



Existing Building

# FREEDMEN'S TOWN HERITAGE DISTRICT STEWARD

*A Catalytic Partnership for Freedmen's Town*

## In Collaboration With:

City of Houston  
COH Public Works Dept.  
COH Planning Dept. & Historic  
Preservation Officer

## Funded By:

Various grants and donations

**\*\*Note:** HFTC receives no COH funding to implement any activities, projects, or programs. All expenses are covered via generous grants, public donations and sponsors.

## AN ALTERNATIVE PATHWAY TO PRESERVATION

On June 16, 2021, Freedmen's Town took a giant step toward economic development, heritage tourism, and protection of the neighborhood's historic fabric when it was named as Houston's first Heritage District. Heritage districts are intended to foster civic and cultural pride by protecting character-defining elements within neighborhoods, highlighting the significant achievements and contributions of the community and promoting neighborhood stability.

This designation, crafted in partnership with the City of Houston, allows for enhanced stewardship of public property and rights-of-way in the district by a designated partner. Houston Freedmen's Town Conservancy serves as that partner for the Heritage District, meaning it will work with city departments to manage projects such as signage and markers, utility work, public art, landscaping, the programming and activation of public spaces and parks, restoration and maintenance of the neighborhood's iconic brick streets. With the Heritage District in place and Houston Freedmen's Town Conservancy as the official steward, future public projects will be carried out with the neighborhood's legacy and irreplaceable history as top priorities.

## BENEFITS & IMPACTS

The City of Houston and HFTC have respective responsibilities relating to the joint operation, maintenance, and programming for Freedmen's Town to ensure the preservation of this historic community jewel:

- Community now has a district wide advocate for programming, events, and activities that identify, educate, preserve, and generate enthusiasm and appreciation for FT
- Authorized partner to provide enhancements to capital improvements, public projects, and public rights-of-way
- Authorized to support the organization and implementation of projects and activities that promote the improvement and preservation of FT
- Joint effort with COH to review construction project plans and permits for planned improvements & activities that may impact FT

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS / PARTNERS

Houston Freedmen's Town Conservancy