr. John Parker, who passed soon after purchasing the home. Mrs. John Parker leased the house to its next owner, Dr.



1925

Lamar Jones. The Jones family, who lived in the residence from 1936 to 1970, were active in their civic and professional lives. Dr. Jones was a prominent local dentist and served as a local Board of Education member, while Mrs. Jones was active in the local Woman's and Garden Clubs. Besides the conversion of half of the second-floor porch, the house has remained largely unaltered, making it a distinguished example of early twentieth-century residential architecture, and a reflection of the prominence of its successive owners.



ADDRESS

600 E. 29th Street (Astin Porter House)

Built: 1902

Current Residents: Craig and Gina Jackson

**Historic Marker Designations:
State (Marker #8663) and Local (ID 21-005)**

The house at 600 East 29th Street, commonly referred to as the Astin-Porter House, was designed by architects Howard Messer and S. Wemyss Smith, and was constructed by local builder Charlie Jenkins. James H. Astin, born 1846 in Washington County, Texas, was a prominent figure in the Brazos Valley's early cotton industry. After his death in 1897, the house on 29th Street was completed for Mrs. Onah W. Astin in 1902. The house is one of Bryan's finest examples of Classical Revival architecture. The two-story residence features a two-tiered veranda with Corinthian columns and graceful Greco-Roman proportions. The porch and balcony were designed to circle the home and catch the evening breeze, reflecting comfort and sophistication in the early 1900s. The Astin family's local influence continued into the future



1904

generations. Erving Astin later founded City National Bank in Downtown Bryan, while Bob Astin served in the Texas State Senate from 1912 to 1916. In 1948, the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Holland Porter, who made it their family home for about 30 years. It was during this period that the one-story, approximately 1,200 square-foot "club room" addition and white brick screening fence were added to the southeast corner of the original structure. Today, the house remains a graceful reminder of Bryan's early prosperity and the enduring legacies of the Astin and Porter families.



ADDRESS

605 E. 31st Street

Year Built: Late 1920s

Current Resident: Kristy Petty

Historic Marker Designations: None

This modest, early 20th-century bungalow is characterized by its broad front-facing gable, exposed rafter tails, and a deep, inviting front porch that is accented with simple square posts and a decorative railing. The home is believed to have been built in the late 1920's for Mr. Osborne S. Johnson, a Bryan native and one of the first pharmacists at The Smith Drug Company, a local pharmacy that was once located in downtown Bryan. After serving in World War I, Mr. Johnson moved to New Orleans for a short while, where he met and married his wife, Miss Marie Estelle Rainey. In 1924, the couple returned to Bryan in order for Mr. Johnson to become the manager of The Smith Drug Company.



He would also go on to serve two terms as the President of the Bryan Chamber of Commerce, two terms as a City Commissioner, and was elected Mayor in 1935. Following his death in 1951, Mrs. O. S. Johnson resided here with her mother, Mrs. Mary Rainey, who lived in the home until her passing in 1961. The house has retained its architectural integrity and stands as a testament to the Johnson family in Bryan.



ADDRESS

603 E. 31st Street (Wilkerson Home)

Built: 1926

Current Resident: Nelda Bravo

Historic Marker Designations: National Register (Atlas #2087001627)

The house at 603 East 31st Street, also known as the Wilkerson Home, was built by Robert Thomas and J. W. Batts in 1926 for Dr. L. O. Wilkerson, a pioneering local physician who began his medical practice in 1919, and co-founded the Wilkerson Memorial Clinic in 1921. As a World War I Army veteran and medical missionary, Dr. Wilkerson was known locally for his dedication to his patients, often seeing several before attending church on Sunday mornings. The one-story bungalow features a distinctive stone veneer and gable roof, a departure from the wooden siding commonly used in Bryan's 1920s and 1930s bungalows, and includes a one-bay front porch and an accessory structure with an attached



1926

carport. During World War II, the Wilkerson Memorial Clinic evolved into a hospital and eventually relocated to become the College Station Medical Center. The home later housed notable residents including Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Johnson, Col. R. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Martin, and H. A. Thompson, a former city manager for the city of Bryan. Today, the Wilkerson House remains as a unique example of Bryan's bungalow architecture and a testament to the enduring legacy of its namesake physician.



