

The Historical Seguin Application

Application showcases the community's history by displaying the locations and descriptions of historical plaques, landmarks, and properties throughout Seguin

Presenting:
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Josi Tesauro, Senior GIS Analyst

SEGUIN The Historical Seguin App

Walking In History

Use the selections below to filter the plaques and landmarks.

Filter by Classification

None
Historic Property

Local Historic Landmark
Local Plaque
National Register Listing
Recorded Texas Historic Landmark
State Antiquities Landmark

Filter by Category

None
Art
Education

Old West

Architecture

Civil Rights

Commerce

Community

Culinary

Education

Government

Masonry

New Deal

Old West

Science

Sports

Transportation

Select by Title

None

1 of 31

Methodist Church

Categories: Community, Architecture

Click to Enlarge

Methodist Church

First Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1849

First Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1909

The beginning of the First Methodist Church in Seguin dates back to 1841 when the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Seguin was organized. In 1849 the congregation built its first church house at the northwest corner of Austin and Market streets. The name was then changed to the First Methodist Episcopal Church South. To accommodate their rapidly growing congregation, in 1873 a new church was built at the corner of Mountain and River streets. An even newer building was completed in the same location in 1909 with beautiful stained glass windows. As a result of the mergers, The Methodist Church, as it is known today, was created in April, 1939. On Sunday morning, September 16, 1951, the cornerstone for Seguin's First Methodist Church of today was put into place at the current Austin Street location. The first worship service was conducted on February 3, 1952. Steeped in German heritage, along with a deep abiding faith in God, the First Methodist Church of Seguin continues to serve its congregation and the broader community.

First Methodist Church, a Global Congregation

[Overview](#) | [Plaque Tour](#) | [Property Tour](#)

Powered by Esri

Seguin Heritage Museum Donna Brawner

Historical Seguin – Source Data

15+ Plaques

25+ Properties

City of Seguin – Planning and Codes Melissa Zwicke

Seguin High Schools



When Seguin built its first public high school in 1892, citizens protested that the site of the campus, on the corner of College and River Streets (now Mary B. Erskine), was too remote. Built in the Gothic Revival style, the two-story red brick schoolhouse featured a belfry, that was meant to be an observation platform. Instead it became a roost for all the homeless bats in Seguin. Even though it was called a "high school", students of all ages attended classes.



A new Seguin High School opened its doors in 1914 on the previous site. It was designed in the Prairie Style by renowned architect Aileen B. Ayres. Students could even eat in a barn. The third floor held evacuation slides dreamed of using the slides during a fire drill renamed in honor of Mary B. Erskine, a beloved teacher.

Dedicated to Carlos Brawner and the Classes of 1937 & 48



Texas Rangers



After the Texas Revolution, settlers looked to the Rangers more than ever for protection. The Rangers, early on, were often volunteers furnishing their own arms, mounts, and equipment. Company rolls show that Anglos, Hispanics, and American Indians served from private to captain. During Indian campaigns on the Texas frontier, Native Americans were prized as scouts for Ranger companies. Their knowledge of the land and fighting tactics of other tribes proved invaluable. By the end of the 1870s, with Indian threats largely over, the Rangers turned their attention to crime fighting in an increasingly lawless state by stopping feuds, tracking cattle rustlers, and apprehending outlaws throughout Texas. In 1894-95 alone, the Rangers scouted 173,381 miles, made 676 arrests, returned 2,856 head of stolen livestock, assisted civil authorities 162 times, and guarded jails on 13 occasions. One writer said that a Texas Ranger could "ride like a Mexican, trail like an Indian, shoot like a Tennesseean, and fight like the devil."

Sponsored by
Joey and Floyd McKey

The Smoke House



Claude Turner (second from left), "Lightning," Joe Brawner, Jesse Turner, Jr., offered customers tasty food and friendly service. Claude's son, E. C. Turner, is in the front.

The Smoke House (now Vogue Shoes) was one of Seguin's most popular eateries. Known for its famous Smoke House Chili, the cafe was a favorite of family and friends from around the area. In 1938, owner's Claude and Jesse Turner decided this would be their final location. After a remodel of the building, the restaurant featured a new soda fountain and grill with barstool seating for customers arranged around a central counter. Booth or table seating were also available. The menu appealed to all ages—soft drinks, milkshakes, hamburgers, sandwiches, and ice cream. Beer was the only alcoholic beverage served. A dumbwaiter delivered food and drinks to customers in the upstairs pool hall as only men could play pool at this time. The popular cafe finally closed its doors in 1963.

Sponsored by Donna Turner, Gerry Brawner, Dee Dee Elkins Burch, Shanna Turner Bell, Cindy Turner Fisher, and Tammy Turner



60 Potential Sites for Plaques

Live Demo



SCAN ME

Desktop / Mobile Site

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- Masonry
- New Deal
- Old West
- Science
- Sports
- Transportation

Select by Title

None

Interested in sponsoring a contact the Seguin Museum, 1056 [redacted]@gmail.com

Overview Plaque Tour Property Tour

Powered by Esri

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First Methodist Church, a Global Congregation

Downtown Plaques

Overview Plaque Tour Property Tour

Filter Reset

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