

## THE HEIGHTS



Just north of downtown is a neighborhood with quaint, turn-of-the-century houses mixed in with new construction homes and townhomes. The Heights was originally developed in the 1890's as the brainchild of Oscar Martin Carter. Carter's company purchased 1,756 acres of land, developed a business district to serve the new community and started construction. This was the first planned community in the area. Grand Victorian style homes were built along the main street, Heights Boulevard, and marketed

to the growing Houston middle class. These homes were based on plans of Tennessee architect George Franklin Barber who maintained a catalogue of plans to be adapted at will by the home buyer. Many of these homes are still in existence today. The electrification of the Heights Trolley Line caused this community to explode. Only four miles from downtown Houston, the Heights was annexed by the city of Houston in 1918.

Growth continued rapidly in the 1920's and '30's and these homes dot the blocks of the Heights. After a decline in the area, the Houston Heights Association was formed and in 1973 started a revitalization of this popular neighborhood. Strong preservation sentiments have helped the continued development of this popular, eclectic area of Houston. New construction is often based on the Victorian style seen in the area's original 1920's bungalows with an equally strong nod toward self expression and contemporary blends in architecture.

This is a diverse neighborhood with an exciting blend of cafes, antique shops and public parks giving a very small-town feeling to the area. With its easy access to downtown and major highways, it continues to grow and thrive. This is an area you may want to consider in your