ADDRESS

708 S. Hutchins Street

Built: Circa 1926

Current Residents:
Earnie and Annie Daylong

Photos: 1986 survey

Historic Marker Designations: None

The residence at 708 South Hutchins Street, constructed circa 1926, reflects the bungalow style that gained immense popularity in Bryan during the inter-war years. The home features a modest and symmetrical façade, a uniquely pitched roof, and a welcoming front porch that anchors its domestic form. The original owner, Miles G. Sowarby, a prominent businessman, was born in Steeleville, Illinois in 1885 and moved to Texas in 1911. There is a unique story involving the Sowarby family, being that Miles's long-lost brother, Andrew, found him in Bryan in 1930 after more than 25 years of working in the Alaska Mine Region. The brothers had not been in contact since they were children. Despite this, Andrew was able to locate his estranged brother in Bryan. Following



Mr. Sowarby's death in 1941, the house was passed to his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Halfred E. Davis, who remodeled the home that same year. The home would gain a reputation for its beautiful gardens and active social gatherings. Two large trees on the property were uprooted during Hurricane Carla in 1961, marking a record of the home's evolving landscape over time. Today the house retains its historic character and stands as a testament to the residential growth of Bryan's East Side and the civic and familial legacies of its residents.



ADDRESS

601 E. 32nd Street

Year Built: 1932

Current Resident: Eric and Holly Mitchem

Historic Marker Designations: None

The house at 601 East 32nd Street was built in 1932 for Dr. and Mrs. Henry Harrison Jr. Dr. Harrison Jr. was a prominent local physician who began his practice in 1931, specializing in general medicine and thyroid surgeries. The house can be classified as a brick veneer bungalow with a natural wood shingle roof, which offers nearly 4,000 square feet of living space and 1,200 square feet of porch and carport coverage. Known through local history for hosting garden and orchestral gatherings, the home reflects both comfort and civic prominence. After serving in World War II, Dr. Harrison returned to his medical career and would serve on the Brazos-Robertson County Medical Society, and act as the Staff President for the St. Joseph Regional Health Center. Dr. Harrison Jr. was the second of four



Dr. Henry Harrison

generations of physicians in the Harrison family. His father, Mr. Henry Harrison Sr., served as the mayor of Bryan from 1902 to 1906, and was instrumental in securing grants for the construction of the Carnegie Library. Today, the house remains a notable example of early 20th-century residential design and the enduring Harrison family legacy in Bryan.



ADDRESS

615 E. 32nd Street

Built: 1932

Current Owners: Nathan and Rachel Gober

Historical Marker Designations: None

The house at 615 East 32nd Street was built in 1932. While the original owner of this home is undetermined, it was later owned by Mr. W. D. Wilkerson, who moved to Bryan to serve as the superintendent of the Bryan school system in 1937, after previously serving the same role in Robertson County. The two-story, Craftsman-style residence features an asymmetrical façade, broad overhanging eaves, wood-sash double hung windows, and a modest front porch. The exterior is clad in weatherboard siding, and the home retains a simple and balanced form which is typical of early 1930's Craftsman-influenced architecture. One later occupant of the residence was Mr. A. G. McGill, who used the residence for coffee sales beginning



in 1951. During the early 1970s, the house served the community as "The Little Red Schoolhouse," a small-scale daycare and child education center. It is estimated that the addition on the southeast façade was added to the structure in the 1980's. Today, the home stands as a prime example of early twentieth-century residential architecture.



ADDRESS

609 E. 33rd Street

Built: 1939 by Judge W. T. McDonald

Current Residents:

Ken Smith and Jennifer Morehead

Historic Landmark Designations: None

The house at 609 East 33rd Street was built in 1939 for Mr. W. T. McDonald, who served for many years as Bryan's city attorney, prior to being appointed as a judge by the early 1960s. Mr. McDonald's son, Tom McDonald, would go on to follow his father's footsteps by also serving as a Brazos County District judge from 1978 to 1990. Originally constructed as a modest two-bedroom, one-bath, saltbox-style residence, the home has undergone two major additions since its construction, transforming it into a four-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath, Colonial-style dwelling. Once painted a distinctive sky blue, the home has been white for the past two decades. The house



W. T. McDonald

stands today as a thoughtfully evolved example of mid-20th-century domestic architecture in Bryan, reflecting both the city's traditional design influences and its residents' care for preservation through adaptation.



ADDRESS

703 E. 32nd Street

Year Built: 1932

Current Residents: Rachel Cheyne

Historic Marker Designations: None

The residence at 703 E. 32nd Street, constructed in 1932, is a charming example of early 20th-century domestic architecture in Bryan. The home features a pitched roof, a prominent front-facing gable, and a central arched entryway that creates an inviting focal point. The symmetrical façade reflects the careful craftsmanship and balanced proportions that are typical of homes from this period. The house was built for Mr. R. B. Butler, who moved to Bryan in 1930 to work as an engineer for the section of the state. Mr. Butler operated a portion of the residence as a rental until selling the home in 1940. That year, Mr. C. E. Bowles, a local district agriculture agent, became the residing owner. The next noted resident was Mrs. J. N. Lewis, who contributed extensively to local civic life, acting as the Sunday School President for First



Baptist Church, a member of the Bryan Women's Club, and a trustee of the Bryan Cemetery until her death in 1968. In 1970, Hubert D. Nelson, a Texas A&M urban planning graduate and Bryan's first full-time city planner, acquired the property. Mr. Nelson would continue to serve as the Director of planning, traffic, and permitting for the city until being promoted to City Manager in 1978. The house retains its original form and detailing, serving as a tangible link to the city's early professional and civic leaders and the development of Bryan's East Side during the interwar years.



ADDRESS

705 E. 31st Street

Built: 1925 for James H. and Kathleen R. Beard

**Current Residents:
Mark and Patricia Bellomy**

**Historic Marker Designations:
Local (ID 21-003)**

The Craftsman-style home at 705 East 31st Street was built in 1925 for Mr. and Mrs. James H. Beard. Mr. Beard, born in 1892, worked for City National Bank in downtown Bryan and later served as its Cashier. The one-story bungalow features a broad front gable roof with exposed rafter tails, knee braces beneath the eaves, and a full-width front porch supported by tapered box columns, which rest on masonry piers. Its horizontal lap siding, brick chimney, and grouped windows further reflect the craftsmanship typical of the period. The Beards are believed to have lived in the home until the late 1940s. In later years, the property was purchased by Mr. Rob



Foster, founder of Foster Stained Glass Studio, in 1977. The stained-glass work of Mr. Foster remains on the home's front door, original bathroom window, and back porch window. Foster Stained Glass Studio is still in business today, with their office located on South College Avenue. In 2021, an addition of approximately 300 square feet was added to the back of the home. Today, the house stands as a well-preserved example of Bryan's Craftsman-era architecture and the unique details of Mr. Foster's work.



ADDRESS

602 S. Ennis Street

Year Built: Late 1920s

Current Owner: Paula Burkhalter

Photos: 1986 Survey

Historic Marker Designations: None

The home at 602 South Ennis Street is a late 1920's bungalow which features a low-pitched front gable, a deep front porch supported by tapered square posts, set on brick piers, and double-hung windows flanking the entry. The exterior is clad in horizontal siding with a modest trim, and the porch's simple brick-and-wood railing gives the home an approachable, yet well-crafted aesthetic. The first known residents of the home were Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Fuller. Mr. Fuller was a leader in local agriculture, as he was the Chief of Feed Control Services for the experiment station at the Texas A&M cotton oil mill, in which he was critical in the establishment of. Additionally, Mr. Fuller was actively



engaged with the local 4-H Council, and served as President of the Lions Club. In 1952, the home became the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Varnell. Mr. Varnell moved to Bryan in 1942 to serve as the local representative for the Veteran's Administration, and was also a member of the Lions Club. The house retains its historic form and materials and stands as a modest but meaningful example of Bryan's early residential development and the civic contributions of its residents.

